

THE GED PROGRAM IN HAWAII

PURPOSE:

The General Educational Development (GED) Test provides a valid means of measuring the educational achievement of adults who are non-high school graduates and of comparing their academic competence with that of high school graduates. Individuals who successfully complete the test battery will receive an official GED transcript and may qualify for the Hawaii Adult Community School Diploma. The diploma may provide graduates the opportunity to enter the military service, gain college admission, increase income, increase job qualifications, or assist in obtaining work advancement.

CONTENTS:

The GED Test series consists of five subtests, each measuring the major skills considered to be the outcome of a high school education.

LANGUAGE ARTS, WRITING:

The questions on the Writing subtest are intended to assess the student's ability on sentence structure, usage, organization and mechanics. Business communications documents such as letters and reports are used. "How to" passages such as dressing for success, leasing a car, or planning a trip may also be used. Skills including transitions, text divisions, topic sentences, and unity/coherence are also used to measure writing skills. An essay portion is included and must be passed to satisfactorily complete the writing subtest.

Part I: Multiple Choice (75 minutes)

- Mechanics – 25%
- Usage – 30%
- Sentence Structure – 30%
- Organization – 15%

Part II: Essay (45 minutes)

- Plan, draft, revise and write an essay

LANGUAGE ARTS, READING:

The Reading subtest questions will assess comprehension, application, analysis and synthesis. Most of the questions will reflect higher order and critical thinking skills. Content areas are defined by the type of texts: Literary and Nonfiction. Included are comparing/contrasting, business documents, and visual representation questions. (65 minutes)

Literary Texts – 75%

- Poetry, Drama, Prose, Fiction

Nonfiction – 25%

- Prose, Critical Reviews
- Workplace & Community Documents

SOCIAL STUDIES:

The candidate must demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to make informed and reasoned decisions for the public good as citizens of a culturally diverse and democratic society in an interdependent world. The Social Studies subtest will assess comprehension, application, analysis and evaluation. It covers national and global materials. Practical documents such as voters' guides and tax forms may be used. Excerpts are used from the *U.S. Constitution*, *Declaration of Independence*, and/or *Federalist Papers*. Landmark Supreme Court cases also may be used. (70 minutes)

- Economics – 20%
- Geography – 15%
- Civics & Government – 25%
- Natural History – 25%
- World History – 15%

SCIENCE: The Science test questions are drawn from life science, earth science, space science, and physical science (physics and chemistry). Questions relate to environmental and health topics such as recycling, heredity, disease prevention, pollution, climate, and the relevance to everyday life. Assessments are based on conceptual understanding, problem-solving and graphic stimuli. (80 minutes)

- Life Science – 45%
- Physical Science – 35%
- Earth & Space Sciences – 20%

MATHEMATICS:

The Mathematics subtest includes assessments in arithmetic, algebra, geometry, number relations, data analysis, statistics, probability and set-up questions where candidates must identify correct ways to solve problems. Charts, graphs and tables are also included. All candidates will be issued the *Casio fx 260 Solar Calculator* by the test center for Part I of the subtest.

Part I (45 minutes) with Calculator Use

Part II (45 minutes) No Calculator Use

- Number Operations & Number Sense – 25%
- Measurement & Geometry – 25%
- Data Analysis, Statistics & Probability – 25%
- Algebra, Functions, & Patterns – 25%

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

Who may take the GED Test?

The GED Test may be administered to qualified individuals 16 years of age or older. The established procedures to obtain clearance for under-aged youth, ages 16-17, must adhere to the *Exceptions to Compulsory Education*, Form 4140.

What must I do to take the test?

Call or go to any community school for adults listed in this brochure and inquire about the test schedules. Register to take the test. Advanced payment of the test fee is required at the time of registration.

How much does it cost to take the test?

The test fee is \$150 for the entire GED Battery.

How may I prepare for the GED Test?

Enroll in a GED preparation course offered by the community schools for adults. There will be an enrollment fee of \$20 per preparation course.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE HAWAII ADULT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DIPLOMA:

There are two requirements for the Hawaii Adult Community School Diploma:

1. The applicant must pass the GED Test with an average standard score of 450 for the combined five subtests (a minimum total of 2250) with no score on any one test less than 410 **and**
2. The applicant must have **successfully completed** at least one semester of high school work at an accredited private or public school or a community school for adults in Hawaii.

For further information, contact any of the following adult education providers or the state office.

MCKINLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

**McKinley Community School for Adults
Main Campus**

634 Pensacola Street, Room 216
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Telephone: 594-0540

Farrington Campus

1101 Kalihi Street, U101
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
Telephone: 832-3595

Moanalua Campus

2825-A Ala Ilima Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96818
Telephone: 837-8466

Kauai Campus

3607-A Lala Road, P-12
Lihue, Hawaii 96766
Telephone: 274-3390

Maui Campus

179 Kaahumanu Street
Kahului, Hawaii 96732
Telephone: 873-3082

STATE OFFICE

Hawaii State Department of Education
Community Education Office
475 22nd Avenue, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816
Telephone: 203-5511

WAIPAHU COMMUNITY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS

**Waipahu Community School for Adults
Main Campus**

94-1211 Farrington Highway
Waipahu, Hawaii 96797
Telephone: 528-9577

Wahiawa Campus

1515 California Avenue
Wahiawa, Hawaii 96786
Telephone: 622-1634

Windward Campus

730 Iliaina Street
Kailua, Hawaii 96734
Telephone: 254-7955

Hilo Campus

155 West Kawili Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Telephone: 974-4100

Kona Campus

74-5000 Puohuluhuli Street
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740
Telephone: 327-4692



(General Educational Development)

Program in Hawaii



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