

# The 2014 GED<sup>®</sup> Program

## It's not just a test

### Why create a new GED program?

We're facing a national crisis. Millions of adults without high school diplomas aren't prepared for the college and career training programs required by most jobs today. We believe that adults need and deserve more than the current system provides.

That's why we developed a new comprehensive, start-to-finish program that ensures our graduates have the tools and support they need to take the next critical steps in their lives, including a test that's better aligned to the requirements of today's workforce and today's high school diploma.

### What's new about the 2014 GED program?

The new GED program isn't just a test. It's a **comprehensive, start-to-finish program** that gives adults a fighting chance to go to college or find a better job with better wages. It's also a **one-stop resource** for adult education needs, providing:

- An **individualized roadmap** that supports a test-taker from preparation through testing and onto college or the workforce, including assistance navigating the college financial aid process
- Online resources to help test-takers **determine career pathways** suited to their strengths and passions
- An official practice test that shows test-takers their strengths and where they need to improve, including **specific pages to study** in training materials at home and online
- A mobile-friendly platform that allows test-takers to **use their smartphones to prepare, register, and check scores** when they have unexpected free time
- The only high school equivalency test built from the ground-up, and fully aligned from day one to the [College and Career Readiness Standards for Adult Education](#) recommended by the U.S. Department of Education
- Easy, **same-day access to test scores** so test-takers know right away if they've passed and won't have to wait weeks to start applying for jobs, for college or to retake the test
- **Cutting-edge analytics** for local test administrators to track performance, create reports, and manage a successful program **tailored to the needs of test-takers in their community**

### GED testing on computer

The new GED program will shift entirely to a **computer-based testing** format, allowing test-takers to demonstrate that they have the basic digital literacy skills that employers, colleges, and researchers say are essential to succeed in today's workplace and career training programs. Testing on computer also means increased scheduling **flexibility for test-takers**. We've been offering the GED test on computer across the U.S. for nearly two years, and the results have been overwhelmingly positive. For instance:

- More than 200,000 GED tests have been taken on computer
- People aren't just passing the test on computers—they're **passing at a rate nearly 15 percentage points higher** than those who take paper-based tests
- People who fail a GED test on computer are nearly **60 percent more likely to re-take the test** than those who take the test on paper
- People taking the GED test on computer **finish faster** than those who take the test on paper, and adults of all ages have described the experience as being **"simple," "less stressful," and "easier"**

### Pricing

With the old version of the GED test, states paid for the test itself and then paid additional fees for add-on services, such as registration, scoring, and data management. The 2014 program simplifies this and reduces the administrative burden on the states by rolling everything into one flat rate of \$120, with \$40 of that being returned to the local testing centers, making the 2014 computer-based test cost roughly the same as a paper-based test. As always, states will be able to subsidize all or part of the test to help make it as accessible as possible for adults seeking their GED diploma. Students are also applauding the flexibility to pay as they go as opposed to paying the full amount upfront.