

**NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION**

RULE 81

**RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY
PROGRAM**

**TITLE 92, NEBRASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE,
CHAPTER 81**

**EFFECTIVE DATE
APRIL 27, 2016
(REVISED)**

**State of Nebraska
Department of Education
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509**



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001 General Provisions

001.01 Statutory Authority. The State Board of Education is authorized to adopt reasonable rules and regulations for the administration of the High School Equivalency Program pursuant to Sections 79-730 through 79-733 of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska (R.R.S.). The decision of the State Board of Education with reference to the eligibility of an applicant for a diploma of high school equivalency shall be final.

001.02 Implementation Date. Regardless of the effective date of the approval of this chapter, the implementation date will be January 1, 2014.

002 Definition of Terms As used in this Chapter:

002.01 Approved Tests shall mean the General Educational Development Tests as prepared and furnished by GED® Testing Service.

002.02 Diploma shall mean a certificate or document signifying the successful acquisition of competencies specified as equivalent to the educational development and abilities of the typical high school graduate.

002.03 GED® shall mean General Educational Development.

002.04 Official GED® Testing Centers are those public secondary and post secondary institutions located throughout the State of Nebraska which are authorized by the Commissioner of Education to administer the GED® examination.

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002.05 Reasonable certainty, with respect to the achievement of educational development abilities shall mean a standard score commensurate with those standard scores which would be attained by the typical high school graduate or as established by the Commissioner of Education.

003 Eligibility Criteria for Diploma Recipients

003.01 The Commissioner of Education has the authority to issue a High School Equivalency Diploma conveying all the significance and privilege of a regular high school diploma to any person who is not a high school graduate and who meets the following requirements:

003.01A The applicant must have been a resident of Nebraska for at least thirty (30) days immediately preceding the date of application, or the final period of high school attendance during which credit was earned toward graduation was in a Nebraska high school. (Section 79-730(1) R.R.S.)

003.01B On the basis of achievement in approved tests and other criteria deemed pertinent by the Commissioner of Education, there is reasonable certainty that the applicant has attained the educational development and abilities of the typical high school graduate. (Section 79-730(2) R.R.S.)

003.01C The applicant must be at least eighteen years of age and is unable to secure a diploma from the last attended high school; or the class in which the applicant was enrolled at the time of withdrawal from school has been graduated for at least one (1) year. (Section 79-730(3) R.R.S.)

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004 Application and Testing Procedures

004.01 Application:

004.01A Applicants must register online with GED® Testing Service.

004.01B Verification of age for persons 18 years of age and older.

004.01B1 The GED® Examiner will verify the applicant's age by a valid official state driver's license, photo bearing identification card or passport.

004.01C An applicant, under the age of 18, must:

004.01C1 Present a properly completed application to the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) and a copy of his/her transcript of credits from the last high school attended indicating the date of withdrawal from school and for all applicants who were required by Section 79-202(1) R.R.S. to have a signed withdrawal form or notarized release form prior to withdrawing before graduation, a copy of such form. Upon receipt at NDE of above items and approval, referral to an adult education program will be made to the applicant.

004.01C2 Present a valid official state driver's license, photo bearing identification card or passport to the GED® Examiner before testing takes place.

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004.02 Retesting:

004.02A An applicant whose scores are below acceptable standards may retest with the passage of 30 days since the test was taken.

004.02B Retesting is only required for the test(s) failed.

004.03 No person under the age of 16 shall write the GED® Test.

005 Issuance of the Diploma

005.01 The Commissioner of Education shall issue a High School Equivalency Diploma based upon the following requirements:

005.01A Minimum test scores: The minimum individual and battery passing scores are as determined by the GED® Testing Service and in effect at the time of taking the test. The individual and battery passing scores for the GED® tests can be viewed at Nebraska Department of Education's webpage: <http://www.education.ne.gov/ADED/index.html> and are also available from the Department. Test scores are accepted as official only when reported directly by Official GED® Centers, the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES), directors of Veterans Administration hospitals, or the GED® Testing Service.

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005.01A1 Persons that took the GED examination prior to the effective date of this Chapter but on or after January 1, 2014, who did not meet the minimum scores in effect under this Chapter at that time, but whose scores do meet the minimum scores described in Section 005.01A, will be deemed to have met the minimum score requirements under this Chapter for purposes of issuance of the High School Equivalency Diploma.

005.01B Age and Class membership: (1) The diploma candidate has attained his or her eighteenth birthday and is unable to secure a diploma from the high school he or she last attended; or (2) the class of which he/she was a member at the time of withdrawal from school has been graduated for one year.

005.01C Residence: The diploma recipient has been a resident of Nebraska for at least 30 days immediately preceding application, or the final period of high school attendance during which credit was earned toward graduation was in a Nebraska high school.

005.01D Fees:

005.01D1 The diploma candidate has paid a fee of \$5.00.

005.01D2 A duplicate of the diploma may be acquired by the remittance of the fee of \$2.00.

005.01D3 An official transcript of scores may be acquired by the remittance of a fee of \$2.00.

006 Testing Facilities

006.01 A GED® Testing Center is established upon determination of need by the Commissioner of Education when the proposed site and its agency meet the requirements of the GED® Testing Service.