

Contact: Danielle Wilson | Public Affairs <u>Danielle.Wilson@GED.com</u> | 202/805.1835

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NATIONAL GED® GRAD WEEK CELEBRATION TAKES PLACE MAY 16-20 VIRTUAL EVENT TO RECOGNIZE GRADUATES AND INSPIRE ADULT LEARNERS

WASHINGTON, DC — GED graduates across the country will participate in a national celebration being held May 16 through May 20. GED Grad Week celebrates GED graduates and their personal and professional accomplishments, while motivating others to pursue a GED credential. This is the seventh year for this virtual event.

GED graduates, family members, friends, teachers, employers, policymakers, and aspiring graduates are encouraged to join the celebration by using the hashtags #GEDGradWeek and #GED. GED Testing Service will be sharing photos and videos with advice and stories from the GED community on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn throughout the celebration. GED graduates and educators can also join a Facebook group dedicated to sharing personal stories about the GED journey.

The GED credential is a high school equivalency diploma or certificate for individuals that did not complete high school. It is earned by taking and passing all four GED test subjects.

"GED graduates have included governors, space pioneers, lawmakers, doctors, nurses, lawyers, teachers and contribute to every sector of our economy and lives," said GED Testing Service Vice President CT Turner. "GED Grad Week is an opportunity to celebrate GED grads and showcase some of their contributions to our country, while encouraging those without a diploma to take that first step towards a better future."

Approximately 150,000 Americans pass the GED test annually, and there are more than 21 million GED graduates worldwide. The GED test is currently available in more than 90 countries.

GED graduates are in a strong position to compete with traditional high school graduates, especially after earning a certificate or degree in addition to a GED credential. Research shows that one in two GED graduates enter a college program within four years of passing the test. In addition, 90% of these GED graduates are also re-enrolling in these programs from one semester to the next.

Additional GED graduate success stories are available <u>here</u> and profiles on some of our GEDWorks program graduates are available <u>here</u>.

Visit GED.com for more details about the GED test program.

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About GED Testing Service

The GED test has opened doors to better jobs and college programs for more than 21 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.