

5465 - GENERAL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT (GED) TESTS

A student may be awarded a State of Florida High School Equivalency Diploma based on successful testing.

A candidate who is at least eighteen (18) years of age or older and not enrolled in a regular day school is eligible to take the GED test. The applicant must complete the online GED registration process (<http://www.ged.com>).

A candidate who has filed a formal declaration of intent to terminate school enrollment pursuant to F.S. 1003.21(1)(c) may take the GED test after reaching the age of sixteen (16). A candidate aged sixteen (16) and seventeen (17) years of age must terminate school enrollment prior to taking the 2014 GED® Test. Effective November 1, 2024, the parent or legal guardian of the individual aged sixteen (16) and seventeen (17) years of age must submit documentation meeting the requirements of F.A.C. 6A-6.0201 to the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) before the individual can schedule a sub-test of the 2014 GED® Test.

Candidates who fail to attain the minimum passing scores on their initial GED testing may retake the test at any succeeding testing interval upon payment of the specified fee for each individual sub-test to be taken. A candidate may take the GED test a total of three (3) times per calendar year.

Underage Waiver

A student who is sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) years of age may be permitted to take the General Education Development (GED) test if approved by the School District. Applicants must complete the District GED Underage Waiver Application and submit it along with all required documentation to the Superintendent for consideration. Applications are required to demonstrate that extraordinary circumstances exist in order to allow them to take the GED test prior to attaining the age of eighteen (18). Extraordinary circumstances include the following:

- A. the candidate justifies a need to be employed which would prevent school attendance (documentation demonstrating that the candidate is employed must be provided);
- B. the candidate is a parent who does not have access to child care; or
- C. the candidate has a health condition(s) which would prevent school attendance.

A student who has reached the age of sixteen (16) is not required to take any course before taking the GED examination unless the student fails to achieve a passing score on the GED practice test as established by the State Board of Education.

If the Superintendent approves the applicant's District GED Underage Waiver Application, the applicant must complete the GED registration process through the GED official website (<http://www.ged.com>). Failure of the applicant to complete the GED registration process will delay the District's ability to submit required documentation to the ~~Florida Department of Education~~ FLDOE.

Appeal of Denial of Underage Waiver Application

An applicant may appeal a denial of the Underage Waiver Application by submitting a written appeal to the School Board's GED office, explaining why the applicant believes the application should have been approved. An appeal must be filed within thirty (30) days after receipt of the denial. The issue for the appeal is whether extraordinary circumstances, as defined above, are present. The GED Coordinator will inform the applicant of the result of the appeal.

GED Coordinator

The Board's GED Coordinator may be contacted for questions about the underage waiver process, approval, and denial.

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