



**Date:** June 17, 2025

**To:** SLCSD Board of Education  
Dr. Elizabeth Grant, Superintendent

**From:** Dr. Tiffany Hall, Executive Director, Teaching and Learning

**Subject:** Focused Graduation Pathway (FGP)

This presentation will provide an overview of the Focused Graduation Pathway (FGP)—a newly authorized option under Utah Administrative Rule R277-722. It is designed to support students who are significantly behind in core credit. The FGP offers a pathway to graduation through successful completion of GED subject-area assessments in lieu of selected coursework.

The FGP is intended for students aged 16–19, in their junior or senior year, who face significant credit deficiencies that place them at risk of not graduating through traditional means. Eligible students must:

- Remain actively enrolled in a public school
- Demonstrate sufficient reading proficiency (as determined by the LEA)
- Pass up to four GED subject-area exams: Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies

This option provides a strategic, standards-aligned alternative that supports student re-engagement and completion while maintaining the integrity of the high school diploma.

**Requested Board Action:**

The Board will be asked to approve this program for further development and implementation in the district beginning in the 2025-26 school year.

**Attachments:**

- PowerPoint presentation



# SLCSD Focused Graduation Pathway

Board Presentation  
June 3, 2025



## Purpose

- To keep students missing core credits engaged in school
- To provide students the opportunity to graduate with their cohort
- To allow students to focus on preparing for postsecondary opportunities





# State Requirements for Eligibility

- Student must be significantly deficient in core credits (English/Language Arts, Maths, Social Studies, Science)
  - Junior = 6 credits
  - Senior = 3 credits
- Student must be at least 16 years of age
- Student must be a junior or senior in high school
- Student must remain enrolled in a K12 school
- Student must have a 9<sup>th</sup> grade reading level



# Credit is Awarded for Passing GED® Tests

- Reasoning through Language Arts test
  - Up to 4 language arts credits
- Mathematical Reasoning
  - Up to 3 mathematics credits
- Social Studies
  - Up to 3.5 social studies credits
- Science
  - Up to 3 science credits

Students must still complete all 24 required units for graduation; only the listed core credits are awarded through passing the test in this process.

All GED® credits are entered as pass/fail grades



## Required Meeting with Student and Parent

- Ensure students understand the expectations of the program
- Get parental consent
- Agree that the focused graduation pathway is the best option for the student

*Participation in the FGP is voluntary*



# Testing

- State requires students to demonstrate readiness with the GED® Ready official practice test before taking official test.
- Testing will be conducted at Horizonte, an approved testing location.
- Testing is \$36 per content, practice tests are \$8 per content. The total cost is \$44 per content, or \$176 for all four contents.
  - For 2025-26, we will work with the schools and Foundation to pay for assessments
  - In 2026-27, it will be added to the fee schedule



## Graduation

- Student is counted as a graduate
- Student walks at home school graduation
- Student has a GPA with many opportunities available post graduation





# GED® Score Levels

GED College Ready scores improve the chances for college success.

**145**



## **GED Passing Score**

To pass the GED test, students need a score of 145 on all four subjects.

**165 – 174**



## **GED College Ready**

At 165 or higher, students may qualify to bypass placement testing and remedial (non-credit) courses in college.

**175 – 200**



## **GED College Ready + Credit**

At 175 or higher, students may qualify for up to 10 college credit hours at participating colleges.



# Approval Process

1. Receive school board approval for the program
2. Create procedures for the implementation of the Focused Graduation Pathway
3. Submit application to USBE for approval
4. Implement for the 2025-26 school year



# Discussion