GED® Test: Mathematical Reasoning
Performance Level Descriptors
What Your Score Means: Level 3 — GED® College Ready

Test-takers who score at this level typically have a strong proficiency in demonstrating skills in the following categories: number sense and computation, geometric measurement, data analysis and statistics, and algebraic expressions and functions.

Test-takers are generally able to demonstrate knowledge of and ability with the skills identified in the Below Passing level and the Pass/High School Equivalency level, as well as the following skills:

Quantitative Problem Solving with Rational Numbers

- Simplify numerical expressions with rational exponents at a strong level
- Identify absolute value of a rational number as its distance from 0 on the number line and determine the distance between two rational numbers on the number line, at a strong level
- Compute numerical expressions with squares and square roots of positive, rational numbers at a strong level
- Determine when a numerical expression is undefined at a strong level
- Solve arithmetic and real-world problems involving ratios and proportions at a strong level

Quantitative Problem Solving in Measurement

- Use the Pythagorean theorem to determine unknown side lengths in a right triangle at a strong level
- Compute volume and surface area of cylinders at a strong level
- Determine radius, diameter, and height of cylinders, when given volume or surface area, at a strong level
- Compute volume and surface area of composite figures at a strong level
- Use counting techniques to solve problems and determine combinations and permutations at a strong level
- Determine the probability of simple and compound events at a strong level

Algebraic Problem Solving with Expressions and Equations

- Compute with polynomials at a strong level
- Factor polynomial expressions at a strong level
- Compute with rational expressions
- Solve linear inequalities in one variable at a strong level
• Solve real-world problems involving inequalities at a strong level
• Write linear inequalities to represent context at a strong level
• Solve quadratic equations in one variable at a strong level

Algebraic Problem Solving with Graphs and Functions

• Determine the slope of a line from a graph, equation, or table at a strong level
• Graph two-variable linear equations at a strong level
• Write the equation of a line with a given slope through a given point at a strong level
• Use slope to identify parallel and perpendicular lines and to solve geometric problems at a strong level
• Compare two different linear or quadratic functions, each represented in different ways, at a strong level

In order to progress to GED® College Ready + Credit level, test-takers need to continue to strengthen the skills listed in the GED® College Ready level, including:

- Compute volume and surface area of composite figures
- Use counting techniques to solve problems and determine combinations and permutations
- Write linear inequalities to represent context
- Solve quadratic equations in one variable
- Graph two-variable linear equations
- Use slope to identify parallel and perpendicular lines and to solve geometric problems
- Compare two different linear or quadratic functions, each represented in different ways