



Frequently Asked Questions about the High School Equivalency Exam (HSE) in New York State (NYS)

Which High School Equivalency Exam is used in New York State?

New York uses the Test Assessing Secondary Completion™ – TASC test as the High School Equivalency (HSE) exam.

Why doesn't NYS use the GED® test anymore?

Significant changes in the GED testing program created the opportunity to consider other HSE tests that were more affordable and available to more people. NYS needed a HSE test that (1) took a phased-in approach to testing to revised national educational standards, (2) would be available on both paper and via the computer, and (3) would be competitively priced. Consequently, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) issued a Request for Proposal. NYSED then awarded a contract to a national vendor for a new national HSE test, called the Test Assessing Secondary Completion™ – TASC test, which met these requirements.

What is the TASC test?

The TASC test is a national test that measures national educational standards. The TASC test has five subtests (Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies). It takes approximately eight-and-a-half hours to complete, and is usually administered over two days.

Where can I test?

NYSED has over 100 public test centers located across the state. You can find a test center near you on our website: http://www.acces.nysed.gov/hse/hse-testing-maps

How much will it cost to take the test?

If you live in New York State, the test is free.

How can I prepare?

You may want to enroll in a free HSE preparation program, which you can find on the NYSED website: http://www.acces.nysed.gov/hse/hse-prep-programs-maps

There are also free instructional materials, which you can find here: http://www.acces.nysed.gov/aepp/new-york-state-online-media-connection

The TASC test website provides sample questions and other information, including study materials: http://www.tasctest.com/resources.html

Can I test again if I fail?

You can take the test up to three times in any calendar year. The retests are also free for failed subtests.

I took the GED and passed parts of the test. Do I have to take the parts that I passed over again?

No. NYS credits you for the GED subtests that you passed.

Can I combine the passing GED scores with the TASC test scores to get my HSE diploma?

Yes. If you took the GED® test between 2002-2013, any passing subtest scores will count toward earning your diploma. For more details about "grandfathering" old GED® test scores, see the document titled "Grandfathering made permanent and other changes to the HSE diploma" at the bottom of the page at this link: http://www.acces.nysed.gov/what-hsetasc-test

How will I find out if I will get a HSE diploma in NYS?

Your test is scored by the vendor, the company that produces the TASC test. The vendor then sends the scores to NYSED. If you pass, NYSED sends you a NYSED HSE diploma with a transcript of your scores. Similarly, if you do not pass, NYSED will send you a transcript with your scores, but you may then request to retest on the parts of the test that you did not pass. You can also check our website to see if you have earned a diploma: https://eservices.nysed.gov/ged/

The State Education Department does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, religion, creed, disability, marital status, veteran status, national origin, race, gender, genetic predisposition or carrier status, or sexual orientation in its educational programs, services and activities. Portions of this publication can be made available in a variety of formats, including Braille, large print or audio tape, upon request. Inquiries concerning this policy of nondiscrimination should be directed to the Department's Office for Diversity, Ethics, and Access, Room 530, Education Building, Albany, NY 12234.

Developed and published by Data Recognition Corporation, 13490 Bass Lake Road, Maple Grove, MN 55311. Copyright (c) 2016 by Data Recognition Corporation. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means, or stored in a database or retrieval system, without the prior written permission of the publisher.

TASC Test Assessing Secondary Completion is a trademark of Data Recognition Corporation. Data Recognition Corporation is not affiliated with The After-School Corporation, which is known as TASC. The After-School Corporation has no affiliation with the Test Assessing Secondary Completion ("TASC test") offered by Data Recognition Corporation, and has not authorized, sponsored or otherwise approved of any of Data Recognition Corporation's products and services, including TASC test.