

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION – ADMINISTRATIVE RULE SUMMARY

Title/OAR #: Division 7 Programs 589-007-0400 and 589-007-0500

Date: June 20, 2014

Staff/Office: Gerald Hamilton, CCWD
Teresa Alonso Leon, CCWD

New Rule Amend Existing Rule Repeal Rule
Hearing Date: May 28, 2014 Hearings Officer Report Attached
Prompted by: State law changes Federal law changes Other

Action Requested:

First Reading/Second Reading Adoption Adoption/Consent Agenda

PROPOSED/AMENDED RULE SUMMARY: Implement new GED policies to reflect new GED test series.

BACKGROUND: The current rules, 589-007-0400 and 589-007-0500 are written to support the 2002 GED test series which no longer exist. Therefore, it is necessary to make changes to the current rules to reflect the new 2014 GED test series.

As of January 2, 2014, GED Testing Service (GEDTS) launched the new 2014 GED test series that assesses the knowledge and skills needed for the workplace and for higher education. The new changes that need to be applied to support test series will be around the following:

- Reduction in number of tests with the new GED test series;
- Going to computer based tests only as opposed to being able to choose from paper or computer based tests;
- No State administrative oversight of GED examiners;
- Potential new test centers will now only need to apply to GEDTS as opposed to applying to both GEDTS and the state;
- GED records are housed online through a third party vendor for easy access by GED candidates and companies wanting to verify GED credentials;
- Change in GED fees.

The rule amendment provides CCWD the authority to work with the test centers to ensure that they are adhering to the changes and test procedure requirements outlined above.

The Board is being asked to approve adoption of this rule amendment.

ISSUES/CONCERNS THAT SURFACED DURING RULE WORK:

- GED candidates not being able to come to the State office to pick up a copy of their GED certificate or transcript as they did before;

- GED tests are offered as computer based only and paperbased tests are offered through accomodations only:
- GED test fees have increased for individual subtests from \$35.00 (2002) for computer based testing to \$38.00(2014) a subtest. However overall fee cost have decesad form \$175 to \$152 for the complete series. (GED combined the Language Arts, resulting in four subtests rather than five in the 2014 test series)

CHANGED SINCE LAST BOARD MEETING?

- N/A; first read—hasn't been before board
- No; same as last month
- Yes, as follows: Changes State Board of Education references to Higher Education Coordinating Commission in anticipation of HB 3120; agency will file certificate of rule adoption COB June 30, 2014.

FISCAL IMPACT:

2002 GED Test Series	2014 GED Test Series
Paper-based Tests (PBT) \$35.00 per subtests or \$175.00 (five subtests)	No paper based tests
Computer Based Tests \$31.00 per subtests or \$155.00 (five subtests)	Computer-based Tests (CBT) \$38.00 per subtests or \$152.00 (four subtests)

State administration fees is \$8.00 per subtest which is included in the test fees.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

- Adopt administrative rule as prepared this month
- Adopt administrative rule next month
- No recommendation at this time (rarely used)

Comments: Use this section for any out-of-the-ordinary recommendation, comment, or if rule needs to be adopted this month and explain why.

589-007-0400

General Educational Development Program and Certificates of High School Equivalency

Formatted: Top: 0.69"

(1) The General Educational Development (GED) 2014 tests series are a measure of high school equivalency and include the following areas:

Formatted: Space Before: 12 pt

- (a) ~~Writing skills: Reasoning Through Language Arts;~~
- (b) Social studies;
- (c) Science;
- (d) ~~Reading skills; and~~
- (~~e~~) Mathematical reasoning.

(2) All GED tests applicants except those confined to Oregon correctional or health institutions must take the GED test at an official GED testing center or an approved military testing center, ~~or an official GED testing center.~~

(3) Oregon residency is not required to take the GED tests in Oregon. The applicant must have valid state or government issued photo identification. ~~The State of Oregon will issue a certificate after completion of minimum score requirements.~~

(4) ~~Local GED examiners shall be approved by the facility authorized by Pearson Vue to provide testing services and official GED testing centers will be approved by GED Testing Service (GEDTS) in consultation with the GED Administrator when the following have been documented; and local GED examiners shall be approved by the State Administrator, GED Program, Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development,~~

Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman, 12 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman, 12 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman, 12 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman, 12 pt, Font color: Auto

Formatted: Font: (Default) Times New Roman, 12 pt, Font color: Auto

~~when the following have been documented (GEDTS Forms 75 and I-10):~~

- ~~(a) Need for a new testing site in a specific region or location;~~
- ~~(b) Need for new or replacement examiner at a testing center;~~

(b) Willingness of center personnel to meet all testing center requirements described in the GED Examiner's Manual published by ~~GED Testing Service~~ GEDTS of the America Council on Education.

~~(5) Before testing center is approved, testing centers in Oregon shall also submit to the State GED office for approval:~~

- ~~(a) Appropriate fee structure that shall not exceed the cost of administering the GED tests;~~
- ~~(b) Appropriate testing schedules to meet year-round needs of geographic area being served.~~

~~(6)~~ The annual contract between local testing centers, the ~~Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development~~ department and the ~~GED Testing Service~~ GEDTS shall provide

assurances that all state and national requirements shall be met. Failure to meet requirements may result in center closure.

~~(76)~~ Requirements for a Certificate of Equivalency include:

(a) That, except as provided below, the applicant must be 18 years of age to take the GED tests:

(A) An applicant who is at least 16 years of age, but not yet 18 years of age, may take the GED tests under the following circumstances:

(i) The local school district must certify to authorized Oregon GED ~~Chief Examiners~~ Lead Staff that the applicant is exempt from compulsory school attendance for reasons cited in ORS 339.030(5), 339.250(6) and OAR 581-021-0070, 581-021-0071, and 581-021-0076, and has secured the permission of his or her parent or legal guardian; or

(ii) The Education Service District must certify to authorized Oregon GED ~~Chief Examiners~~ Lead Staff that the applicant is exempt from compulsory school attendance for reasons cited in ORS 339.030(3); or

(iii) The parent or legal guardian must certify to authorized Oregon GED ~~Chief Examiners~~ Lead Staff that the applicant is exempt from compulsory school attendance for reasons cited in ORS 339.030(1). The parent or legal guardian shall specifically indicate that the applicant has permission to take the GED tests; or

(iv) The applicant is enrolled in an approved Option Program for In School Youth as cited in OAR 581-022-1350.

(B) Because ORS 109.510 and 109.520 state that persons are deemed to reach majority upon marriage and because ~~GED Testing Service~~ GEDTS policy states that persons must be 16 years of age to take the GED Tests (Examiner's Manual), an applicant that is married is eligible to take the GED Tests ~~tests~~ at the age of 16 without an exemption from compulsory attendance.

~~(e)~~ The ~~Commissioner~~ commissioner may, under special and extraordinary circumstances, waive certification requirements in subparagraph ~~(76)(b)(A)~~ (i), (ii) or (iii) of this rule.

~~(87)~~ The GED ~~Chief Examiner~~ lead staff shall ensure that the applicant is advised of:

(a) Locally available practice testing and preparation opportunities;

(b) Policies, including limitations on retesting procedures;

~~(c) A three-year limit to complete the GED Tests before retesting and repayment of fees are enacted.~~

(d) The special GED scores that are required by apprenticeship and some postsecondary educational programs.

~~(98)~~ To obtain the Certificate of Equivalency, an applicant must achieve a minimum standard score set by ~~GED Testing Service~~ GEDTS and ~~the Oregon State Board of Education~~ Higher Education Coordinating Commission.

~~(109)~~ Previous high school enrollment is not required for an applicant to be eligible to receive a Certificate of Equivalency.

~~(110)~~ Certificate application:

(a) The individual who passes the tests may request for a first free copy of their GED certificate and transcript through a third party vunder the sState of Oregon is using at the time. A fee will be charged to the GED candidate for additional copies of the GED transcript and certificate. ~~make application for the Certificate of Equivalency to the State Administrator, GED Program, Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development, Salem, Oregon. Application forms, available at all official testing centers, may be completed at the time the test is taken.~~

(b) Test scores are accepted as official only when reported directly by official GED agencies, the United States Armed Forces Institute, directors of Veterans Administration hospitals, and in special cases by the ~~GED Testing Service~~GEDTS;

~~(c) Service personnel are responsible for having their test scores sent to the State GED Administrator. Upon receipt of these scores, a certificate application form will be mailed.~~

~~(121)~~ Testing centers shall comply with the requirements of the ~~Testing~~testing Program program by refusing to administer tests to those who have not reached the age of 18 unless permitted by this rule.

~~(1312)~~ By authorization of the Commission on Educational Credit and Credentials, the ~~Department~~department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development administers ~~oversees~~ the GED tests to individuals confined to state correctional and health institutions.

~~(1413)~~ Upon the recommendation of the Commission on Educational Credit and Credentials of the of Accreditation of Service Experience of the American Council on Education, the following provisions apply to GED testing of members of the Job Corps stationed in Oregon:

(a) Civilian-restricted forms of the GED test can be administered to Job Corps trainees who have been determined to be eligible by the educational director of the Job Corps Training Center;

(b) Testing will be ~~done~~conducted at official GED agencies, and the usual testing fee will be charged;

(c) Persons taking the test must be at least 18 years of age unless the applicant meets requirements in subparagraph ~~(76)~~(b)(A)(i), (ii), (iii), or (iv) of this rule.

[Publications: Publications referenced are available from the agency.]

Stat. Auth.: ~~ORS 326.051~~351.735 & ~~326.550~~351.768

Stats. Implemented: ~~ORS 326.550 & 341.425~~351.768

Hist.: 1EB 49, f. 4-19-60, ef. 5-10-60; 1EB 130, f. 5-5-72, ef. 10-15-72; 1EB 137, f. 8-18-72, ef. 10-1-72; 1EB 194, f. 4-18-75, ef. 7-1-75; 1EB 240, f. & ef. 8-27-76; 1EB 5-1984, f. & ef. 3-7-84; EB 6-1988, f. & cert. ef. 1-14-88; EB 14-1991, f. & cert. ef. 7-19-91; Renumbered from 581-046-0010; EB 15-1992, f. & cert. ef. 5-13-92; EB 4-1993, f. & cert. ef. 1-13-93; EB 30-1993(Temp), f. & cert. ef. 9-30-93; EB 36-1993, f. & cert. ef. 12-14-93; DCCWD 1-2001, f. & cert. ef. 3-21-01, Renumbered from 581-043-0600; DCCWD 1-2006, f. 4-17-06, cert. ef. 4-18-06

589-007-0500
State GED Fees

Formatted: Space Before: 12 pt

~~(1) The State Board of Higher Education Coordinating Commission of Education authorizes the Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development (CCWD) to charge the following fees for the General Educational Development tests:~~

~~(1) For paper-based GED tests through December 31, 2013:~~

~~(1a) All persons taking the 2014 GED tests shall be required to pay a fee of \$385 per test state administration fee at the time they begin testing (this includes the \$8.00 state administration fee);~~

~~(1b) (2) Persons seeking a GED equivalency certificate shall be issued that certification upon verification that the state fee has been paid and the requirements of OAR 589-007-0400 have been met;~~

~~(1c) The \$35 state fee shall cover the cost of state administration for each test-taker until the transition to a new GED test which will occur on January 1, 2014.~~

~~(2) For computer-based GED tests through December 31, 2013:~~

~~(a) All persons taking the GED tests shall be required to pay a \$7 state administration fee for each of five subtests that comprise the GED test and any retaken tests;~~

~~(b) (3) State fees will be collected by GEDTS at the time a GED candidate registers online for the GED tests and will be distributed to CCWD the department on a monthly basis;~~

~~(c) (4) A GED high school equivalency certificate will be issued upon successful completion of the five-four subtests.~~

~~(3) For computer-based GED tests beginning on January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2015:~~

~~(a) All persons taking the GED tests shall be required to pay a \$8 state administration fee for each of four subtests that comprise the GED tests and any retaken tests;~~

~~(b) State fees will be collected by GED Testing Service at the time a GED candidate registers online for GED tests and will be distributed to CCWD on a monthly basis;~~

~~(c) A GED high school equivalency certificate will be issued upon successful completion of the four subtests.~~

~~(d) (5) Effective January 21, 2014, the state discount retaken test fee of \$108 will be implemented waived for up to two retaken tests per failed content area provided the retaken tests occur within 12 calendar months.~~

Stat. Auth.: ORS ~~326.051~~351.735 & ~~326.550~~351.768
Stats. Implemented: ORS 192.440 & ~~326.550~~351.768

Hist.: 1EB 130, f. 5-5-72, ef. 10-15-72; 1EB 258, f. 1-31-77, ef. 2-1-77; 1EB 6-1984(Temp), f. & ef. 3-7-84; 1EB 10-1984, f. & ef. 4-13-84; EB 12-1991, f. & cert. ef. 7-19-91; Renumbered from 581-046-0005; ODE 1-2001, f. 1-25-01, cert. ef. 1-26-01; DCCWD 1-2001, f. & cert. ef. 3-21-01, Renumbered from 581-041-0011; DCCWD 1-2009, f. & cert. ef. 7-6-09; DCCWD 1-2013(Temp), f. & cert. ef. 5-31-13 thru 11-27-13; DCCWD 5-2013, f. & cert. ef. 9-20-13



**COMMUNITY
COLLEGES AND
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT**
WORKSOURCE OREGON

Public Service Building

255 Capitol Street NE

Salem, Oregon 97310

Phone (503) 378-8648

Fax (503) 378-3365

www.egov.oregon.gov/CCWD

M E M O

DATE: May 29, 2014

TO: Department of Community Colleges and
Workforce Development

FROM: Linda Hutchins, Hearing Officer

RE: Presiding Officer's Report to Agency on Rulemaking Hearing

Hearing Date: May 28, 2014
Hearing Location: Public Service Building, CCWD Conference Room #2
Rule Title: 589-007-0400 & 0500 – GED

The rulemaking hearing on the proposed rule was convened at 9:00 a.m.

Before receiving comments, I briefly summarized the proposed rule amendment.

No one attended the hearing, which was adjourned at noon on May 28, 2014.

No comments were received during the comment period for this proposed rule amendment.

C: Teresa Alonso Leon, Administrative Rule Lead
File

