

Changes in GED Testing: All about the Online Proctored GED Test and Latest Resources for Educators

ACE of Florida

Brian Smith
October 2020



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Agenda

- FL testing numbers
- Free professional development and resources
- Online Proctored GED test
 - Testing During the Pandemic
 - Eligibility
 - Policy Information & Differences
 - Educator Resources
 - Test-taker scheduling experience
- New Products for Distance Learning



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GED Testing in FL (June 2020 – October 4, 2020)

	In-Person Testing Centers	Online Proctored	Total
Test takers	5,072 (75%)	1,702 (25%)	6,774
GED modules	12,673 (77%)	3,729 (23%)	16,402

- South Florida had almost no testing centers open through most of this period
- Jacksonville and Tampa areas also lacked testing centers during some of this period
- Nationally, Online Proctoring represents about 15%



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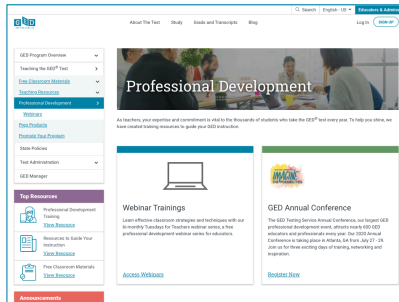
Tools and Resources



4

Resources – Professional Development & Tuesdays for Teachers Recordings

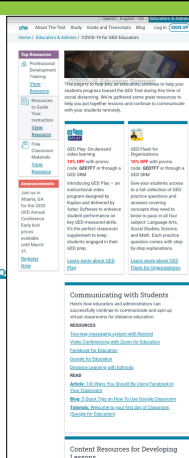
https://ged.com/educators_admins/teaching/professional_development/



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Educator & Administrator COVID-19 Resources Page

http://test-ged-wp.pantheon.io/educators_admins/covid-19-educator-supp



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Online Proctored GED Test



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Online Proctored (OP) GED® Test Pilot – Overview

- With test centers closed, students needed another option to earn their GED credential
- Test-takers can take the GED test from the comfort of their home
- Delivered online and is continually monitored by a trained proctor and A.I.
- We are not moving away from traditional in-person test centers
- The OP GED Test Pilot started in late May & we have expanded access as quickly as possible. More than 2,000 students have credentialed!



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What Students Are Eligible

- Requires a laptop or computer with a camera, microphone, and stable internet connection.
- Must be in an enclosed room with a door that can be shut, quiet environment, no other individuals in the room
- Government issued ID
- Must score 145 or higher, "green" on the GED Ready test within the past 60 days
- Limited test accommodations like time extensions are available now



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Preparing Your Students

- Make your students aware of the OP testing option
- Help students study for their GED Ready to earn a score of 145 or higher
- We **highly recommend** students run a system check prior to scheduling an OP test appointment
- GED test vouchers that were utilized for in-person testing will work for payment with an OP test as well
- Prepare students for the unique features on the OP test



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Virtual Calculator Link – Same Calculator Built into GED Ready & Tutorial

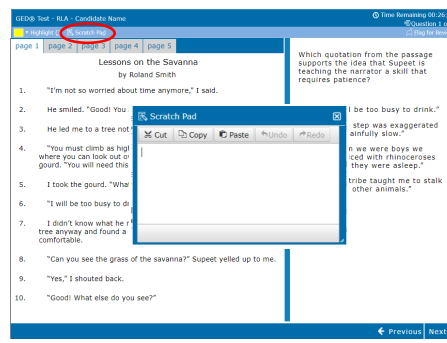
- Only the on-screen calculator may be used with O.P. tests
 - Handheld calculators are not allowed for security purposes
 - The on-screen calculator is the same as that on GED Ready, and the computer-based in-person test
 - A calculator tutorial is available to both students and educators on GED.com

https://ged.com/calculator_tutorial



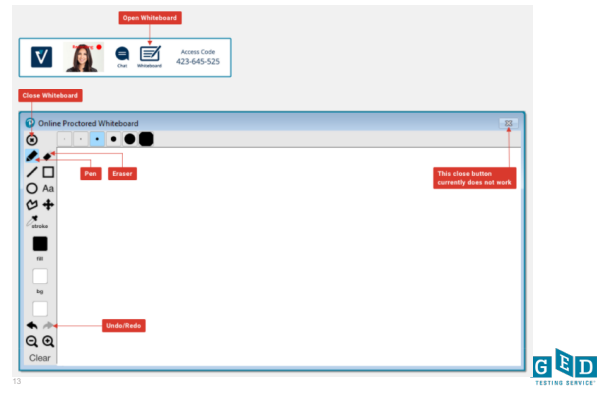
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Onscreen Scratch Pad (Students cannot use physical scratch paper or dry erase boards)



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OnVUE Onscreen Whiteboard



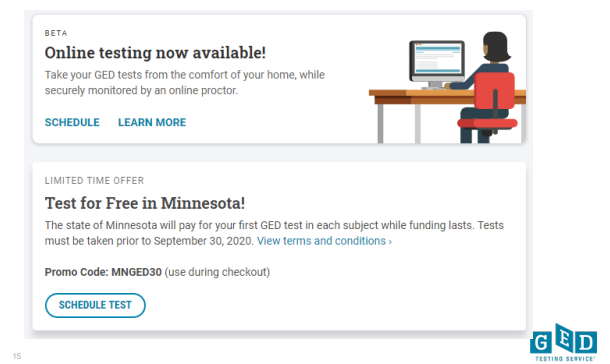
13

Student Experience Online proctored GED® test pilot



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Student Home Page



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Online Proctored Webpage – available with or without a GED.com account

• <https://ged.com/take-the-ged-test-online/>

About Online GED Testing

Take your GED test from the comfort of your home, while securely monitored by an online proctor.



Overview



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Learn More: What's Needed

What's Needed to Test Online



Computer, Webcam, Internet
You need a computer with webcam and reliable internet.



Private Workspace
The room should have four walls, a closed door and no distractions.



Government-issued ID
We will verify your government-issued ID when you check-in for your test.



'Green' GED Ready Score
You must take a GED Ready practice test and score 'green' within the last 60 days for each subject in which you want to test online.



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Learn More: How It Works

How It Works

- 1 Perform a **system test** to make sure your computer, webcam and internet connection meet the requirements for testing online.
- 2 Schedule your online test within 60 days of scoring 'green' on a GED Ready practice test.
- 3 Log in to GED.com 30 minutes before your test appointment to launch your test.
- 4 Follow the on-screen steps to check-in for your test including verifying your system, I.D. and workspace.
- 5 Take your test while an online proctor monitors you just like they do at a test center.



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Before Test Day

Run a System Test

It's important to do a system test on your computer **before** test day to make sure your computer meets the minimum requirements for online testing. If you wait until the time of your exam to do the system test and something goes wrong, you won't be able to test and will lose your payment.

To do the system test, you will:

- Download and install the OnVUE software
- Follow each step to check your microphone, webcam and internet speed
- Take photos of yourself, your government-issued ID and your workspace using your webcam or mobile phone

RUN SYSTEM TEST

Prepare Your Workspace

You will be required to follow these rules for your workspace. If your workspace does not pass a room scan by the online proctor who is monitoring your test, you will not be able to proceed with the exam.

Here's how to prepare your workspace:

- Ensure the room has four walls, a closed door and no distractions
- Make sure no one enters into the room during the test
- Close everything off your desk
- Turn off and unplug any additional monitors, printers and televisions
- Place all personal items, mobile phones, headphones and watches out of reach
- Remove any food and drinks, with the exception of water in a clear glass if you choose

If You Need to Reschedule or Cancel

You can reschedule or cancel your test up to 30 minutes before your appointment time by logging in to your GED.com account. You will not be able to reschedule or cancel your test after your appointment time and will lose your payment if you are unable to test.



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On Test Day

Check-in for Your Test

Check in for your exam 30 minutes ahead of your scheduled appointment time. If you are late to your appointment, you will not be able to reschedule your online exam and you will lose your payment.

Prior to checking in

- Shut down ALL applications on your computer such as email, Facebook, chat, etc.

How to launch your test

- Log in to your GED.com account
- Click "Launch" from the appointment card, which will take you to the OnVUE exam page
- From the OnVUE page, you can click "Begin Exam" as early as 30 minutes before your exam time

Checking in

- After you click "Begin Exam", follow the steps to complete the system test and to take photos of your government-issued ID and workspace
- You will then be placed in a queue for the next available proctor to begin your exam

During the Test

Technical Assistance

- Onscreen chat with the proctor will be available, but the proctor will not answer any questions related to exam content
- Make sure you close out all other applications and complete the system test ahead of time. Poor internet connection is one of the most common technical issues during the test.

Onscreen Calculator

- You will not be able to use a physical calculator but will have access to an onscreen calculator during the exam. Practice with the [calculator tutorial](#).

Onscreen Scratch Pad

- You will have access to an onscreen scratch pad to take notes and perform math calculations



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Onscreen Whiteboard

- You will have access to an onscreen whiteboard so you can use your mouse to draw and write out math calculations. Access this feature anytime during your test by clicking the Whiteboard icon at the top of the screen.
- You can open and close the whiteboard and your notes will not be lost. The close button is the "x" icon located above the "Pen" tool in the top-left of the Whiteboard.
- Use the "Pen" tool to draw and write out your math problems
- Use the "Eraser" tool to erase parts of your work
- Use the left and right arrows to "undo" and "redo"
- The "Clear" button in the bottom left corner is used to erase the entire whiteboard and all your notes
- Practice using the online whiteboard



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Exam Rules

- Cheating is strictly prohibited
- You consent to being videotaped and recorded
- You must be in a private, walled room with a closed door
- No one is permitted in the room for any reason
- You may not leave your work area for any reason
- You cannot use a calculator or scratch paper, take physical notes or talk
- Personal items, mobile phones, headphones and watches must be out of reach
- Food, drinks, smoking and gum are prohibited
- You can only schedule one online test at a time and can only take one online test per subject. Any retakes will need to happen in-person at a test center.

Breaking any of these rules will result in your exam being revoked, loss of payment, and you will be banned from testing in the future.

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Computer System Requirements

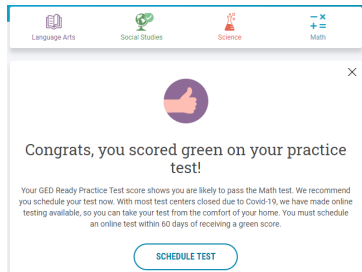
It's important for you to run a system test prior to your online test appointment.

Operating System	Windows 10 Windows 8.1 Mac OS 10.13 and above
Firewall	We recommend taking the test on a personal computer. Work computers generally have more restrictions that may prevent successful delivery.
Internet Browser	The newest version of Microsoft Edge, Safari, Chrome and Firefox or Internet Explorer 11.
Internet connection	Reliable and stable connection speed of 3 Mbps down and 2 Mbps up is required.
Webcam	May be internal or external and connected to the computer.
Sound and Microphone	Verify the audio and microphone are not set on mute in Windows. Mac users may need to allow On/Off within their "System Preferences: Security & Privacy: Privacy" settings for Microphone, Camera, Automation and Input Monitoring.
Browser Settings	Internet Cookies must be enabled. Any Pop-up blocking settings must be disabled
Device	All tablets are strictly forbidden, unless it has a physical keyboard and also meets the operating system requirements mentioned earlier.
Power	Make sure your computer is plugged into a power source.

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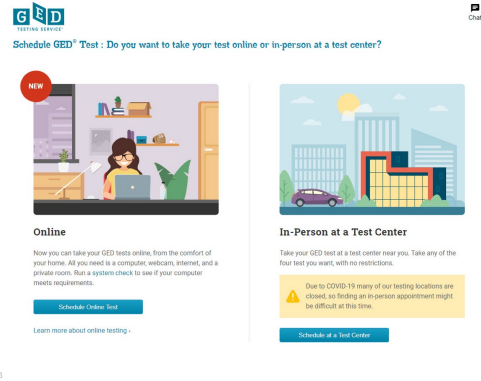
Student Scores Green on GED Ready Test



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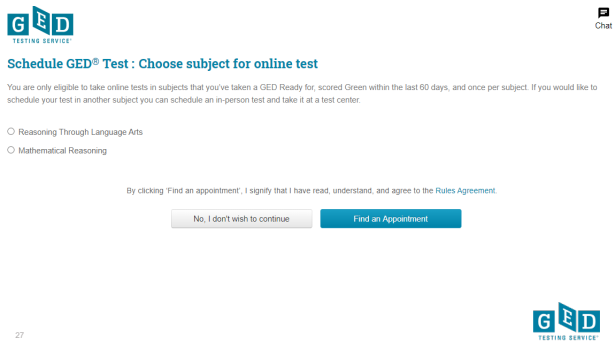
Student Clicks Schedule Test & Sees Testing Options



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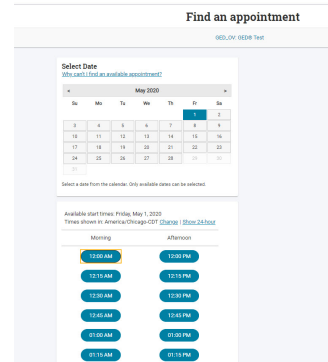
Student Clicks Schedule Online Test



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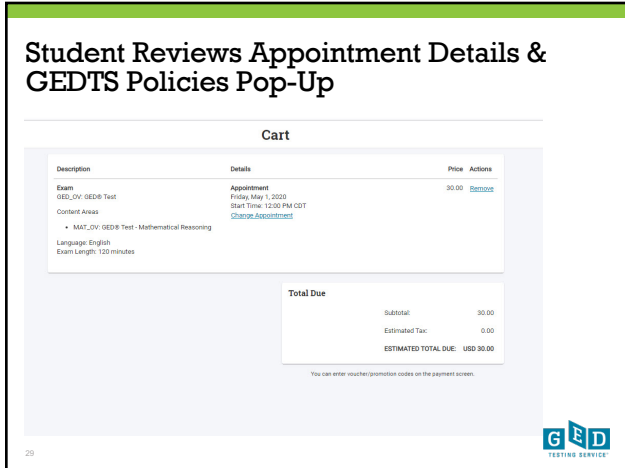
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Student Selects Appointment Date & Time

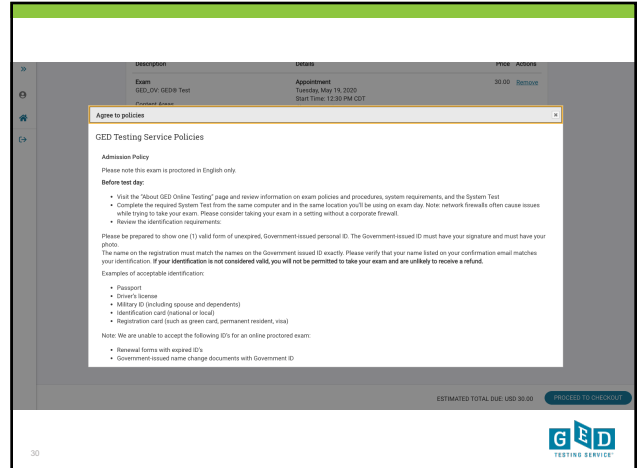


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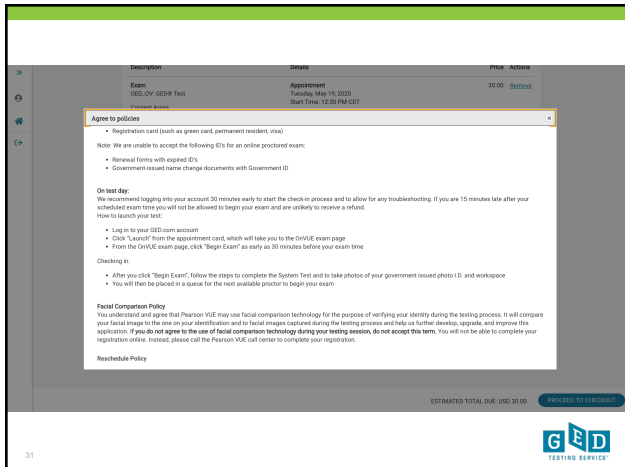
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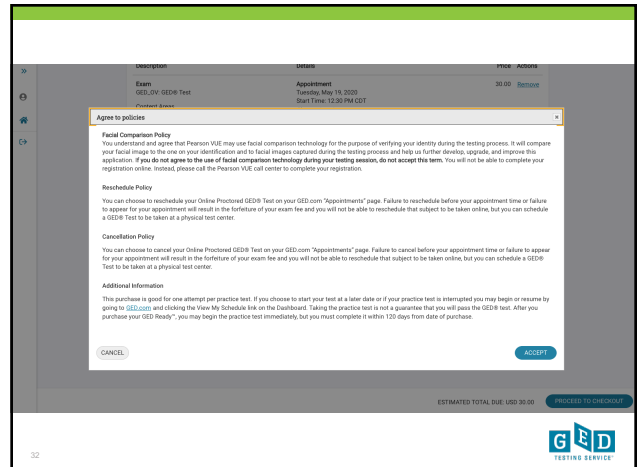
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Student Chooses Method of Payment

Enter payment and billing

Order Total

Subtotal: 30.00

Estimated Tax: 0.00

ESTIMATED TOTAL DUE: USD 30.00

Add Invoice or Phone Code: [View Invoice](#)




Voucher/Promotion Code:

[APPLY](#)

Required information is marked with an asterisk (*).

Card Details

We accept the following cards:

*Card Type:

*Card Number:

*Expiration Date:

*Cardholder Name:



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Shows If a Student Enters 100% Promo Code, Student Clicks Next

Enter payment and billing

Order Total

Subtotal: 30.00

Estimated Tax: 0.00

Promotion Code: -30.00 100% promo code [Remove](#)

ESTIMATED TOTAL DUE: USD 0.00

Required information is marked with an asterisk (*).

[PREVIOUS](#) [NEXT](#)



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Activity Card Student Sees On Day of Test

Language Arts Social Studies Science Math

APPOINTMENT
Online Social Studies Test
Today, 2:00 PM CDT [LAUNCH](#)
Appointment details

It's test day!

Good luck. If you haven't already done so, be sure to do a computer system check to make sure you are able to take your online test. Then, prepare your workspace and launch your test up to 30 minutes before your appointment time.

[SYSTEM CHECK](#) [PREPARE YOUR WORKSPACE](#)



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Student Clicks "Prepare Workspace" & Sees About Page

Prepare Your Workspace

You will be required to follow these rules for your workspace. If your workspace does not pass a room scan by the online proctor who is monitoring your test, you will not be able to proceed with the exam.

Here's how to prepare your workspace:

- Ensure the room has four walls, a closed door and no distractions
- Make sure no one comes into the room during the test
- Clear everything off your desk
- Turn off and unplug any additional monitors, projectors and televisions
- Place all personal items, mobile phones, headphones and watches out of reach
- Remove any food and drinks, with the exception of water in a clear glass if you choose



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Student Clicks “Begin Exam”

Online Exam Details

We highly recommend that you [use this system link](#) on the same computer and location you will be testing from on exam day to ensure system compatibility. Running the system test helps avoid issues during the exam.

Description	Details	Order Information
Exam GED™ ONVUE Test	Appointment Friday, May 1, 2020 Start Time: 11:00 AM CDT	Order Registration ID 0000-2000- 4871
Content areas • GED™ ONVUE Test - Social Studies		Registration ID 00000000
Language: English		Status Purchased
Exam length: 75 minutes		

[Begin Exam](#)

GED Testing Service Policies

Admission Policy
We will not admit you to the test center 15 minutes before your scheduled appointment time. This will give you adequate time to complete the necessary sign-in procedures. If you arrive more than 15 minutes late for your appointment you will be unable to test and you will not be reimbursed. You will be required to provide one or more valid forms of identification on the day of the test. This ID must be government-issued and non-expired. It must also include your name, address, date of birth, signature, and photograph. Your jurisdiction may require additional ID proof of residence, or may have other requirements for testing. Prior to your testing appointment it is important for you to check your message throughout the paper left hand corner on MyGED™. If you do not present proper ID or required information (per the jurisdiction policies) you will be turned away the day of testing and will lose your test payments. No personal items may be taken into the testing exam. This includes but is not limited to bags, notes, phones, calculators, watches and watches. You can, however, bring your own handheld 15000 Mathview Scientific Calculator for the Mathematical Reasoning, Science, and Social Studies tests that allowed for students testing outside the United States. You will need to show the calculator for Part 1 of the Math test but the testing center staff will tell you where to do this and when you can get it for use on Part 2.

International Test-takers
If you are testing outside of the U.S., please refer to our international policies, which include ID requirements, at <https://www.ged.com/international-testing-center>.

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Check-In Process Begins: Student Copies Access Code & Downloads OnVUE Software

OnVUE

Access code: 555-555-555

Start Exam

- 1 Click on the "Copy Access Code" button below. This will automatically enter your access code into OnVUE once it is running. This access code will authorize you to start the exam check-in process.

555-555-555 [Copy Access Code](#)

- 2 Click "Download". This will ensure you are running the most up to date version of OnVUE.

[Download](#)

Troubleshooting

Minimum technical specification required to deliver this exam can be found [here](#)

Having trouble launching the application? Check this [guide here](#)

If you are testing on a MAC, you will be prompted to download the OnVUE application each time. For instructions on how to avoid this, please click [here](#)



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Student Enters Access Code & Mobile Phone Number

OnVUE

Enter your unique exam access code and phone number

1. Your access code may have been entered for you
315-344-856
2. Enter phone number
1 555-555-5555

If you do not see the access code, you will need to manually enter it. You can find your access code on the Online Proctoring launch page.

Provide a phone number including your long distance code, example U.S. +1. This phone number will only be used for this exam.
☐ I do not have a phone available at this time

[Next](#)



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Student Verifies Age & Begins System Check

Check-In Process

What you need to do to take your exam

System check

Your picture

Photo identification

Workspace verification

☐ I am eighteen years of age or older. ☐ I am under eighteen years of age.



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Student Passes System Check & Clicks Next

System check - Checking your requirements

Microphone: Default - Microphone array

Internet speed

Webcam: Integrated Webcam (00x)

If you don't see your face displayed, you may be at risk of having your exam revoked.

Previous Next

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Student Chooses Mobile For Photo Capture

Use your mobile phone to take your required verification photos

Your picture Photo identification Workspace verification

1. Select access method

☐ Text message

☐ Type URL into mobile phone

2. Enter contact information

If you don't have a mobile phone, use your tablet to take the required photos.

Previous Next

GED TESTING SERVICE

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Student Enters Mobile Number

Use your mobile phone to take your required verification photos

Your picture Photo identification Workspace verification

1. Select access method

☒ Text message

☐ Type URL into mobile phone

2. Enter contact information

+1 703-407-469

☐ I accept the terms and conditions

Previous Next

GED TESTING SERVICE

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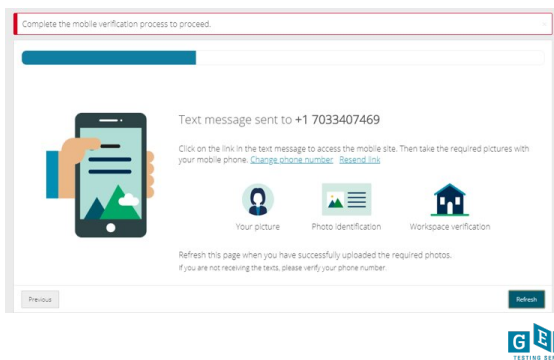
Student Is Now Following Photo Capture Instructions On Their Mobile

These Instructions Appear on Mobile After ID Photos Taken

- Ensure you are not disturbed by anyone.
- Clear notes, note-taking boards and equipment.
- Disconnect extra monitors, projectors and televisions.
- Place food and smoking equipment out of sight.
- Move electronic devices, headphones and watches out of arm's reach

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After Uploading Photos Student Directed to Click Refresh Onscreen



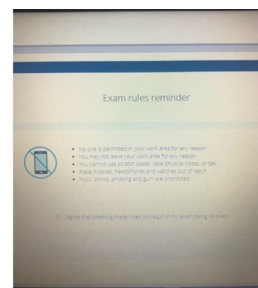
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Student Is Reminded of Exam Rules & Must Agree

- No one is permitted in your work area for any reason
- You may not leave your work area for any reason
- You cannot use scratch paper, take physical notes or talk
- Place mobiles, headphones and watches out of reach
- Food, drinks, smoking and gum are prohibited

I agree that breaking these rules will result in my exam being revoked



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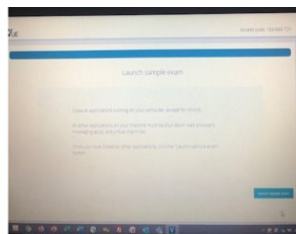
46

Student Clicks Next & Can Now Launch Exam

Close all applications running on your computer, except for OnVUE

All other applications on your machine must be shut down, web browsers, messaging apps and virtual machines

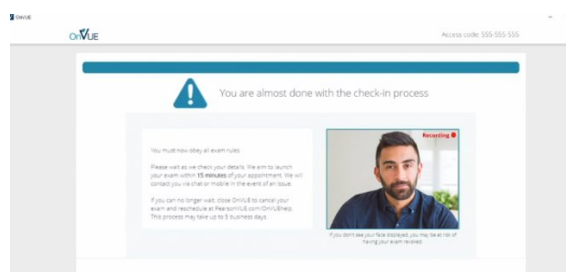
Once you have closed all other applications, click the "Launch exam" button



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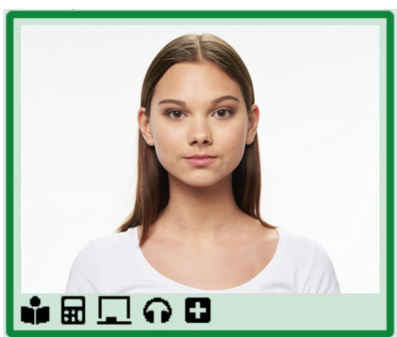
Student Clicks "Launch Exam" & Is Now Waiting for a Proctor



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Proctor View: Test with Approved Accommodation



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OP GED Test Timeline

- Underage testing (16 and 17 year olds) started Sept. 1
- Spanish GED testing started October 1
- Retakes started on October 1 (one retake on OP before a 60 day wait)
- Additional testing accommodations will be available (Nov.)
- 25% and 50% extra time accommodations are already available
- Working with each state to determine what OP looks like after this initial pilot phase

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Online Proctored Tests - OnVUE

Student Test Activity Report

Please enter at least three characters or make a selection on a search field below to start your search.

Testing Activity	Date Range: 07/01/2019 to	Exam Subject	OnVue	Jurisdiction
Voucher			Yes	
Last Name	First Name	City	Phone Number	DOB
VUE Reg ID	Credential Status		Email	GED ID
Test Event Number	Test Medium	Test Missing		

You can filter by OnVUE to see all the students taking online proctored tests within your program.

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How to get access to GED Manager in FL?

- Email Diane Vaccari at FL Department of Education at Diane.Vaccari@fldoe.org

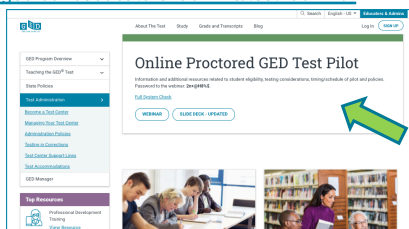
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Resources – Online Proctored GED Test Pilot

- Remember to visit the website for:
 - Webinar recordings and slides
 - Full system check link
 - List of states by pilot phase
 - O.P. pilot policy differences highlights

https://ged.com/educators_admins/test_admin/



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Practice and Feedback!

- 93% of students indicated they are interested in more practice test items and feedback
- #1 on the list of most-wanted resources
- Accessible anywhere from a mobile phone, tablet or computer
- Available for adult education programs – *GED Flash for Organizations*
- Available to students studying on their own (monthly access fee)

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Practice and Feedback!

- Adult education programs purchase via Aztec Software
- Adult education programs who use this product will have access to administrative reports showing student performance data, time on task, strengths & weaknesses
- More than 6,000 practice test questions across the 4 subject areas
- Instant feedback with answer explanation
- <http://www.aztecsoftware.com/gedflash/>

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GED Flash for Organizations: An Interactive Tool to Help Students Pass

Developed in partnership between GED Testing Service and Aztec Software



This tool helps students prepare for each subject while building confidence step by step.

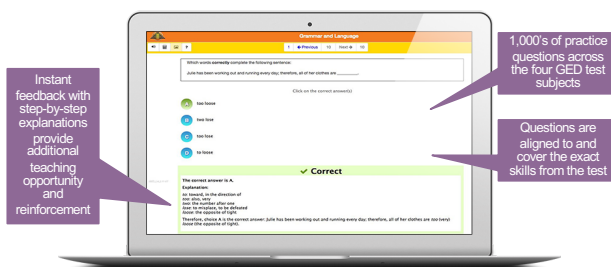


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Mastering GED Test Concepts

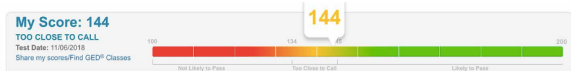
GED Flash provides ongoing practice and detailed explanations to help students master the exact concepts on the GED test.



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Data Shows: Improved Test Scores



Over half of regular GED Flash users moved up an entire score level on the GED Ready® practice test. Some moved up two score levels.



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Data Shows: Higher Likelihood of Passing

GED Flash Group	# of Students	Mean GED® Math Test Score
Low Users (28 questions or less)	1,483	144.676
High Users (99+ questions)	1,491	148.531

Students who practiced frequently with GED Flash scored on average four points higher on their GED test vs. those who rarely used it.



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Data Shows: More Practice Means More Correct Answers

GED Flash Group	Mean Percent Correct
99+ questions answered	51.7%
340+ questions answered	90.0%

The more students practiced, the more questions they got correct. Students who took over 340 GED Flash math questions achieved on average 90% correct.

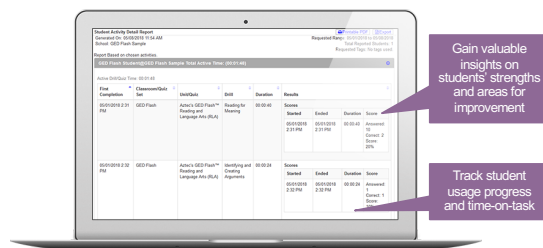
More correct answers also means higher confidence: **79%** of GED Flash users agreed that they felt more confident about taking the GED test after using GED Flash.



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Detailed Reporting and Insights

A robust dashboard provides valuable insights about each student's performance and areas for improvement.



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Ready to help your students and save money?

- The licensing model is "concurrent" users
 - You only purchase the maximum # of licenses you will need at any one time
 - Ex. You have 100 students, but you anticipate that a max of 10 would be on at the same time. You can purchase just 10 licenses.



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GED PLAY
On-demand video learning



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GED Programs Have Expressed a Need For:

- Engaging distance learning tools
- High quality content to supplement existing instruction
- Ability to track student time on task



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Correctional Programs Have Additional Needs:

- Content that can be served offline
- Instruction for students in restricted areas
- Teacher support given widely varying levels of students



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On-demand video learning
by the experts

To address these needs, we've launched an instructional video program designed by Kaplan experts to enhance student performance on key GED measured skills.



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Extensive Content

Hours of video instruction covering all four GED test subjects.



Targeted Lessons

Concepts align directly with the skills being evaluated on the GED test.



Top-Rated Instructors

Pre-recorded videos featuring experts at Kaplan.



Easy to Digest

Short, bite-sized lessons make sure students do not feel overwhelmed.



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Learn. Practice. Pass.

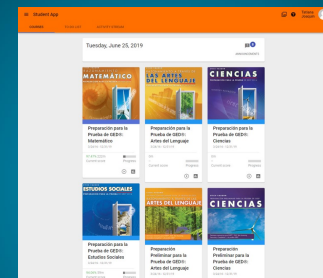
GED Play can be purchased on its own or alongside GED Flash for Organizations so students can practice concepts as they learn them.

Promotion currently running for 10% off!

Contact me at
brian.smith@ged.com



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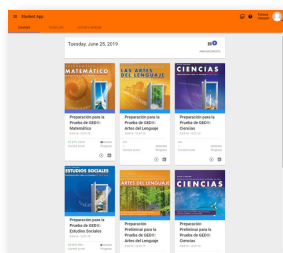


Paxen Focus in Spanish



70

Teachers wanted more GED® prep materials for their Spanish-speaking students



GED Testing Service partnered with Paxen Publishing to promote Paxen Focus Spanish digital courseware, which is based on content from Steck-Vaughn books



71

Online courses with audio, video and interactive content developed specifically for adult learners



100%
Aligned to
the GED®
Test



72

Real-time monitoring of students' performance, skills mastery and time on task



73

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Paxen Focus Spanish courseware eliminates the language barrier and allows our students to focus on the content.

- Principal, Post Correctional Facility

The lessons are engaging and students can easily follow the content from one topic or skill to the next. Built in tests and quizzes give instructors the ability to gauge students' progress so that when necessary, they can fill learning gaps that are evident.

- Instructional Specialist, Palm Beach County

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To learn more about Paxen Focus in Spanish:

- Email customerservice@paxenpublishing.com and be sure to include the state where your program is located



75

Customizable Printable Flyer

- For use wherever print flyers are needed (e.g. parole offices, one stops, community colleges, libraries, community centers, etc.)
- Accessible to all educators, programs on the website
- Contains zip file that includes:
 - Customizable flyers for program name, contact information and/or URLs/social media accounts
 - Four different front-side options
 - Printing instructions



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How/Where to Access Print Flyers

The screenshot shows the GED website interface. On the left is a navigation menu with categories like 'GED Program Overview', 'Teaching the GED Test', 'Resources', and 'Printable Flyers'. The main content area is titled 'Promote Your Program' and features a 'GEDPrep Connect™' section. Below this, there is a 'GED PrintHub' section with a 'Printable Flyers' link circled in blue. A blue arrow points from the text 'Download Here Eng. & Esp. Versions' to the circled link. The GED logo is visible in the bottom right corner.

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The screenshot shows the 'Why GED?' section of the GED website. It features a large image of a smiling woman with the text 'CHANGE YOUR PATH START WITH THE GED'. Below this, there are statistics: 'OVER 20 MILLION GRADES — AND COUNTING!' and '98% OF GRADUATES FIND A NEW CAREER OR GO TO COLLEGE'. A 'GET STARTED AT GED.COM' button is prominently displayed. The GED logo is in the bottom right corner.

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ESP.

This is the Spanish version of the 'Start with the GED' flyer. It features a woman's face and the text 'CAMBIA TU FUTURO EMPIEZA CON EL GED'. Below the image, it says 'YA SEA QUE SE TRATE DE UNA NUEVA CARRERA O DE IR A LA UNIVERSIDAD, TODO ES POSIBLE CUANDO OBTIENES TU GED. EMPIEZA HOY EN GED.COM'. The GED logo is at the bottom.

This is the Spanish version of the 'Why GED?' flyer. It features the text '¿POR QUÉ GED?' and statistics: 'MAS DE 20 MILLONES DE GRADUADOS CONTINUAN' and '98% DE GRADUADOS ENCONTRAN UN NUEVO TRABAJO O VAN A LA UNIVERSIDAD'. It also mentions 'Los graduados de GED pueden ganar hasta \$9,000 más al año'. The flyer ends with 'EMPIEZA HOY EN GED.COM' and the GED logo.

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