

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Department of Education

COMMONWEALTH SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA

This diploma is conferred upon **NICK M. GIOVANNUCCI**
in recognition of having met the requirements for high school completion
in accordance with the Act of the General Assembly Number 212, approved
May 15, 1945.



DEBE-569 (2/72)

Date Issued

August 18, 1972

Given under my hand and the seal
of the Department of Education of
the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
at Harrisburg

John C. Pittenger
Secretary of Education

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION

Harrisburg, Pa. 17126

APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR THE COMMONWEALTH
SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR GRADE EQUIVALENT
CERTIFICATE

The General Educational Development Testing Program (G.E.D.) was adopted by the State Council of Education in August, 1963, to enable Pennsylvania residents, who are not High School graduates, to earn a Commonwealth Secondary School Diploma.

The G.E.D. Program was initiated by the Department of Public Education and implemented by the Division of Testing to replace the procedure of accumulating sufficient subject credits in order to qualify for the Secondary School Diploma.

Since its inception in 1963, over 20,000 Pennsylvania residents have successfully completed the G.E.D. Test and have been awarded a Secondary School Diploma. More than 9,500 applicants were tested during 1967. At the present time, the Bureau of Guidance receives more than 1,000 applications per month.

The G.E.D. Test has been constructed somewhat differently from the usual school achievement tests. In a formal secondary setting, there is likely to be a more complete and detailed coverage of specific facts learned through the use of reference books, textbooks, and planned lesson presentations. The G.E.D. Test is designed to permit the individual to take advantage of knowledge acquired as a result of first-hand observation, direct experience, self-directed reading and study, conversations and informal group discussions, and other experiences with problems, ideas, and people.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Any resident (living in Pennsylvania at least three months prior to making application to the test), not currently enrolled in an approved secondary school program, eighteen years of age or older, or whose original class has graduated, is eligible to take the G.E.D. Test. No previous school attendance is required if the applicant meets these requirements. A transcript of grades previously earned is not required. Non-residents may take the G.E.D. Test but they will be issued a Certificate of Completion and not a Commonwealth Diploma.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants should secure a G.E.D. application from the local high school principal. Test Center Director or write to Division of Testing, Box 911, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Please print all information sections using a ballpoint pen or pencil and use sufficient pressure to permit the markings to show on all three copies. All items must be completed if the application is to be processed for approval.

Please complete the home address section at the bottom of the application and the identification section (Social Security Number and Name) in the upper right portion of the application. Do not write in the Test Center Information section. Do not sign your name in the blocks numbered 8 or 9.

Report to the Testing Bureau one half-hour before testing time with your completed application for registration and application approval. Testing times are listed on the enclosed sheet. Applications may be approved during this time only.

Applicants are required to show a piece of acceptable identification which includes their signature and/or photograph (i.e., driver's license, draft card, etc.).

The fee for testing is \$10.00 and must be paid in full at time of registration. Checks should be made payable to Temple University.

TEST CONTENT

The G.E.D. Test consists of five separate tests and measures the candidate's knowledge and understanding in the following areas:

1. Correctness and Effectiveness of Expression (spelling and English grammar)
- *2. Reading and Interpretation of Materials in Social Studies
- *3. Reading and Interpretation of Materials in Natural Sciences
- *4. Reading and Interpretation of Materials in Literary Materials

*These three tests are designed to determine the applicant's ability to interpret and to evaluate a number of reading selections. Factual recall is not of prime importance in this type of test.

5. General Mathematical Ability (problem solving, use of tables and graphs, units of measurement, algebraic and geometric concepts)

EIGHTH AND TENTH GRADE CERTIFICATES

Residents in need of a certificate for job or professional licensing can obtain an Eighth Grade Equivalent Certificate or Tenth Grade Equivalent Certificate through the G.E.D. Testing Program. The official Test Centers administer this program and applicants for the Tenth Grade Certificate should follow the procedure outlined above.

MILITARY PERSONNEL

Residents who have completed the G.E.D. Test while a member of the Armed Forces may be eligible to receive the Secondary School Diploma.

If he is currently serving on active duty, the applicant should contact his Unit Education Officer for application procedures. The applicant should also request a Diploma or Certificate from Credentials Evaluation, Department of Public Education, Box 911, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, 17126.

If an applicant has concluded his active military service, he should write to USAFI Headquarters, Madison, Wisconsin, and request that office to send a transcript of his test results to Credentials Evaluation in Harrisburg. The applicant should also request a Diploma or Certificate from the Credentials Evaluation Division.

RETESTING

An applicant who has not successfully completed the G.E.D. Test may take a retest following a waiting period of twelve (12) months. This waiting period can be reduced if the applicant receives twenty-five (25) hours of private tutoring or completes twenty-five (25) hours of work in a Standard Evening School Program or an Adult Education Program. The Philadelphia Board of Education can supply information concerning tutoring. An applicant does not have to retake the entire test. He may chose to take one or more test areas in order to acquire the score necessary to qualify for the Diploma or Certificate.

The testing procedure for retesting is identical to the process stated above. See section entitled "How to Apply."

SINGLE SUBJECT TESTING

Some residents will have a need to earn individual subject credit to qualify for entrance into college. The official Testing Centers have available single subject tests and will administer these tests to qualified applicants possessing a regular High School Diploma or Commonwealth Secondary Diploma. A full range of Academic and General Secondary Subject tests are available. Interested applicants should consult with the Testing Center.

REGULATIONS CONCERNING REQUIRED SCORES, AGE, AND GRADE COMPLETION

	Secondary Diploma	Tenth Grade Certificate
Total Score Required	225	195
Average Scores Required	45	39
Lowest Passing Score on Subtests	35	31
Minimum Age for Issuance of Credential	18	17
Original Class Must Have Completed Grade	12	10
Waiting Period for Retests (Months)	12	6

787-8615



**PROCEDURES AND TEST SCHEDULE FOR THE
GENERAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (GED) PROGRAM
April 1, 1971 to August 29, 1971
TESTING BUREAU – TEMPLE UNIVERSITY
(215) 787-8615**



1. GED tests are taken in order to obtain a Commonwealth Secondary School Diploma or Grade Equivalent Certificate for grades eight and ten. Also, GED tests are taken for enlistment in the Armed Forces, or for special training programs requiring results of the five GED tests.
2. Tests will be given every Thursday and Friday from 12:30 Noon to 4:30 P.M. and every Saturday from 9:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M., except on those days when the University is closed (holidays). Approximately ten hours are required to complete the GED battery of five tests. A test may not be started with less than two hours remaining in the test period. Every test must be finished on the day it is started.
3. The fee for the GED Test Battery (five tests) for the high school equivalent diploma or for the 10th grade certificate is \$10, payable in full on the first day of testing. The fee for the 8th grade equivalent test is \$6.
4. No appointment is necessary for the regular testing dates. Candidates taking the GED Testing Program must register at the Testing Bureau, Room 300 Sullivan Hall, Park Avenue & Berks Street, Philadelphia, Pa. Applicants are required to show a piece of acceptable identification which includes their signature and/or photograph. Registration on test days is between 12:00 and 12:30 o'clock on Thursdays and Fridays, and between 9:00 A.M. and 9:30 A.M. on Saturdays. Late arrivals will be registered, but will probably be able to take only one test on that day. The registration procedure is presented in Section Five.
5. Registration procedures involve:
 - A. Candidates for the Commonwealth Secondary School Diploma must report to the Testing Bureau, Room 300 Sullivan Hall, located at Park Avenue and Berks Street, Philadelphia, Pa. on the first day of testing.
 - B. Fees will be paid at the Comptrollers Office, first floor of Conwell Hall, Broad Street and Montgomery Avenue.
 - C. Testing is conducted in Room 10 Curtis Hall, located at Montgomery and Park Avenues.
6. Upon completion of the examinations (GED or Equivalent) the Testing Bureau will forward the results to the Department of Public Education, or to any authorized college, industrial or Armed Forces recruiting center. Diploma candidates will receive notification of passing or failing from the Department of Public Education, Harrisburg, approximately six weeks after completion of testing. The Commonwealth Secondary School Diploma will be issued approximately eight weeks after testing, for those who have successfully met the standards.

Harold C. Reppert, Ph.D.
Director, Testing Bureau