2019 GED ANNUAL CONFERENCE



July 24-26 • Chicago, Illinois #GEDTS19



GED® and GED Testing Service® are registered trademarks of the American Council on Education. Used under license. Copyright © 2019 GED Testing Service LLC. All rights reserved.





Online GED[®] Test Preparation Courses Available in Spanish! 100% content-aligned with the GED[®] test

Stop by Paxen Steck-Vaughn's booth to request a demo !



www.paxenpublishing.com/paxen-focus 866.547.1895









WEDNESDAY, JULY 24

Pre-Conference Day 1 & Welcome Reception

▶ 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	STATE GED ADMINISTRATOR MEETING - By Invitation Only
	— Montreux 1 & 2 and Offsite
	Presenters: Vicki Greene and CTTurner, GEDTesting Service

▶ 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

WELCOME RECEPTION — Zurich Ballroom



THURSDAY, JULY 25

Conference Day 1

▶ 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a	. m .
----------------------	--------------

BREAKFAST

— Zurich Ballroom

▶ 8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.

OPENING SESSION PLENARY

— Zurich Ballroom

GED Testing Service President and CEO, Randy Trask welcomes all attendees and kicks off this year's conference with highlights from the GED® program in 2019. You'll also hear from keynote speaker, Kevin Powell. A thought-provoking speaker for corporate, college and community events, writer and activist Kevin Powell is one of the most acclaimed political and cultural voices in America today. Born into extreme poverty to a hard-working single mother, Kevin was able to attend Rutgers University on a full scholarship from New Jersey's Educational Opportunity Fund. Kevin went on to author 13 books, run for Congress and lead an educational opportunity non-profit while coproducing Hollywood films. Kevin is the president and co-founder of BK Nation, a progressive organization focused on education, civic engagement, leadership training and other issues.

Presenters: Randy Trask, GED Testing Service Kevin Powell, BK Nation

- ▶ 9:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m.
- BREAK

- Zurich Foyer

▶ 10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. BREAKOUTS

• PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK

Putting Technology to Work in the Classroom — Vevey 1

How much technology do you use in your adult education classroom? There are so many wonderful and free products available for GED teachers to use. These products can be used in combination with other things you do in the classroom. In this session, we will explore a few free applications that may help better engage students, especially millennials and Gen Z. See how you can use Socrative, Google Forms, Poll Everywhere, Google Earth, and Google Classroom to better connect with students and } engage them in more active learning.

Presenter: Susan Pittman, GED Testing Service



THURSDAY, JULY 25

Conference Day 1

▶ 10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

BREAKOUTS (con't)

• PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK

Moving Students from the Red Zone in Math — Vevev 2

Many adult education classes have both ABE and GED level students in the same class. Higher level ABE students lack consistency in some of the foundational math skills needed to move out of the Red Zone on the GED Ready test. This session will focus on core skills students need to master and the strategies and activities that can help them gain proficiency and consistency in the following: number sense and operations, geometric reasoning, and the basics of algebraic reasoning. *Presenters: Andrew Strehlow, Rankin County School District Adult Education, Brandon, MS*

• PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK

Write Like You Mean It!

— Vevey 3

You've learned how to help students analyze and evaluate source texts by using Both Sides Now. You've tried to help them write claims and explain the evidence, but some students are still struggling. In fact, many students are still struggling to write an effective paragraph. This session will focus on the writing process and activities you can use in the classroom to help students improve their writing skills and write meaningful responses. *Presenter: Adora Beard, GEDTesting Service*

• CORRECTIONS TRACK

Correctional Education: An Integration of Andragogy, Counseling and Therapy

— St. Gallen 1

A lasting change in a student's behavior is to change the way they think. Students in correctional education programs often struggle with learning, behavioral, and co-occurring disorders. This presentation is designed to familiarize the Correctional practitioner with an understanding and knowledge of a more effective approach of instructing within the criminal justice system by using Andragogy as opposed to Pedagogy.

Presenter: Herman T. Lee, Illinois Corrections Educator

Conference Day 1

▶ 10:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.

BREAKOUTS (con't)

• STATE GED ADMINISTRATORS

What's New with the GED Program for State Administrators — Montreux 1 & 2

State GED Administrators will get an inside look at GED.com, GED Manager and exam updates we've made throughout the past year. Many of these improvements were implemented as a result of feedback and research from educators and students. You will also gain insight into what's coming up next including our work on reducing duplicate accounts to improve test security and corrections testing updates.

This session is for State GED Administrators. *Presenters: Vicki Greene, GED Testing Service and GEDTS Staff*

• ALL AUDIENCES

GED 101: An Introduction to the GED Program — St. Gallen 2

If you have worked in adult education less than 18 months, or need a GED program refresher, this workshop will boost your

understanding of the components of the GED program and provide the inside scoop on the four content areas. This session will also highlight key instructional areas that are challenging for students and how teachers can focus instruction. In addition, we will look at GED testing trends to-date, research updates and spend some time talking about using the GED Ready practice test to ensure students are ready to pass.

Presenters: Scott Salesses, Iris McKenzie & Adora Beard, GEDTesting Service

• PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK

Teaching Social Studies through Political Cartoons — Vevey 4

Are you still trying to decide what content to cover in the very limited amount of time that you have with students? Have you thought about engaging students in social studies through the use of political cartoons? Join us as we use political cartoons to set the framework for social studies instruction. We will look at major events in U.S. history through the lens of a cartoonist and historical context of the issues addressed.

Presenter: Thomas Ross, GED Testing Service



Conference Day 1

▶ 11:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.

GED® AWARDS LUNCHEON

— Zurich Ballroom

▶ 1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

BREAKOUTS

• PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK

What a Difference an Electronic Scoring Tool can Make! — Vevey 1

The GED Ready® Practice Test for Reasoning through Language Arts gives students a chance to practice their writing skills by completing an Extended Response (ER) question. GEDTS has developed a new electronic tool designed to help you score and provide meaningful feedback to your students about their written response, located in their GED Ready Score Report. Join your fellow teachers as you learn how to interpret and score those extended responses using the new tool. *Presenters: Susan Pittman and Debi Faucette*,

GED Testing Service

• PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK

Moving Students from the Red Zone in Math — Vevey 2

Many adult education classes have both ABE and GED level students in the same class. Higher level ABE students lack consistency in some of the foundational math skills needed to move out of the Red Zone on the GED Ready test. This session will focus on core skills students need to master and the strategies and activities that can help them gain proficiency and consistency in the following: number sense and operations, geometric reasoning, and the basics of algebraic reasoning.

Presenter: Ron Cruz, CARIBE Refugee Program, Tampa, FL

• PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK

Moving Students from the Red Zone in Reading — Vevey 3

When asked about students' challenges in preparing for the GED® test, adult educators frequently lament the poor, inefficient, and ineffective reading skills of their students. This lack of strong and effective reading skills often leads to students' difficulty in passing portions of the GED® test. In this session, we will review some of the reading challenges students face and learn about strategies, activities and resources that can be used in the classroom. *Presenter: Adora Beard, GED Testing Service*

Conference Day 1

▶ 1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

BREAKOUTS (con't)

• CORRECTIONS TRACK

What Does GED Prep Look Like in a Corrections Setting? — St. Gallen 1

Corrections institutions from California to Washington, DC are using a variety of print and computer prep materials to prepare students for the GED test. Join us as a few Corrections Educators share tips, strategies, and best practices. Learn about what is being used in their facilities, how they incorporate different resources, and how well it works with getting students across the finish line. *Presenters: Panel*

• STATE GED ADMINISTRATORS

GED Analytics: Becoming A Power User — Montreux 1 & 2

Want to utilize GED Analytics[™] more than you currently are? We'll take a look at key reports you should be running regularly and understanding what the output indicates. Hear about tips and tricks from some of your fellow power users as well as frequently asked questions all with the goal of helping you to identify trends, pinpoint challenges and improve outcomes.

This session is for State GED Administrators. *Presenter: Scott Salesses, GED Testing Service*

• PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK

Teaching Social Studies through Political Cartoons — Vevey 4

Are you still trying to decide what content to cover in the very limited amount of time that you have with students? Have you thought about engaging students in social studies through the use of political cartoons? Join us as we use political cartoons to set the framework for social studies instruction. We will look at major events in U.S. history through the lens of a cartoonist and historical context of the issues addressed.

Presenter: Thomas Ross, GED Testing Service



Conference Day 1

▶ 1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

BREAKOUTS (con't)

• ALL AUDIENCES

Classroom Tools & Resources You Need to Know About — St. Gallen 2

Learn how you can use these valuable tools and resources from GED Testing Service in your classrooms to identify exactly where students need more focus to be successful on the GED test. New products for students and teachers will be introduced to help students practice and supplement classroom instruction. Examples of these tools will be shared with plenty of time for questions. *Presenters: Brian Smith and Eliza Wong, GEDTesting Service*

▶ 2:45 p.m. –3:15 p.m. BREAK

▶ 3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. BREAKOUTS

• PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK

Getting Students College and Career Ready in RLA — Vevey 1

Today, teachers are becoming more comfortable with providing basic instruction for the extended response. Students are earning points on the extended response. However, for students who want to pursue higher education and training, earning a couple of points is not enough. This session will focus on how to move students from Score Level 1 to Score Level 2 on the extended response. In this session, we will take a sample response and identify where students have challenges and how teachers can help students move past those challenges.

Presenters: Susan Pittman and Debi Faucette, GED Testing Service



Conference Day 1

▶ 3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

BREAKOUTS (con't)

• PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK

From Integers to Factoring: Using Algebra Tiles in the Classroom —Vevey 2

Suppose you presented this problem -4 - (-2) = X to your students. How would they tell you to solve the problem? Chances are they would say take the two negative signs that are next to each other and change them to a positive. In essence, they are saying to take an operational sign and a quantity sign and multiply them. Using algebra tiles can move students from rote memory learning to conceptual understanding. In this session, you will have a chance to practice using algebra tiles and see the possibilities for your classroom.

Presenter: Ron Cruz, CARIBE Refugee Program, Tampa, FL

• PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK

Surrounded by Science

—Vevey 3

Can you think of anything that you have done today that is not connected to science? Did you wake up to an alarm clock or your phone's internal alarm? Yep, that is science. Did you have breakfast this morning? Oh, there is science again. Did you get in your daily exercise? There it is again. Everything we do is connected in some way to science. However, many of our students lack basic science literacy. Join us as we focus on activities that you can use in the classroom to help students get a better grasp on the power and promise of science.

Presenter: Andrew Strehlow, Rankin County School District Adult Education, Brandon, MS

• CORRECTIONS TRACK

North Dakota Dept. of Corrections & Rehabilitation Education: Transformation in Adult Education

—St. Gallen 1

This session will describe the journey of how the North Dakota Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation Education Department went from one of the poorest performing Adult Education sites within the state to a top performing site. Discussion will include policy change, culture change, resources, data-driven decisions, and performance evaluations. This session includes planned Q&A time at the end of the presentation.

Presenter: Dr. Penny Veit-Hetletved, North Dakota Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation



Conference Day 1

▶ 3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

BREAKOUTS (con't)

O STATE GED ADMINISTRATORS

Ask GED for State Administrators: Testing Mechanics & Operations — Montreux 1 & 2

Have a specific question, or topic for discussion? In this forum we'll provide some brief information from our GED and Pearson VUE experts, then open the session for you to ask your questions on testing and operations. We'll end the session by proving you some resources to utilize after you return home. **Note:** This session is specific for State GED Administrators. Another Ask GED session covering similar topics will be open to all attendees on Friday. *Presenters: CTTurner, GEDTesting Service and GEDTS & VUE Staff*

• ALL AUDIENCES

Accommodations Update

— Vevey 4

Often, adult education students became frustrated in school because they couldn't learn like other students, so they just gave up and quit school. Now they realize the value of a GED and are back in classes. Finding out that there might be a reason they couldn't keep up in school and that there is help for them is an important step toward their goal of achieving a credential. This session will discuss accommodations that are available on the GED test, but more importantly, it will give the participants tools to help their students receive the documentation they need to make accommodation requests. By sharing helpful tips, teachers and administrators will be better equipped to assist students. It will also empower teachers to have discussions with their students about disabling conditions and how to seek the help they need. *Presenter: Debbie Bergtholdt, GEDTesting Service*

• ALL AUDIENCES

GED 101: An Introduction to the GED Program — St. Gallen 2

If you have worked in adult education less than 18 months, or need a GED program refresher, this workshop will boost your understanding of the components of the GED program and provide the inside scoop on the four content areas. This session will also highlight key instructional areas that are challenging for students and how teachers can focus instruction. In addition, we will look at GED testing trends to-date, research updates and spend some time talking about using the GED Ready practice test to ensure students are ready to pass.

Presenters: Scott Salesses, Iris McKenzie & Adora Beard, GED Testing Service

FRIDAY, JULY 26

Conference Day 2

▶ 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

BREAKFAST — Zurich Ballroom

▶ 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

PLENARY

— Zurich Ballroom

Update on Outcomes & Adoption of College Ready Levels: Learn How to Advocate for GED Grads

Being able to advocate for GED graduates and your programs with colleagues, policymakers, elected officials and others is increasingly important. This session will arm you with the latest data on GED graduates's activity and outcomes in college programs, and momentum of GED College Ready and CR +Credit adoption. We'll also share ways for you to get involved, share information and arm you with some valuable resources.

Presenters: Martin Kehe and CTTurner, GEDTesting Service

▶ 9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. BREAK

▶ 9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. BREAKOUTS

• PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK

Learning through Fiction — Vevey 1

Over the past few years, the focus for reading instruction has centered on nonfiction texts. However, twenty-five percent (25%) of the texts in Reasoning through Language Arts are literary or works of fiction. Reading fiction allows readers to see things through another person's perspective, see a problem and how it is resolved, and expand their own understanding of the world through literary devices such as similes, metaphors, and symbolism. Last, but not least reading fiction can be fun. Students who enjoy reading, read more. Students who read more, learn more. Join us as we explore strategies and resources to put more fiction in your classroom. *Presenters: Susan Pittman, GED Testing Service*

Robert, GED® graduate



Conference Day 2

▶ 9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

BREAKOUTS (con't)

• PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK

From Integers to Factoring; Using Algebra Tiles in the Classroom — Vevey 2

Suppose you presented this problem -4 - (-2) = X to your students. How would they tell you to solve the problem? Chances are they would say take the two negative signs that are next to each other and change them to a positive. In essence, they are saying to take an operational sign and a quantity sign and multiply them. Using algebra tiles can move students from rote memory learning to conceptual understanding. In this session, you will have a chance to practice using algebra tiles and see the possibilities for your classroom.

Presenter: Ron Cruz, CARIBE Refugee Program, Tampa, FL

• PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK

Moving Students from the Red Zone in Reading — Vevey 3

When asked about students' challenges in preparing for the GED® test, adult educators frequently lament the poor, inefficient, and ineffective reading skills of their students. This lack of strong and effective reading skills often leads to students' difficulty in passing portions of the GED® test. In this session, we will review some of the reading challenges students face and learn about strategies, activities and resources that can be used in the classroom. *Presenter: Debi Faucette, GED Testing Service*

• CORRECTIONS TRACK

Best Practices for Corrections Test Administrators — St. Gallen 1

Testing in Corrections has its own unique challenges. In this session we will walk through the testing process and review the best practices and different approaches people take. We'll cover testing surveillance, test check-ins, lock-down, releasing inmates from GED Manager, when to test inmates, Service Direct and more. We'll encourage the audience to share and compare their own approaches. **Note:** This session is geared more toward Test Administrators than Educators.

Presenter: Mellissa Hultstrand, GEDTesting Service

Conference Day 2

▶ 9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

BREAKOUTS

• ALL AUDIENCES

Best Practices for GEDPrep Connect and GED Manager — St. Gallen 2

Are your students sharing their scores with you? Are you fully using GED Manager to manage your program? This session will take a deep dive on GEDPrep Connect and explore the ways we are directing GED students to your programs. We will also discuss best practices for using GED Manager, your tool for accessing your students scores and score reports. Come share your insights on using GED Manager and hear from other instructors on how they best use the tool to improve their program.

Presenters: Brian Smith and Liz Lanphear, GED Testing Service

• ALL AUDIENCES

Ask GED: Testing Mechanics and Operations — St. Gallen 3

Have a specific question, or topic for discussion? In this forum we'll provide some brief information from our GED and Pearson VUE experts, then open the session for you to ask your questions on testing and operations. We'll end the session by proving you some resources to utilize after you return home.

Presenters: CTTurner, GED Testing Service and GEDTS & VUE Staff

• ALL AUDIENCES

Promoting Your Local Adult Ed Program

— Vevey 4

Learn how you can drive successful student campaigns using content, social media, email, PR, and website and paid advertising channels. Start by understanding your target audience and honing in on the key objectives of your marketing campaign. We'll also share tips and insights on creating a message that cuts through the clutter and tells a story that resonates with your audience. *Presenters: Eliza Wong and Danielle Wilson, GED Testing Service*

▶ 10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

BREAK



Conference Day 2

▶ 10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

BREAKOUTS (con't)

• PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK

Putting Technology to Work in the Classroom — Vevey 1

How much technology do you use in your adult education classroom? There are so many wonderful and free products available for GED teachers to use. These products can be used in combination with other things you do in the classroom. In this session, we will explore a few free applications that may help better engage students, especially millennials and Gen Z. See how you can use Socrative, Google Forms, Poll Everywhere, Google Earth, and Google Classroom to better connect with students and engage them in more active learning.

Presenter: Susan Pittman, GED Testing Service

• PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK

Surrounded by Science

— Vevey 2

Can you think of anything that you have done today that is not connected to science? Did you wake up to an alarm clock or your phone's internal alarm? Yep, that is science. Did you have breakfast this morning? Oh, there is science again. Did you get in your daily exercise? There it is again. Everything we do is connected in some way to science. However, many of our students lack basic science literacy. Join us as we focus on activities that you can use in the classroom to help students get a better grasp on the power and promise of science.

Presenter: Andrew Strehlow, Rankin County School District Adult Education, Brandon, MS

• PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK

Write Like You Mean It!

— Vevey 3

Now. You've tried to help them write claims and explain the evidence, but some students are still struggling. In fact, many students are still struggling to write an effective paragraph. This session will focus on the writing process and activities you can use in the classroom to help students improve their writing skills and write meaningful responses.

Presenter: Adora Beard, GED Testing Service

Conference Day 2

▶ 10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

BREAKOUTS (con't)

• CORRECTIONS TRACK

Insights into Federal and State Driven Innovations — St. Gallen 1

Creative ways to deliver instruction with the unique restrictions in correctional settings is a challenge met daily by staff and administrators. From curriculum development to alignment with postsecondary education courses in the yards, come learn of initiatives underway with the Federal Bureau of Prisons and state facilities.

Presenters: Elizabeth Jones, Federal Bureau of Prisons and Debi Faucette, GED Testing Service

• ALL AUDIENCES

Accommodations Update

— St. Gallen 2

Often, adult education students became frustrated in school because they couldn't learn like other students, so they just gave up and quit school. Now they realize the value of a GED and are back in classes. Finding out that there might be a reason they couldn't keep up in school and that there is help for them is an important step toward their goal of achieving a credential. This session will discuss accommodations that are available on the GED test, but more importantly, it will give the participants tools to help their students receive the documentation they need to make accommodation requests. By sharing helpful tips, teachers and administrators will be better equipped to assist students. It will also empower teachers to have discussions with their students about disabling conditions and how to seek the help they need. *Presenters: Debbie Bergtholdt, GED Testing Service*



Conference Day 2

▶ 10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

BREAKOUTS (con't)

• ALL AUDIENCES

Classroom Tools & Resources You Need to Know About — St. Gallen 3

Learn how you can use these valuable tools and resources from GED Testing Service in your classrooms to identify exactly where students need more focus to be successful on the GED test. New products for students and teachers will be introduced to help students practice and supplement classroom instruction. Examples of these tools will be shared with plenty of time for questions. *Presenters: Brian Smith and Eliza Wong, GED Testing Service*

• ALL AUDIENCES

Inquiring Minds Want to Know

-Vevey 4

In this session we address some of the frequently asked questions about the GED® test and provide a view into how the test was developed and operates. Learn about key GED testing data, student performance, as well as tools and resources for educators and how these can impact your instructional practices. There is more to the test than meets the eye and more that you can do to help your students.

Presenters: Scott Salesses and Liz Lanphear, GED Testing Service



2019 GED® Testing Service Annual Conference CONFERENCE HOTEL MAPS







2019 GED® Testing Service Annual Conference CONFERENCE HOTEL MAPS





2ND FLOOR EVENT CENTRE



EVENT CENTRE