

# GED<sup>®</sup>

## General Educational Development Test



**Arizona Department of Education**  
**Tom Horne, Superintendent of Public Instruction**



# *Opens Doors!*

*In this brochure, you will meet several Arizonans who changed their lives through the GED.  
You can, too. It is only too late if you don't start now.*

## **Why the GED?**

Every year, hundreds of thousands of people get their High School Equivalency Diplomas. People like you. Maybe you had to leave high school to help take care of your family. Maybe you felt you just did not "fit in" at the high school you attended or maybe you just did not believe the high school diploma would really mean anything. And now you know what it means NOT to have it.

## **The Benefits:**

### **Getting A Better Job**

An overwhelming majority of jobs in this country require a high school diploma. An Official GED Transcript is accepted by most employers just like a high school diploma.

### **Increasing Your Income**

Income increases with your level of education. A better job usually means better pay.

### **Feeling Self-Respect**

By earning this diploma, many GED graduates experience a remarkable improvement in how they feel about themselves and their lives. It makes a difference!

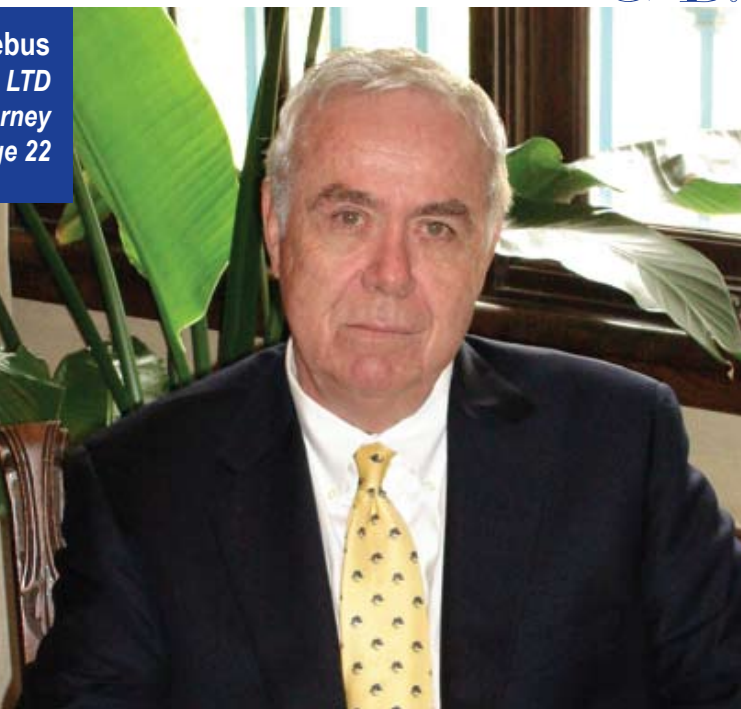
### **Continuing Your Education**

An Official GED Transcript is accepted at most colleges and universities across the country as proof that you have completed your high school education. Some colleges even have scholarship programs for GED graduates.

### **Investing In Your Future**

Educated parents have better-educated children. Earning a High School Equivalency Diploma is not only an investment in yourself, it is also an investment in the future of your children.

**Larry Debus**  
*Debus, Kazan & Westerhausen LTD*  
*Attorney*  
*Passed GED Test at age 22*



**Eric Eckert**  
*Captain, City of Glendale Department*  
*Passed GED Test at age 24*



**Armida Bittner**  
*Gila County School Superintendent, Retired*  
*Passed GED Test at age 23*



## What Are the GED Tests?

The General Educational Development (GED) Test measures your knowledge and academic skills against those of today's traditional high school graduates. It is comprised of five tests:

- **Language Arts - Writing/Essay**
- **Social Studies**
- **Science**
- **Language Arts - Reading**
- **Mathematics**

GED test questions do not focus on memorizing facts, details or precise definitions. The purpose of the exam is to give examinees an opportunity to demonstrate individual abilities to use and relate information at various levels.

The GED Test is available in English, Spanish and French.



## Who Can Take the Test?

The GED Test is available to those who are 16 years of age or older, who do not have a high school diploma, and who are not currently enrolled in high school.

All examinees must bring two forms of identification. One form must show picture, name, date of birth, signature, current address, and be a government issued ID.

In addition, examinees 16 and 17 years of age MUST ALSO provide:

- **Official Withdrawal Form** from previous school, **AND**
- **Notarized Letter of Permission** from parent/guardian

## Where & When . . .

The GED Test can only be administered by an official at one of over 30 approved testing centers throughout Arizona. For a list of testing centers and preparation classes in your area, please contact the Arizona Department of Education GED Testing Office:

**[www.ade.az.gov/adult-ed](http://www.ade.az.gov/adult-ed)**

Testing schedules may vary by location, so check with your local GED Testing Center for current information.

## What Is The Cost?

Testing and re-testing fees are determined by individual GED Testing Centers. Statewide fees are publicly posted at all GED Testing Centers.

## What the Tests Cover

- 1) **Language Arts - Writing**  
 Part I: 50 questions, 75 minutes  
 Part II: One essay, 45 minutes
- 2) **Social Studies**  
 50 questions, 70 minutes
- 3) **Science**  
 50 questions, 80 minutes
- 4) **Language Arts - Reading**  
 40 questions, 65 minutes
- 5) **Mathematics**  
 Part I: 25 questions, 45 minutes  
 (with calculator use)  
 Part II: 25 questions, 45 minutes  
 (with no calculator use)

**Total Questions: 240**

**Total Time: Approximately 7 hours**

*(Time is based on the English format of the test.)*

## Preparing for the Test

GED preparation classes are offered throughout the state at Adult Education centers certified by the Arizona Department of Education. You can study in a classroom, with a tutor, or from home through distance learning classes. Instruction is available at many different times and locations. You can find a class near you by going to our website: [www.ade.az.gov/adult-ed](http://www.ade.az.gov/adult-ed), by contacting your local GED Testing Center, or by contacting the State GED Testing Office.

At an Adult Education Center, you will be given an individual assessment to determine exactly what you need to study to pass the GED Test. Based upon the results, your instructor will prepare a specific learning plan designed to help you achieve your goals. You will be able to study at your own pace with the help of your instructor, and be in a supporting and friendly environment.

When you think you are ready, you can take a GED “practice” test and then schedule taking the official exam at your local GED Testing Center.




**Wendy Auerbach**

*Business woman and licensed cosmetologist*

*Currently a member of a municipal fire department Cadet Program*

*Passed the GED Test at age 36*

## Scoring

Passing scores on the GED Test are

- A minimum of 410 on each part; **AND**
- A combined total of 2,250 points on all five parts.

Most scores are posted within 24 hours. For your results, go to [www.GED123.org](http://www.GED123.org) and enter your personally assigned, secure **Access Code**.

## Re-Testing

If a candidate does not pass the GED Test, it may be retaken. However, there is a 30-day waiting period between tests so that the candidate can study the section that was not passed. Retesting on tests not passed can only be administered as often as there are remaining forms of the tests in the calendar year and if all parts of the exam have been completed.

Please note that examinees are required to take the initial five tests at the same Test Center. Under special circumstances, an exception may be granted.

For a listing of Official Testing Centers and GED preparation classes in your area, go to [www.ade.az.gov/adult-ed](http://www.ade.az.gov/adult-ed) and click on the link for GED Testing and free instruction classes.



## Diploma & Transcripts

After passing the GED Test, you will receive an Arizona High School Equivalency Diploma and an official transcript of your scores within two weeks of your tests being scored. Your Official Transcript is your ticket to college, vocational school, employment or the military. Your diploma is the official State of Arizona recognition of your accomplishment, so you will want to keep it with your other important papers.

Additional copies of your Official Transcript are free and easy to obtain at [www.GED123.org](http://www.GED123.org). On the transcript you receive with your diploma, you will notice an "ID Number." This is your personal **Access Code** to download and print additional copies of your Official Transcript when you need them. Keep this number in a safe place - it gives you private, secure access to your records. If you do misplace it, you can go to your local GED Testing Center and, by showing your ID, you will be given an unofficial score report with your Access Code printed on it.

If you are unable to go to a Testing Center, you may contact the State GED Office.

**Richard Lee Cole**  
**Sergeant First Class**  
**US Army Recruiter**  
**Army EMT**  
**Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)**  
**Passed GED Test at age 19**

## Out-Of-State Testing

Test results from out-of-state/out-of-country GED-accredited agencies are accepted when Arizona testing requirements are met. Although Arizona has no residency requirement, an examinee must take at least one part of the GED Test in this state unless the out-of-state scores have expired.

Applicants must have their test results sent to the Arizona State GED Testing Office directly from their former state.

Examinees who have recently moved to Arizona and have *not completed their initial five tests of the exam* must adhere to the Arizona jurisdictional guidelines upon resuming testing in Arizona.

## Special Accommodations

Disabilities sometimes prevent candidates from being tested or tested fairly. Special testing accommodations are available for those individuals. This includes use of calculator, extended time, individualized testing, frequent supervised breaks, adjustable furniture, or taking an audio cassette test version.

The General Education Development (GED) Testing Service in Washington DC requires documentation of special needs. Specific learning disabilities must be documented by a licensed diagnostician.

For more information concerning special testing accommodations, please contact your local GED Testing Center or contact the State GED Office.



## Add Your Name To This List of GED Recipients!!

Wally Amos, Creator of *Famous Amos Cookies*  
Dr. Richard Carmona, United States Surgeon General  
Bill Cosby, Comedian  
Ben Nighthorse Campbell, United States Senator  
Jim Florio, New Jersey Governor

Michael J. Fox, Actor  
Waylon Jennings, Country Singer  
Ruth Ann Minner, Delaware State Senator  
Tommy Nunes, NBA Referee  
Mary Lou Retton, Olympic Gold Medalist  
Dave Thomas, Founder of Food Chain *Wendy's*



# General Educational Development Test

Arizona State  
GED Office

- **Phone** (602) 258-2410
- **Location** 2005 North Central Avenue, Suite 200 (Central & Palm Lane)
- **Mailing Address** Arizona Department of Education  
GED Testing Office  
1535 West Jefferson Street, Bin #26  
Phoenix, AZ 85007
- **Internet** [www.ade.az.gov/adult-ed](http://www.ade.az.gov/adult-ed)
- **Fax** (602) 258-4977
- **E-Mail** [adulthood@azed.gov](mailto:adulthood@azed.gov)

For more information, visit the **American Council on Education's GED Testing Services** website:

- Information About the GED Exam
- What To Expect
- Frequently Asked Questions
- 2002 Test Series
- Are You Ready To Take The GED Test?
- Understanding Your Scores
- GED to College
- Spanish and French Language Tests
- Tests of English as a Second Language
- Special Accommodations
- ... and much more

[www.gedtest.org](http://www.gedtest.org)



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