HSE Update: National External Diploma Program, College Credit, TASC™

Board of Regents
March 2017
High School Equivalency (HSE) Diploma: Three Pathways

• 24 College Credits

• National External Diploma Program (NEDP)

• High School Equivalency Test – Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC™ test)
High School Equivalency Diplomas Issued
2007-2016

Data extracted on 02/22/2017
National External Diploma Program (NEDP)

• May 17, 2016: CR 100.7 added NEDP as 3rd pathway to State HSE diploma; student eligibility age lowered from 21 to 18 years of age

• NYSED issues HSE diplomas and provides other needed resources to NEDP agencies

• 34 state HSE diplomas issued between September 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016. An additional 121 were issued at the local level prior to September 2016.
NEDP Assessment Design: Overview

• NEDP is a competency-based, applied performance assessment system where students must demonstrate 100% mastery of tasks that mirror real life and work situations.

• NEDP contains competencies in 10 content areas (including Applied Math and Numeracy, Science, and 21st Century Workplace).

• After the student completes all tasks, a final evaluation is done by an NEDP reviewer. Upon approval, the student is granted a New York State high school equivalency diploma.
NEDP Sample Performance Task: Science

**Competency:** Identify and analyze scientific issues underlying national debate and decisions, citing supporting evidence.

**Performance Task:** Collect research information presenting both sides of a scientific issue currently in the news, and:

- Identify textual evidence that describes both sides of the identified issue;
- Use multiple data sources to identify claims and counterclaims fairly for both sides of the argument;
- Differentiate the most relevant evidence from the data sources presented;
- Describe the strengths and limitations of both claims and counterclaims; and
- Write a concluding statement that supports one side of the argument, citing supporting evidence.
NEDP Locations in NYS
NEDP Expansion in NYS

• SED is incentivizing growth; contract allows for 10 new/expansion sites per FY through 2018.
• Recruitment efforts: equitable geographic distribution, familiarity with NEDP; program sustainability
• CASAS training/support
• EPE funding; increased contact hours
College Credit: Second Pathway

• Established in 1963
• 24 credit hours of college-level courses
  • 6 credits in English Language Arts
  • 3 credits each in: mathematics, natural sciences, social sciences and humanities
  • 6 credits within the registered degree or certificate program
• Application review conducted by NYSED
• Applicants often include Ability-to-Benefit (ATB), home schooled, and foreign-born students attending college in NYS
HSE Test: First Pathway

- Test of General Educational Development
- 1940s – 2013 GED®
- 2014 – Current Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC test™)
Participants: High School Equivalency Test GED® and TASC™

Data extracted on 02/22/2017
NYS High School Equivalency GED® and TASC™ Completer Pass Rate (Includes Grandfathering)

The Cumulative GED® 2002-2013 Pass Rate was 58.6%
The Cumulative TASC™ Only Pass Rate is 52.1%, Adding Grandfathering increases the TASC™ Cumulative Pass Rate to 57.1%

Even though the TASC™ test is a more challenging test, the TASC™ pass rate is comparable to the GED® pass rate.

Data extracted on 02/22/2017
NYS High School Equivalency GED® and TASC™ Completer Pass Rate For Examinees Reporting Race/Ethnicity (Includes Grandfathering)

GED®

TASC™

Data extracted on 01/19/2017
NYS GED® (2011-2013) vs. TASC™ (2014-2016)
Examinee Demographics: Race/Ethnicity

Data extracted on 02/22/2017
Data includes information on completers and partial testers.
TASC: Overview

• 5 subtests (Math, Science, Reading, Writing, Social Studies)
  • English, Spanish, Braille, Large Print and Audio
• 500+ on each subtest to earn the HSE diploma
• Vendor scores the test
• NYSED verifies test results and issues diplomas and transcripts
• Free to tester, test up to three times per year
  • Education Law 317 prohibits charging fees to examinees
  • Cost to state is $10.40 per subtest, $52 for complete test battery
• Readiness tests – Practice tests that are half of the length of the actual TASC test
CBT Mode Testimonial

“...it was wonderful!! The amount of time that it takes to prepare for a computer-based test is half the time it takes for the paper-based. Also, the test runs so efficiently in terms of timing.”

Elizabeth Kendall
Associate Vice President of Resource Development
Rockland Community College
Total Number of GED® and TASC™ Test Administrations Per Year
By Testing Mode 2007-2016

Data extracted on 02/22/2017
TASC: Content Overview

  • Aligned to nationally recognized high school learning standards
  • Earlier iterations of exam contained content not required for high school graduation
    • For example, in math subtest:
      • Radian measure
      • Logarithms
      • Deriving the formula for a geometric series
      • Trigonometric functions
      • Complex imaginary numbers
Resources for Adult Education

- CUNY Teacher Leaders Institutes and Turnkey Trainings
- Webinars
- Blueprint Revisions
- Item Specifications
- Brochures
NYS High School Equivalency GED® and TASC™ Completer Pass Rate
Walk-In vs. Preparation Program Participants (Includes Grandfathering)

Examinees who participate in preparation programs consistently have better outcomes than walk-in examinees.
Data extracted on 01/19/2017
HSE TEST FUTURE

• Current TASC test contract with DRC/CTB extended through 2017

• New RFP issued for HSE Test 2018-2020
HSE Diplomas Looking Forward

• Support, with CASAS, the growth of NEDP as the third pathway to an HSE credential

• Continue to accept and review individual applications for HSE diplomas via the College Credit pathway while exploring the national landscape on this pathway for standardization.

• Expand CBT

• Provide appropriate test center funding

• Deliver frequent and ongoing professional development and other supports for adult educators