

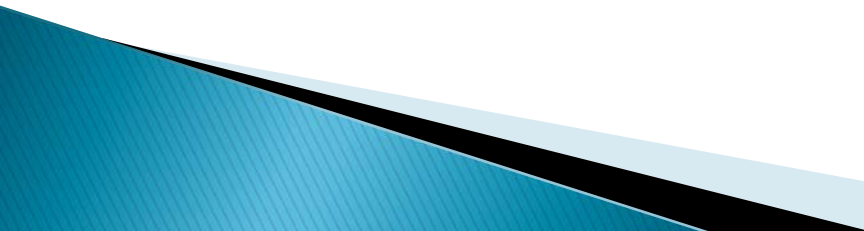
High School Equivalency (HSE) Test Update

ACCES Committee Meeting
March 11, 2013

Statewide Technology Survey

- ▶ SED conducted statewide on-line survey of GED® test centers and Prep programs to determine technological capacity to implement Computer Based Test (CBT)
- ▶ Survey conducted January – February 2013
- ▶ Results strongly favor 3 year phased-in approach to CBT
 - 67% of all test centers (representing 88% of all tests administered), supported phased-in approach
 - 80% of prep programs (including all big 5 school districts), supported phased-in approach

Expert Panel Review

- ▶ Six person expert panel scored the two RFPs (3 psychometricians and 3 adult ed./higher ed. experts)
 - ▶ CTB/McGraw-Hill with highest overall score and lowest cost (\$52/test in 2014; \$54/test in 2015; \$56/test in 2016)
 - ▶ Due Diligence meeting held Feb. 12 to address any outstanding concerns and issues
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Vendor Responsibilities

1. Capacity to deliver test

- Key elements such as the CBT platform, a state-of-the-art item development process, and strategies for incorporating CCSS rigor are already in place or underway
- The staff commitment/expertise is strong, broad, and deep, and CTB/McGraw-Hill is committed to working closely and flexibly with SED to ensure success
- Full time project manager, based in Albany, has worked well with SED on other projects

2. Alignment to P-12 Common Core State Standards

- CTB/McGraw Hill has development contracts with both PARCC and Smarter Balance
- Test development experts familiar with Tri-State Rubric

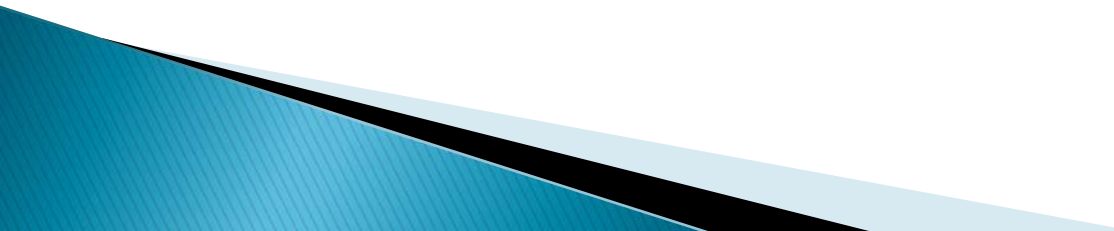
3. Test Design and Validation

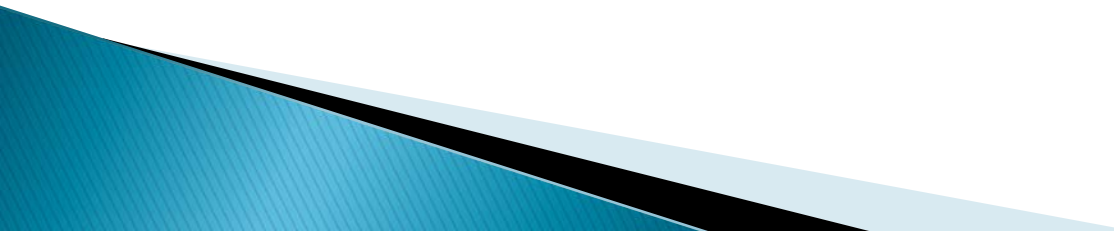
- Comprehensive Spring 2013 field testing to establish norms, support scaling, and estimation of preliminary cut-scores
- Alignment studies will link to the current GED[®] test and New York's primary adult literacy test, the TABE

4. Computer Technology and Item Development Process

- CTB/McGraw Hill's online assessment system (OAS) has been used in multiple states and has delivered exams to 1.7 million students in a two week window
- OAS also has the distinction of being the testing platform already in place in New York State for the administration of the TABE test
- The new assessment has very efficient broad-band usage that should allow a seamless transition to CBT

5. Test Security

- Over the past five years, CTB/McGraw Hill has delivered 3,500 tests annually at over 1,300 locations to NYC Department of Education with no security breaches or lost shipments
 - Their CBT security uses redundant servers and a robust disaster recovery system. To date no test has been lost
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6. **Manage a High Quality Testing Accommodations Approval Process**
 - **CTB/McGraw Hill has long track record of exemplary commitment to accommodating all examinees, including those taking the TABE**
 - **CBT platform for new test incorporates industry-standard Universal Design for Learning specifications to accommodate all examinees**
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7. Training

- Will provide a very comprehensive and flexible process of face-to-face workshops and recorded webinars
- Commitment to additional training as needed.

8. Error Scoring

- Proposed costs include correcting the most common errors found in scoring current GED[®] test

9. Marketing

- Committed to a national and New York-specific campaign to ensure the high recognition and credibility of new test to students, employers, postsecondary leaders, states, and the public

Benefits of Competition

- ▶ Cost per test (\$52 to \$56) is well below GEDTS charge of \$120
- ▶ This competitive price is driving strong interest from 39 other states who are currently tracking alternatives to the GED[®] test