

## How Do I Meet the Career Awareness, Employability Skills, Health and Civics Requirements?

### Career Awareness (HSED only):

- If you are 55 years of age or older, you may write a letter excusing yourself from the Career Awareness requirement; **OR**
- Visit the ASC to learn about the free Career Awareness class and other options.

### Employability Skills (HSED only):

- If you are 55 years of age or older, you may write a letter excusing yourself from the Employability Skills requirement; **OR**
- Visit the ASC to learn about options.

### Health (HSED only):

- Show ½ credit of Health, grade D- or better, on junior high or high school transcript; **OR**
- Score 55 or higher on the HSED Health test (90 multiple choice questions, no time limit, requires 60-day waiting period prior to retesting, score does not apply toward 2,250 needed on GED tests); **OR**
- Complete Health class through the ASC.

### Civics (HSED only):

- Show three credits of Civics-related courses, grade D- or better, on high school transcript; **OR**
- Score 50 or higher on the HSED Civics test (90 multiple choice questions, no time limit, requires 60-day waiting period prior to retesting, score does not apply toward 2,250 needed on GED tests); **OR**
- Complete Civics class through the ASC.

With an HSED, you can expect to make an average of \$100,000 more in a lifetime income than someone without a high school credential.



### Adams County Center

401 North Main  
Adams, WI 53910  
608.339.3379

### Marshfield Campus

2600 West 5th Street  
Marshfield, WI 54449  
715.387.2538

### Stevens Point Campus

933 Michigan Avenue  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
715.344.3063

### Wisconsin Rapids Campus

500 32nd Street North  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494  
715.422.5300

888.575.MSTC

866.331.3603 (TTY)

mstc.edu

# GED & HSED

## Open Doors to Your Future!

Earn a General Educational Development Certificate (GED®) or High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED)



## What is the Difference Between a GED Certificate & HSED?

You receive a High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED) by passing the General Educational Development (GED) tests **and** meeting requirements in health, citizenship, employability skills and career awareness. An HSED is the next best substitute for a regular high school diploma. A GED Certificate is available to someone who completes the five GED tests.

## How Do I Start?

- Be at least 18 ½ years of age or your high school class must have graduated.
- Be a legal resident of the State of Wisconsin.
- Attend a mandatory orientation session to learn about your options and complete the required paperwork. A \$15 fee must be paid in order to register for an orientation. This non-refundable fee will be applied to your \$15 credential fee. Contact your local MSTC campus or visit [mstc.edu](http://mstc.edu) for orientation dates, times and locations.
- Complete the TABE Reading Test in an MSTC Academic Support Center (ASC). You must provide verification that you completed the TABE Reading test to the GED Examiner at your first testing session to be allowed to test.

The GED tests are offered monthly at each of the MSTC campuses. To obtain a schedule, please contact the Testing Center or visit [mstc.edu](http://mstc.edu).

## Is There a Cost to Take the GED Tests?

The \$15 State Credentialing Fee is charged at the time you sign up for orientation and is non-refundable. In addition, each GED test costs \$15, for a total of \$75 for the five tests. The cost for the Civics and the Health tests is an additional \$15 each. You must pay for the tests you plan to take at the time of registration. You will forfeit your fee if you do not show up for your appointment without prior cancellation. These fees are non-refundable.

## What Do I Need to Bring?

You must bring the paperwork completed during the orientation to your first testing session. Please present photo identification every time you test. Scratch paper and pencils will be provided. Food, drink, calculators and other materials will not be allowed into the testing room.

## What GED Tests Do I Need to Take?

The GED tests measure achievement in subject areas generally associated with a high school program of study. The five tests and the allotted time to complete each test include:

1. **Language Arts ~ Reading**  
40 questions, 65 minutes
2. **Language Arts ~ Writing**  
120 minutes total (must be completed in one sitting)  
Part I ~ 50 questions, 75 minutes  
Part II ~ essay, 45 minutes
3. **Mathematics**  
90 minutes total (must be completed in one sitting)  
Part I ~ 25 questions, 45 minutes (with calculator)  
Part II ~ 25 questions, 45 minutes (without calculator)
4. **Science**  
50 questions, 80 minutes
5. **Social Studies**  
50 questions, 70 minutes

## How Do I Prepare for the GED Tests?

Although it is recommended, seeking assistance with increasing your skills is not required. If you feel you need to study or brush up prior to testing, study materials are available through libraries, bookstores and Internet sites. You may also choose to brush up your skills and take GED practice tests at no cost at an MSTC Academic Support Center (ASC).

### Call the ASC to set up an appointment today.

Adams County Center.....608.339.3379  
Marshfield Campus..... 715.387.2538  
Stevens Point Campus.....715.344.3063  
Wisconsin Rapids Campus .....715.422.5496

62% of testers take the tests for educational reasons & 49% list employment as their goal

## What Do I Need to Score On the GED tests?

A score of 410 is required to pass each of the five GED tests. A total of 2,250 or above on all five tests is required to earn a GED or HSED. (This is an average of 450 points per test.)

## How Do I Find Out My GED Test Scores?

Test scores will usually be available ten working days after testing and will be mailed to the address you provide on your paperwork. Test scores cannot be given over the telephone or to parents, spouses, etc.

83% of Wisconsin testers pass the GED tests

## Are Retakes of the GED Tests Allowed?

You may retake the GED tests to achieve a passing score (410 or higher). However, you must wait 30 days prior to retesting on the same test.

## How Do I Request a GED Test Accommodation?

If you have a disability, you may be entitled to testing accommodations. Ask the GED Examiner for information.

## Who Issues the GED Certificate/HSED?

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) issues the GED Certificate and the HSED within three to four months of completion. You may order additional copies of your credential directly from the DPI for \$15 each.

Free transcripts are available from the MSTC Testing Center. Requests must be made in writing and include the following information:

- Current name
- Name at the time of testing
- Date of birth
- Social Security Number
- Address where you want the transcript sent
- Your signature

Please allow 3 to 5 days for processing.