



Oregon Higher Education and Workforce Development Committee: GED[®] Testing Program Overview

GED Testing Service
Tuesday, May 30th

Objectives

- Brief History of the GED[®] Test
- Review the “Why” Behind the New GED[®] Test
- Oregon & National GED[®] Testing Program Data
- American Council on Education Credit Recommendations
- GEDWorks[™]

A Brief History of the GED[®] Test

Historical Timeline

1942

- First test developed

1945

- Veterans Testing Service established

1947

- NYS tests civilians

1959

- Growth in civilian testing

1963

- Veterans Testing Service becomes GED Testing Service

1973

- California becomes final state to adopt GED® test

» A History of the GED® Test

- First series 1942-1977
- Second series 1978-1987
- Third series 1988-2001
- Fourth series 2002-2013
- Fifth series 2014-present

» A History of the GED® Test

- 18 million test passers since inception
- Notable grads include a U.S. Surgeon General, state governors, members of Congress, state legislators, business leaders, and millions of other individuals who are our neighbors, co-workers, family members, and friends

Review the “Why” Behind a New GED[®] test

A new GED® test in 2014: Why?



DREAM MORE

63%
of jobs require more
than HS diploma

- Changes occurring in the landscape of education and the workforce require a new kind of GED® test
 - GED® grads not set-up for success in today's world of postsecondary ed
 - Fewer and fewer low-skill jobs available
 - Students don't have skills jobs require

» A new GED® test in 2014: Why?

- Approximately 60% of community college students require remediation
- 75% of jobs will require more than just a high school credential by 2024
- Middle-skills jobs go unfilled with more jobs available than qualified applicants

» Oregon Specific Data

- By 2024, 76% of job openings in Oregon will require more than a high school credential
- 46% of these jobs will be classified as middle-skills jobs.
- 40-40-20

» A Program...Not just a test



- MyGED™ portal
- Publisher alignment
- GED Ready™ with enhanced score report
- GED Marketplace™
- GED Analytics™
- GED Manager

- 2014 GED® test
 - Aligned with CCR for Adult Education
 - Score report aligned with publisher products
 - Same-day scoring
 - MyGED™ portal
 - GED Analytics™
- GED Manager

- Enhanced score report
- GED Analytics™
- Credentialing with Smart Transcript
- MyGED™ portal
- *PathSource*
- GED Manager

The GED[®] Test: Content Overview

The GED® test aligned to leading standards

College and Career Readiness Standards for Adult Education

Susan Pimentel
2013



MPR
ASSOCIATES, INC.
MPR is a nationally recognized authority
of Research Triangle Institute

WRITING CAREER STANDARDS FOR

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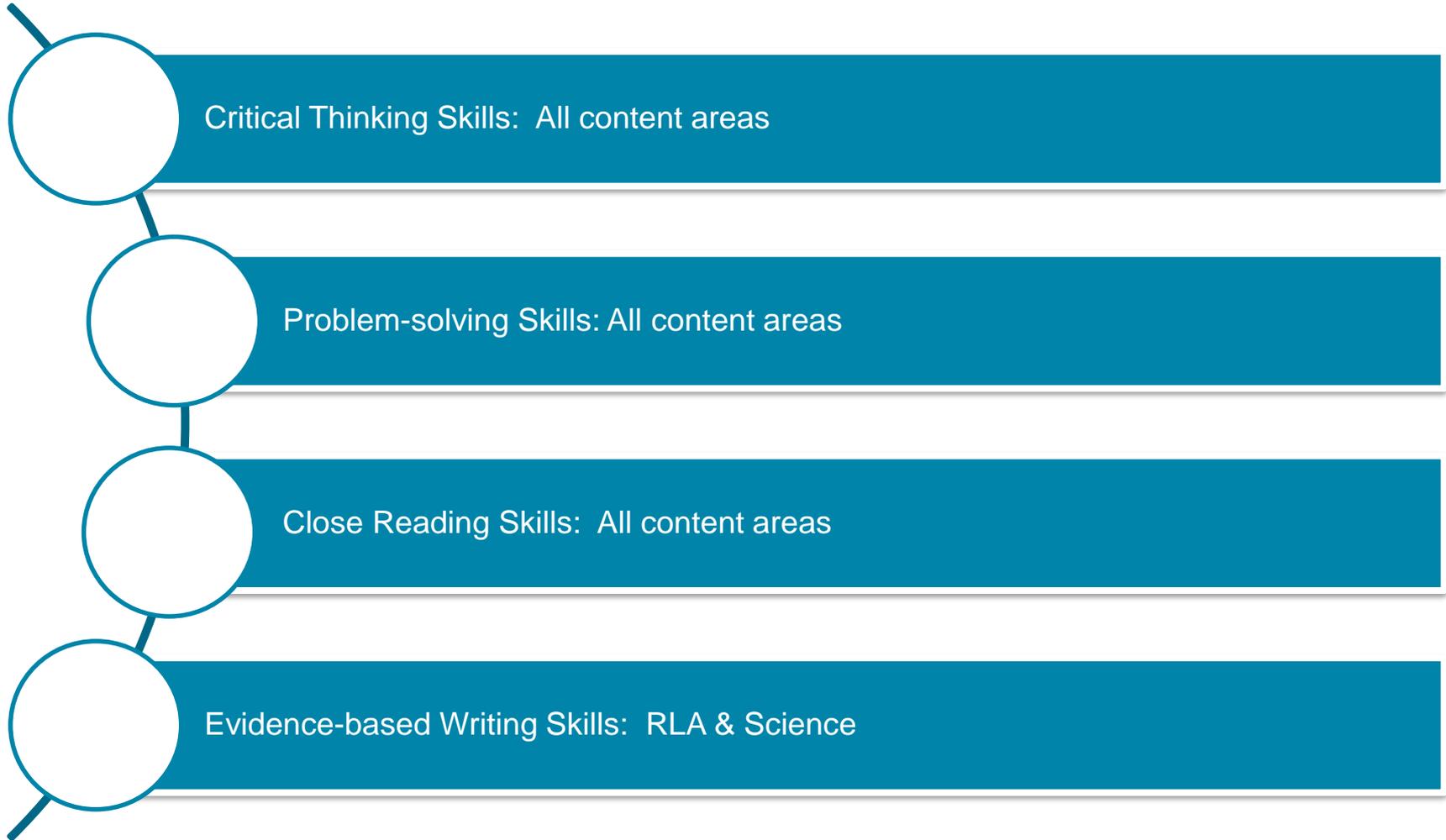
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What the GED® Test Measures

- Measures both High School Equivalency and College and Career Readiness (CCR)
- Measures essential higher-order thinking and reasoning skills needed for success in jobs and career and college training programs
- Ensures that passers demonstrate the knowledge and skills on par with high school grads
- Standardized and normed on a national sample of high school grads from the class of 2013

A New Paradigm: Key Shifts



Purposes of the GED® test

1. To provide results leading to the award of a ***high school equivalency credential***
2. To provide ***evidence of readiness*** to enter workforce training programs, jobs, or postsecondary education
3. To provide actionable information about a candidate's academic ***strengths and weaknesses***

Subject Areas

- Mathematical Reasoning: 115 minutes
- Reasoning Through Language Arts (RLA):
150 minutes
- Science: 90 minutes
- Social Studies: 70 minutes

New Item Types

Multiple-choice

Fill-in-the-blank

Drag-and-drop

Hot-spot

Drop-down

Short-answer (2 on Science test)

Extended-response (1 each on RLA)

New score scale

- Scores range from 100 to 200 on each of the four content modules
- Test-takers must score a minimum of 145 on each subject area to pass
- Three performance levels:
 - High School Equivalency: 145-164
 - GED® College Ready: 165-174
 - GED® College Ready + Credit: 175-200
- Standardized and normed on a national sample of high school grads from the class of 2013

Computer-based assessment

- GED[®] test is delivered on computer
- A paper based test is available as an accommodation
- Test-takers receive their scores within 2-3 hours of testing

What computer skills are necessary?



- Mouse skills
- Basic keyboarding skills
- Use of tools embedded in testing software

Test-takers can practice these skills on the GEDTS computer skills tutorial, available on our web site 24/7

Oregon GED[®] Testing Program Results

Oregon Test-taker Data – 2014- Current

Number of GED® test-takers

- Test-takers: 20,340 (709,396 nationally)
- Completers: 14,091 (475,916 nationally)
- Passers: 12,814 (396,435 nationally)
- Pass rate: 91% (83% nationally)
- Oregon is tied with 2 other states for the 8th highest pass rate in the country

Oregon Test-taker Data

Pass Rates by Subject Area – 2014-Current

- **Math: 90%** (82% nationally)
- **RLA: 94%** (89% nationally)
- **Science: 96%** (91% nationally)
- **Social Studies: 94%** (89% nationally)

Oregon Test-taker Data

Test-takers reaching **CCR** Levels – 2014- Current

- **Math: 12%** (9% nationally)
- **RLA: 21%** (14% nationally)
- **Science: 21%** (13% nationally)
- **Social Studies: 26%** (17% nationally)

American Council on Education (ACE)

College Credit Recommendation
Service (CREDIT[®])

CREDIT[®]: A Brief History



- Military Evaluations since 1945
- CREDIT[®] Established in 1974
- 700 Organizations
- 33,000 Courses and Exams

CREDIT[®] Exam Reviews: Selected Examples

- College Board's Advanced Placement[®] Tests
 - 35 different exams, including AP Calculus, AP Computer Science, AP English Language and Composition, AP Physics, etc.
- College Board's College-Level Examination Program (CLEP[®])
 - 40 different exams, including Spanish language, Trigonometry, Intro to Macroeconomics, etc.
- ACT's National Career Readiness Certificate
 - (3 WorkKeys[®] exams)
- Prometric's DSST - Credit by Exam Program
 - 54 different exams, including Astronomy, Business Law, Principles of Statistics
- Microsoft
 - 44 different exams, including Administering Office 365, Microsoft Certified Technology Specialist, Implementing Desktop Application Environments, etc.

ACE CREDIT® Review

- Two-phased review in 2014 and 2015
- Independent examination of the content and underlying psychometrics of the test
- Resulted in recommendations that are reflected in two upper performance levels

College Ready Passing Levels

- GED[®] College Ready – new score level (165 or higher per subject area) for ACE CREDIT[®] Recommendation (students can bypass dev. ed. and placement exams)
- GED[®] College Ready + Credit – new score level (175 or higher per subject area) where students may be eligible for up to 10 college credit hours
 - (3 Math, 3 Social Studies, 3 Science, 1 English/Humanities)

Some of the Institutions Currently Adopting the GED[®] Credit Recommendations

- **Clackamas Community College**
- **Linn-Benton Community College**
- **Oregon Coast Community College**
- **Umpqua Community College**
- Colorado Community College System
- Georgia Technical College System
- Virginia Community College System
- Southern New Hampshire University
- Community College of Rhode Island
- Kent State University
- Miami Dade College (Florida)
- Community Colleges in Kansas and Washington

Research Highlights

- Results are still emerging, since it has only been three years since the first 2014 GED® candidates earned their credentials
- Data matches in 2015 and 2016 with National Student Clearinghouse indicate
 - More than 35% of GED® graduates enroll in PSE within 1 year of credentialing
 - Within 2 years, the progression rate increases to 41%
 - 93% maintain their enrollment 2 years after enrolling
 - Of those who leave PSE, 80% do so because they have earned some type of credential
 - Results based on random samples of 10,000 graduates in 2014 and 27,000 graduates in 2015

GEDWorks™

What is GEDWorks™



- GEDWorks™ is a program designed for employers to sponsor the GED® test for their employees. No cost for employees.
- Help frontline workers gain a valuable credential
- All-inclusive program gives the student all the tools they need to pass the test
- Available nationally

Founding Employers

- Walmart
- Taco Bell
- KFC
- Pizza Hut
- Southeastern Grocers (SEG): Bi-Lo, Winn-Dixie, Harveys
- More national employers coming soon

Thank you very much!

Scott Salesses, State Relationship Manager

scott.salesses@gedtestingservice.com

781-296-9357