

TO Adult Education Programs and Testing Communities
FROM L. Jill Hans
DATE June 17, 2014
RE Additional Information on the Process to Grandfather 2002 Series GED® Test Scores

MESSAGE:

ELIGIBILITY RUBRIC: In an effort to provide clarity regarding the grandfathering of eligible 2002 Series GED® test scores to be combined with eligible 2014 GED® test scores, we are providing the specific rubric used to determine eligibility.

The passing requirements on the expired 2002 Series GED® test had two criteria: a total score of 2250 (average of 450 per test) and a minimum of 410 on an individual subtest. Therefore, a 2250 was obtained by scoring an average of 450 on each individual subtest. In other words, scores of 450 and above were considered passing by themselves. Scores of 410-440 were passing ONLY in cases where there was another subtest on which the individual scored high enough to make up for the deficiency of points on the lower test. Due to a completely different scoring system on the 2014 GED® test, use of total and average scores across both versions of the test is not possible.

Given the above, the following grandfathering criteria were established:

1. All scores below 410 are automatically excluded from any calculations.
2. Both Reading and Writing subtests must qualify for grandfathering to exempt the individual from the Reasoning for Language Arts subtest on the 2014 GED® test.
3. All of the subtests on which a person scored 410 or above are averaged. If the average is at least 450, all of the scores of 410 and above are eligible for grandfathering.
4. If the criterium in #3 is not met, scores of 450 and above are eligible for grandfathering. Exception: if the Reading and Writing sections together average out to 450, then both scores are eligible.

The rubric is intended to maintain the rigor of the 2002 Series GED® test and consider only scores that would have likely contributed to an overall score of 2250. The Department is also concerned with upholding the integrity of the academic achievement of students who successfully passed the 2002 Series GED® test and were awarded a high school credential based on meeting that standard.

REFUNDS: The Department does not administer the GED® test and has never been in a position to collect any fees related to the test. Fees collected by GED Testing Service® are used to support the administration of the test. If you have taken a section of the 2014 GED® test and also have a score from 2002 Series GED® test that meets the eligibility criteria, the department is not in a position to offer a refund. The Department will consider any passing scores on the 2014 GED® test score for purposes of meeting overall requirements of the Commonwealth Secondary School Diploma.

STUDENTS WHO HAVE TAKEN THE 2002 SERIES GED® TEST IN ANOTHER STATE: The Department will accept 2002 Series GED® test scores from other states for individuals who are now residents of Pennsylvania. Individuals who want to have their out-of-state scores considered will be responsible for obtaining an official copy of their GED® transcript from that state. The Department will develop a process for considering out-of-state scores and will release the information when it is finalized.

WAIT TIMES: There is considerable staff time invested in the process to determine if a student has eligible 2002 Series GED® test scores. There may be a delay between the time an individual registers in MyGED™ and the time the Department notifies the individual of the results. We will do our best to minimize that time.

Attachment