

FAQs About the GED Test Price Increase

When will the price change for the GED[®] test and when will the new discounted retake policy take effect?

In most states, both changes will take effect on July 1st, 2023. There are some exceptions. Check your state's GED policy page for updated pricing information: <u>https://ged.com/about_test/price_</u> and_state_rules/

If I purchased vouchers for students, will my existing vouchers still be useable even if the price in my state will change?

If you purchased traditional 100% off test vouchers at the standard test price for test center testing, yes; those vouchers can be used and will cover the new test price. This type of voucher accounts for the vast majority of unused vouchers adult ed programs likely have on hand. However, with the price increase after July 1, dollar-specific vouchers will only cover the current price of the test. The difference in cost can be paid with another dollarspecific voucher or by another payment method, such as credit or debit card.

If you purchased tests via GED Direct[™] before the price change, those tests will continue to cover the full cost of the test at the new price, regardless of the state you are in.

Why is the test price increasing?

The price for the current GED program has been steady for more than a decade, since computerbased testing began. In that time, costs have continually risen for everything it takes to deliver the GED program. Cost increases include but are not limited to: hourly wages for staff; required technology upgrades and data security updates; contract rates for programmers, developers, and student and test center customer support; test security work and enforcement; and services provided to test-takers (score reporting, GED. com account services, essential marketing and information sharing on social media, employment connections, and more). The test cost increase is necessary in order to continue delivering a topquality program and to invest in the future of this program upon which many adult students rely to reach their education goals.

Why is the policy for retakes changing from two discounted retakes within a year to one?

Out of all GED test takers, less than 4% of GED test takers utilize the second retake. In most states, the policy will change from two discounted retakes within 12 months [of a failed test] to one discounted retake. Although students receive a heavy discount for retakes, the costs to deliver the exam are the same. Eliminating this retake discount helps lower overall costs. This doesn't mean that students cannot take a second retake. Students can take a second retake. However, this change means that in most states a student will need to pay the normal test price for the second retake.

*Note these policies are not for students enrolled in the GEDWorks or GED+ programs.

When will the GED test price change again?

The price of the GED test has not changed in over a decade. At this time, we do not anticipate another increase for at least several years.



When does my student pay full price again?

A student will pay full price for their first test. The first retake is discounted if taken within 12 months [of the failed test]. The student would need to pay full price for the second retake or any subsequent retakes.

Will my GED Direct tests still be useable?

Yes, tests purchased via GED Direct are usable; they are applied as 100% payment for the GED test. Like a 'forever stamp', GED Direct test purchases will cover the cost even if the price changes in your state.

Is the price of the online-proctored test changing too?

No, the price of online proctored tests will not change.

Where can I buy new vouchers?

There are 2 primary ways to purchase tests in bulk:

1. GED Direct (on <u>GEDManager.com</u>). The benefit of purchasing via GED Direct is that you will be purchasing tests, but you won't be managing vouchers. Full price GED Direct purchases through GED Manager are 100% off "credits" instead of vouchers, and they will continue to cover the full price of the GED test in your state. Retake credits will cover the full price of the retake in your state. For more information on purchasing via GED Direct, visit <u>GED Direct[™] - GED</u>.

2. GED Markeplace (on https://shop.

<u>gedmarketplace.com/index</u>). For programs without access to GED Manager you can purchase via GED Marketplace. You can purchase via GED Marketplace with a credit card, check or a Purchase Order with an approved line of credit. You will receive a list of voucher codes by email that expire within 18 months. For more information go to https://shop.gedmarketplace.com/index.

Are there ways for students who struggle financially to get help with covering GED test and study costs?

We know that many local organizations and colleges provide financial support for those who need it most (often for students in adult ed programs). We have also been working diligently with states and employers to find systemic ways to support more students and assist with costs. Currently, nearly 12 states offer testing subsidies in part or sometimes the entire cost of the test. We also work with over 75 employers, including the most recognizable brands in the U.S. (like Amazon) to adopt <u>GEDWorks[™]</u>.

With the GEDWorks program by the GEDTesting Service, employers can sponsor employees to earn their GED credential at no cost to the employee. Students employed by a company participating in GEDWorks or enrolled in a participating Medicaid health plan can benefit from access to online materials to supplement their in-class instruction, an advisor, GED Ready tests and GED tests.

One way for current GED students to see if they may be eligible for GEDWorks is by updating their GED.com profile with the name of the company where they are employed. This information triggers a notification of eligibility for GEDWorks and points them to more details. Additionally, working students could ask their HR department if the company participates in GEDWorks or plans to offer GEDWorks in the future.