

What are the GED® Tests

- The GED Tests provide adults who did not complete a formal high school program the opportunity to certify their attainment of high school-level academic knowledge and skills.
- **Only 60%** of graduating high school seniors would pass the GED Tests on their first attempt.

The GED® Test Battery comprises five content area assessments:

- o Language Arts, Reading
 - o Language Arts, Writing
 - o Mathematics
 - o Science
 - o Social Studies
- The GED Tests are currently offered only in a paper-pencil format at Official GED Testing Centers – **they cannot be taken online.**
 - Completing the entire test battery takes just over **7 hours.**
 - Most testing centers give the test over a two day period with two tests on one day and three tests on the final day.

GED® Battery:

TEST	Number of questions	Time limit
Language Arts, Writing	50 + essay	120 minutes
Social Studies	50	70 minutes
Science	50	80 minutes
Language Arts, Reading	40	65 minutes
Mathematics	50	90 minutes

There are no breaks during testing.

Cost & Payment Information

Cost: The complete GED test varies in price throughout the state and ranges from \$25 to \$100. Re-testing fees vary by testing center. Please check your local testing center for fees.

Requirements for Passing the GED® Battery

In order to pass the GED battery, you must have a total score of 2250 when all five tests are combined. No individual test score can be lower than 410.

EXAMPLES:

Lang. Arts, Writing	410	450	500	450
Social Studies	430	450	500	450
Science	470	450	500	450
Lang. Arts, Reading	470	450	500	450
Mathematics	470	450	409	410
TOTAL: SCORE	2250	2250	2409	2210
	Pass	Pass	No Pass	No Pass

Accommodations (for example, extra time, private test room, audio cassette, Braille, etc.) are available for persons with documented disabilities.

(Note: If you were in Special Education in High School, there is a good chance you have a documented disability.)

Please ask your local testing center for more information.

ESTABLISH ELIGIBILITY TO TEST

Call your local testing center for assistance. They will help you establish your eligibility to test.

Prior to testing you will need:

- A valid, government issued picture ID in good condition (e.g., driver's license, state-issued ID, passport, etc.).
- A second valid ID in good condition, which verifies your exact name and your exact signature from your government issued ID.
- An underage verification form signed by your legal guardian and the required school administration official—only if you are at least 16 years old but not yet 18 years old.

Additional Requirements:

- You cannot have graduated from an accredited high school in the U. S. or Canada, nor can you be enrolled in high school. (Students who can prove they have

been home schooled in the state of New Mexico are exempt from this requirement.)

- You cannot have received a high school diploma from any state nor can you have previously earned GED scores sufficient to qualify for a high school diploma in any state. (If you need to earn higher scores to qualify for advanced education or employment, you may, with appropriate verification from the institution or employer, qualify for a retest. Contact the GED Chief Examiner for information on how to proceed.)
- You must be at least 16 years old to take the GED Battery.
- A student may take the GED if s/he received a Certificate of Completion. This Certificate is not considered a High School Diploma.

Re-testing

- If you have a score of at least 410 on at least 4 tests there is a minimum 30 day waiting period to retest, otherwise, there is a minimum 60 day waiting period to re-test. You must finish a battery before re-testing.
- As long as you have not passed the GED battery, you may take any or all subjects up to 3 times in the current calendar year (January 1 through December 31). Unfinished tests count the same as finished tests for this restriction.
- GED Testing Service regulations prohibit taking any of the GED Tests more than three times during any calendar year (January 1 through December 31) regardless of where the tests were taken.
- Scores on any GED Tests taken more than 3 times during a calendar year may be invalidated, and you may be subject to an additional waiting period before being allowed to take the GED Tests again.
- Re-testing fees vary by center.

Pre-testing and Test Preparation

Pre-testing is not required but is strongly recommended. It can help you determine what areas you may need to prepare for. Pre-testing and test preparation are offered at the majority of GED Testing Centers at no cost. Please contact your local testing center for more information.

Testing

Please contact your local testing center to schedule testing: <http://www.ped.state.nm.us>

Scoring

If you completed your GED demographic form via the computer, you may obtain a score report by logging on to: <https://secure.gedwizard.com> with user name & password assigned during your record initiation. If you did not complete your demographic form via the computer, you will have to wait for your scores to be mailed to you by the testing center approximately 3-4 weeks after testing.

How are GED® Test Scores related to class ranking?

Grade point average cannot be determined from GED test scores. However, GED percentile ranks can be viewed as approximate class rank.

GED percentile rankings represent the GED graduate's performance related to the performance on the GED Tests of a representative group of graduating high school seniors.

GED Standard Score and Estimated Class Rank of Graduating High School Seniors

GED Score	Est. Class Rank	GED Score	Est. Class Rank
700	Top 1%	550	Top 25%
670	Top 2%	530	Top 33%
660	Top 3%	520	Top 40%
640	Top 5%	500	Top 50%
610	Top 10%	460	Top 55%
580	Top 15%	450	Top 60%
570	Top 20%		

Who accepts the GED® Credential?

- **98% of Colleges and Universities** that require a high school diploma accept the GED credential (*Annual Survey of Colleges 2007. Copyright © 2007. The College Board*).
- **96% of companies** accept applicants with a GED credential for jobs requiring a high school degree (*Society for Human Resource Management, 2002*).

Transcripts

Your local GED Testing Center will provide you with your initial transcript.

Official GED transcripts may be requested from any GED Testing Center in the state.

You may also request an official New Mexico GED transcript from the State GED Office by downloading a transcript request form from the Public Education Department GED Testing Program website: <http://www.ped.state.nm.us>

Please allow two weeks for processing for transcript requests.

Diploma

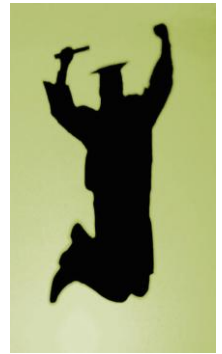
After you pass the GED Battery, you will receive a New Mexico High School Diploma issued by the New Mexico Public Education Department. You will only receive a Diploma if you provided your testing center with a New Mexico Identification Card or Driver's License that has been valid for 30 days. If you have any questions about your diploma, please call the State GED Testing Program at (505) 827-6702.

**All information is subject to change at any time.*

For more information about the New Mexico GED Testing Program, please visit our website: <http://www.ped.state.nm.us>.

GED®

**A Powerful
Second Chance!**



NEW MEXICO GED® TESTING PROGRAM

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