

REGULATIONS GOVERNING  
GENERAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES  
8 VAC 20-360-10

**Rules Regulations Governing General Educational Development Certificates**

**8 VAC 20-360-10**

**8 VAC 20-360-10. Eligibility.**

Certificates may be issued to ~~adults who are no longer enrolled in regular day school programs and~~  
individuals who meet the following ~~minimum~~ requirements:

1. Age. An applicant must be at least 18 years of age and not enrolled in a public or private high school. Under special circumstances, which are ~~considered by local school authorities to be justifiable~~ consistent with the Code of Virginia, §§ 22.1-254 and 22.1-254.2, the age limit may be lowered to 16 years of age. ~~if an applicant is legally withdrawn from school. Notwithstanding the foregoing requirement, applicants below 18 years of age shall provide one of the following:~~
  - a. ~~A letter from an official of the regular day school last attended stating that the applicant has been legally withdrawn from school for a period of one year;~~
  - b. ~~A letter from an official of the regular day school last attended stating that the applicant has been legally withdrawn from school for a period of six months, and a letter from a director of a high school review program stating that the applicant has successfully completed the program; or~~

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~~e. A letter from an employer, a recruiting officer of the armed forces, or an admissions officer of an institution of higher learning or postsecondary training institution stating that the applicant meets all requirements for employment or admissions, with the exception of a General Educational Development certificate, and a letter from an official of the regular day school last attended recommending the applicant be tested.~~

~~2. High school credit. Not required.~~

~~3. Residency. An individual must be a resident of the Commonwealth of Virginia for a minimum of 30 days immediately prior to making application to take the test.~~

~~4. 2. Minimum test scores requirements. A standard test score battery average of 45 (a total score of 225) with no individual test standard score below 35 is required. The following minimum score requirements must be met depending upon when the candidate took the General Educational Development (GED) Tests:~~

- ~~a. For test batteries completed on or after January 1, 2002, individuals must achieve the minimum passing score requirements set by the GED Testing Service of the American Council on Education or such higher score requirements that may be established by the Virginia Board of Education.~~

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- b. For test batteries completed between January 1, 1997, and December 31, 2001, individuals must achieve at least an average battery score of 45, a total standard score of 225, and no individual test score below 40;
  - c. For test batteries completed between July 1, 1979, and December 31, 1996, individuals must achieve at least an average battery score of 45, a total standard score of 225, and no individual test score below 35; or
  - d. For test batteries completed prior to July 1, 1979, individuals must achieve at least an average battery score of 45 (rounded up), a total standard score of 223, and no individual test standard score below 35.
3. In-state testing. Only those entities designated by the Department of Education as Official Virginia GED Testing Centers shall determine whether an individual is eligible to take GED Tests in accordance with policies of the GED Testing Service of the American Council on Education and the Code of Virginia, § 22.1-254.2. GED Tests shall be administered only at Official Virginia GED Testing Centers or addendum test sites that have been approved by the Virginia GED Administrator and the GED Testing Service.
- 5 4. Credit for scores on GED Tests administered out-of-state. Official ~~T~~est scores may be accepted from an approved ~~GED battery of tests administered by an approved GED center~~ state agency, an official jurisdiction responsible for overseeing GED testing, or an official GED

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testing center outside of Virginia. , provided the requirements established by the Commonwealth of Virginia for the issuance of a certificate have been fulfilled.

**8 VAC 20-360-20. Retesting.**

An applicant who fails to qualify for a certificate on the basis of test scores may be retested, provided at least 60 days have lapsed since the last testing. individual may take the full battery of tests up to three times during a calendar year to qualify for a General Educational Development Certificate. Test scores may be combined in accordance with GED Testing Service policy.

**8 VAC 20-360-30. Application and fees.**

A Virginia resident must Applicants may make application in the school division in which he lives to any Official Virginia GED Testing Center. The application must be approved by the school division superintendent or his designee. An applicant approved by the local school official is required to pay a fee of \$10 to take the entire battery of five tests or \$2.00 for each individual test. Official Virginia GED testing centers may charge Virginia residents a fee not to exceed \$50 for a battery of five tests or \$10 for each individual test. An individual is deemed to be a resident if he presents evidence of residency required by the Division of Motor Vehicles as stated in the Code of Virginia, § 46.2-323.1 or other evidence of residency accepted by the school division.

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Non-residents may be tested and charged a fee not to exceed \$75 for a battery of five tests or \$15 for each individual test. No additional charges shall be levied upon an applicant.