

Contact: Danielle Wilson | GED Testing Service publicaffairs@ged.com | 202/805.1835

July 10, 2019

CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO REVIEW GED® 5-YEAR METRICS

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION HIGHLIGHTS POSITIVE OUTCOMES FOR CALIFORNIA GED GRADUATES

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — GED Testing Service is pleased that the topic of adult learners and high school equivalency is back in front of the board since the GED test program was enhanced in 2014. We are thrilled with the progress we've made to help adult learners in California be better prepared for today's jobs and for college certificate and degree programs.

To supplement the information being provided by the Department to the State Board, GED Testing Service wants to share additional information that we believe is important for education and workforce policymakers to know.

STUDENT OUTCOMES: In addition to what is included in the board report, we believe that student outcomes are essential to accurately assess efficacy and progress of the program. The value of the test is to deliver on the promise of student readiness to move to the next level. GED graduates specifically, are more prepared than ever before to enter and succeed in college programs.

- 45% of GED grads enter a postsecondary program within three years, 35% do so within one year.
- GED grads are persisting (re-enrolling from semester to semester) at a rate of 90%.
 - The persistence rate for high school equivalency students before the new GED program was 29%.

INCREASING PASS RATES: Pass rates in California continue to increase as students and teachers have become more comfortable with the higher-level content and skills.

• The 2018 pass rate in California was 78%. *Pass rate is the number of students who took all four GED subject tests divided by the number who passed all four tests.

GEDWORKS & COLLEGE READY SCORES:

- Tens of thousands of Californians are now eligible for free GED practice and GED tests through GEDWorks. Adults who are employees at companies such as: Taco Bell, KFC, Total Wine & More, Sheetz and Pizza Hut are provided this no-cost program by their employers.
- GED College Ready and College Ready + Credit score levels--backed by the ACE Credit program--are being used to move students more quickly into and through college programs across the country.
 - GED College Ready scores are used by more than 225 colleges and systems to allow students to bypass placement exams and place students accurately in credit-bearing courses.
 - GED College Ready +Credit scores are used by some colleges to award credit based on advanced GED scores.

More information about the GED test program and the College Ready score levels can be found here.

###

About GED Testing Service

The GED test has opened doors to better jobs and college programs for more than 20 million graduates since 1942. The GED test is accepted by virtually all U.S. colleges and employers. As the creator of the one official GED test, GED Testing Service has a responsibility to ensure that the program continues to be a reliable and valuable pathway to a better life for the millions of adults without a high school diploma. GED Testing Service is a joint venture between the American Council on Education and Pearson.