

Introduction to the 2014 GED® Test: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. What is the 2014 GED® test?

The 2014 GED® test is a high school equivalency test. It is called the 2014 GED® test because through the end of 2013 a different GED® test (the 2002 GED® test) was given. The new GED® test was created in order to keep current with requirements for high school, workplace, and college readiness.

2. When did the new test begin?

On January 2nd the 2014 GED® test series became available. Test takers who did not pass all five subject area tests of the 2002 GED® test series with a minimum score of 2250 total points will need to restart GED® registration, payment, and testing. All 2002 GED® test scores will expire on 1/1/14; it is not possible to earn a GED® credential by passing some 2002 tests and some 2014 tests.

3. What will the new test be like?

The 2014 GED® test series will have four separate tests, or modules. Each module is paid for and taken separately. All four modules will be given on the computer and include academic as well as workplace content.

Module (time allowed)	Successful test takers will:
Reasoning through Language Arts (150 minutes)	Read and understand complex texts, write to clearly state a position, and edit in context. Reading passages will be about 400 – 900 words in length; 75% of the readings will be non-fiction; 25% of the readings will be fiction.
Mathematical Reasoning (115 minutes)	Have a deep understanding of fundamental topics so that they can be fluent with procedures, problem solve, and apply these skills in realistic situations. 55% of the test will be algebraic problem solving; 45% of the test will be quantitative problem solving.
Science (90 minutes)	Understand, make inferences, and problem solve in response to text, images, graphs, or charts related to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • life science (about 40% of the test) • physical science (about 40% of the test) • earth science (about 20% of the test). All items will fall within the themes of human health and living systems or energy and related systems and incorporate a science practice like designing experiments or working with findings.
Social Studies (90 minutes)	Understand, make inferences, and problem solve in response to text, images, graphs, or charts related to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • civics and government (about 50% of the test) • United States history (about 20% of the test) • economics (about 15% of the test) • geography and the world (about 15% of the test). All items will fall within the themes of development of modern liberties or democracy and dynamic responses in societal systems and incorporate a social studies practice like integrating content presented in different ways.

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4. Is the 2014 GED® test a multiple choice test?

All four modules have multiple choice items as well as other item types. In the multiple choice questions, the test taker is asked to choose the best answer out of four that are given. Some other questions may include a drop-down menu where the test taker chooses the best answer from a drop-down list to correctly fill in the blank. Test takers may be asked to drag and drop an image, word, or number to the correct place on the screen or click on a certain place on the screen. Test takers may also be asked to type a response to a fill-in-the-blank, short answer, or extended response item.

5. Will writing be required to pass the 2014 GED® test?

Yes. In the Reasoning through Language Arts and Social Studies modules, test takers will be asked to read two passages about the same topic, state a claim about the texts, and support their claim with evidence from the passages. These are called extended response questions. Additionally, the Science test has short answer questions.

6. What computer skills will be needed to take the 2014 GED® test?

A test taker will need to have the digital literacy skills to respond to all of the items types including basic typing and word processing skills for the written responses. Additionally, the test taker will need to be able to work with multiple open windows on the screen, an on-screen calculator, and on-screen tools for navigating through the test.

7. How much will the 2014 GED® test cost?

Each of the four modules will cost \$30, for a total of \$120 for the entire GED® test. However, the cost may vary depending on the testing location.

8. What is a passing score?

A passing score is 150 points for each of the four modules, for a total of 600 points needed to earn a GED® credential. Scores are not averaged or weighted in any way.

9. How does someone register, take the GED® test, and receive scores?

Each adult education site may have a different process for registration, testing, and receiving scores; test takers attending classes should work with their local program as they go through this process. In general, to register for the 2014 GED® test, go www.GED.com to create an account. It is possible to register anywhere that has Internet access. GED® test scores will be given via the same online account that is used for registration. To take the GED® test, the test taker will need to go to a designated test center.

10. Is it possible to take a GED® practice test?

Various types of practice tests are available to measure readiness for the 2014 GED® test. Through the GED Testing Service® web site: www.gedtestingservice.com, free practice tests are available to measure computer skills and content readiness. Additionally, the GED Ready™ is a computer-based predictive practice test that can be purchased through your account at www.GED.com for about \$6 per module or accessed through an adult education program.

11. How can the GED® test help test-takers to prepare for college and careers?

The content of the GED® test is based on the Common Core State Standards linked to college and career readiness. The score report given to test takers via their online accounts lists scores and a detailed report of areas of strength and areas needing improvement. These details are included at the GED® preparation level and also at the higher college and career readiness level.

POTENTIAL TEST TAKERS, find more information at www.gedtestingservice.com; create an account at www.GED.com.
TEACHERS AND PROGRAMS, find more information at <http://2014inMN.org>.



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