Colorado High School Equivalency Newsletter

April 2026

Colorado Department of Education

What's New

New Webpage for Prep Programs

The new webpage for HSE Prep Programs has just launched, where information and resources will live for all types of GED and HiSET programs, such as the link to join this Newsletter and the webinar recordings. I encourage you to bookmark this page as I will keep it updated with information from me and the publishers. We've had a test center page for years but never one for programs who may or may not be test centers, so I hope this is a helpful resource for you all (especially in between these newsletters)!

Resource for High Schools: HSE for K12 flyer

I have increasingly received questions (and misconceptions) around HSE programming in high schools—whether students need to unenroll, whether you get PPR funding from CDE, how to count students for end-of-year. To make the answers to these inquiries more accessible to the community, I've created the Intro to HSE for K12 flyer, which lives on the new Prep Programs page mentioned above. This document is not meant to be a comprehensive resource on this topic—HSE programming in high schools can certainly get nuanced—but a starting point for those considering this option for severely credit-deficient students.

Community

Virtual Connection Time

Thank you to everyone who was able to join the first Community Connect (webinar) on February 25! Based on feedback, people would enjoy continued time to connect with similar programs as theirs and some professional development time in our next webinar, so look forward to that. Since many programs take a break during summer (adult and K12 alike), I will likely plan on August for our next one—before fall really ramps up. Reach out if you have any special requests for content!

Shout Outs:

Welcome to our newest HSE prep and testing sites!

- **Jefferson County Sheriff's Office**: providing GED prep and soon testing for their incarcerated individuals

- **Zebulon Pike Youth Service Center in Colorado Springs**: providing GED prep and testing for their residential youth
- **Mount View High School in Lakewood**: providing GED prep and soon testing for their detained youth
- **Long View High School in Lakewood**: providing GED prep and soon testing for their expelled youth

Publisher Updates

HiSET

- **HiSET has raised prices** by $3 per subtest and $5.50 per online-proctored subtest, effective 4/1/26.
- **Call for presenters**: HiSET is looking for presenters for 2026 roadshows and webinars.

GED

- **Test Update Rumor**: There is a rumor that the GED test is changing or being made "harder" this year. If you hear talk of this, disregard; it is not true. Here is GED's statement: "*Changing a test is a major, multi-year process involving research, development, review, and advance communication. If a change were coming, GED learners and educators would hear about it from us at the GED Testing Service clearly and well ahead of time.*"
- **GED Grad Day May 15th:** GED Grad Day is an online celebration (via Facebook) of graduates over the last year. Students can submit videos to be spotlighted during the live event. GED programs can use this day to motivate learners to finish testing and celebrate with peers around the country. GED has created an Educator Toolkit if your program wants to market this event.
- **Learner Spotlight Series**: Nominate learners for GED to spotlight in their socials, which they do twice a month to showcase perseverance, achievements, and real-life impact. Learners must be GED graduates and either be working full time or attending a postsecondary institution to be eligible.
- **Pearson Product Feedback**: One of GED/Pearson's Senior Product Developers, Victor Fitzjarrald, lives on the front range and is looking to connect with local test centers, program coordinators, and students to better understand the user experience for various GED products and programs. This would entail structured product interviews to talk through your journey with GED—and what is working and not working in that journey. This is your chance to share any burning feedback on the products you use every day! Contact Victor directly if interested.

DiplomaSender

- **Phone Number**: DiplomaSender's phone number is now outgoing only, so students will not reach anyone if they call it. Instead, students may request a callback using the chat function on the website. DiplomaSender returns the vast majority of call requests within 15 minutes. I have removed their phone number (855-313-5799) from our webpages.
- **Live Agent Hours**: Effective March 9, DiplomaSender's live agent hours are **8AM-1PM** MST. The chatbot is still available 24/7.

Free Professional Development

Both of the following organizations are official curriculum partners of GED and HiSET and provide free webinars for adult education professionals that may be helpful for your programs. I am sharing these resources in an effort to assist HSE professionals, but this does not include all free PD opportunities possible. *CDE does not endorse any particular resource or product, nor does it provide any funding to these resources.*

- **Essential Education's** Upcoming Webinar Series
- **Aztec's** Upcoming Webinars

As always, please reach out if you need anything!

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