



NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
H. Martin Lancaster, President

April 4, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chief GED Examiners
Basic Skills Directors

FROM: Lou Ann Parker, Coordinator of GED/AHS Programs

SUBJECT: GED Testing Survey Results

Please find attached the results of the GED survey that President Martin Lancaster asked the GED office to send to all local programs to determine GED testing procedures. The information has been summarized and reported to President Lancaster.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 919-807-7214. Thank you for helping me collect this information.

Attachments

C: Presidents
Senior Continuing Education Administrators
Dr. Delores Parker
Dr. Randy Whitfield

CC08 - 081
Paper Copy & E-mail

GED Testing Survey Results

1. Do you allow walk-ins to take the GED tests without taking a pre-assessment?

Yes = 8 No = 51

Comments:

- Pre-assessments are administered by student request. The pre-assessment is recommended to promote the likelihood of success.
- Walk-ins are not encouraged to test immediately; there is only one instance where a walk-in successfully completed testing.
- Exceptions are made on an individual basis.
- Limited number of walk-ins; strongly discourage testing of walk-ins.
- Walk-ins permitted per ACE.
- No, walk-ins. TABE is required at orientation.

2. Do you allow walk-ins to take the GED tests without taking a practice test?

Yes = 12 No = 47

Comments:

- Exceptions are made on an individual basis.
- No practice tests required as per ACE.

3. Do you have a separate GED Testing Orientation?

Yes = 35 No = 24

Comments:

- Orientation is only for students in the Basic Skills Program.
- Orientation is conducted in the classroom.
- Orientations are conducted approximately three times a month at various sites; orientation is also conducted one day a week at the main campus and has proven successful
- Students come in to complete paperwork; no formal orientation.
- Orientation is conducted on an individual basis.
- Adult High School and GED have combined orientation; GED students receive a GED Guidelines hand-out during the orientation.
- New orientation implemented; includes ABE, AHS and GED. Students are met on an individual basis to discuss scores.
- Orientation is held immediately prior to taking their first test; orientation takes about one hour and a break is given before the test is administered.

4. Do you require examinees to take the Basis Skills Program pre-assessment before taking the GED tests?

Yes = 55 No = 4

Comments:

- Students are strongly advised to take the pre-assessment before testing.
- Students who are in the Basic Skills Program are required.
- Pre-assessment is encouraged, but students may test without it.

- Students must “test out” of the Adult Basic Education program before beginning GED test preparation.
 - Examinees from various local volunteer/literacy/GED Programs are tested.
5. Do you require examinees to take the Basis Skills Program post-assessment before taking the GED tests?

Yes = 31 No = 27 No response = 1

Comments:

- If the examinee is an enrolled student, the TABE/OPT is administered to confirm preparedness.
 - Students who are in the Basic Skills Program are required.
 - Post-tests are conducted using Steck-Vaughn or Contemporary GED books.
 - Passing scores on all Practice Tests are required before the Official GED tests are administered.
 - Students who score high enough are not required.
 - The post-assessment is administered before taking the last Official GED test.
 - Taking the post-assessment is strongly encouraged, but not all students take it.
 - Students at the highest level in CASAS Testing are exempt.
6. Do you require examinees to take all five Practice Tests before taking the GED tests?

Yes = 16* No = 44*

*One college responded to both Yes and No

Comments:

- Practice tests are not required to be taken all at once.
- Taking all five Practice Tests is discouraged; fear of losing students due to early failure rates.
- Examinees must take the practice test for each individual exam before testing.
- Students are required to take and pass a Practice Test in the subject area they sign-up for.
- Students test when they are ready; this is indicated by placement scores in reading, math and language.
- Students are required to score 500 or higher before the Official GED tests are given.
- It is preferred students take tests one at a time; GED test results are positive motivation for student to continue class/testing.
- Examinees must take all five practice tests, but not at the same time.
- Students are administered a GED test when they perform well on the practice test.
- Students are not required to take all of PA, PB, PC, PD and PE. They must take at least one practice test per test subject.

7. Do you require examinees to be prepared to take all five GED tests rather than one test at a time?

Yes = 3 No = 56

Comments:

- Examinees are allowed to take one test at a time.
- Examinees are encouraged to take the tests when they are prepared; allows for greater success early on in the testing process.

8. Do you require every GED student to enroll in the Basic Skills Program and study at least 12 hours after the pre-post assessments before they take the GED tests?

Yes = 16* No = 42*

*One college did not respond Yes or No

How many hours of instruction does your program require before taking the GED tests?

- None
- 12 hours are required.
- If the student is test-ready, they may proceed with taking the tests; there are no specified number of hours of instruction.
- None are required for walk-ins, but some are preferred.
- 20 hours are required.
- Students are allowed to proceed with the Official Practice Tests and Official GED Tests if they place at an adult secondary level.
- Not a legal requirement, but students are encouraged to attend 12 or more hours.
- Extended orientation is provided and includes both appraisal and placements testing.
- If a student registers, scores 100% on the Appraisal and scores over 236 on both reading and math, he/she is placed in the GED Program. If that person pre-tests at 80%, he/she is given the Official Practice test. If that score is 500 or over, the Official GED test will be administered.
- A minimum of 12 hours of instruction are required.
- Requirements are made on an individual basis and according to assessment grade(s).
- 12 hour minimum requirement includes testing time.
- Students with a high rate of achievement are enrolled in fast-track programs.
- Students who have low test scores are encouraged to remediate for 12 hours using GED online before taking the practice tests; if the student is performing on testing level, no hours are required.
- Students are required to enroll and are allowed to test based upon demonstrated mastery of each subject.
- 12 hours are required and include pre-assessment, orientation and test preparation classes; orientation = 6 hours, test prep. And practice tests = 6 hours

- None are required, but teachers maintain documentation of student progress.
- Exceptions are made on the requirements.
- Students are required to enroll, but the instruction time is not based on hours, but level of competency.
- 12 hours are not required, but it normally takes the students that many hours to complete the testing.
- Students attend class until teachers feel they are prepared to test.
- Remediation is required if student does not perform at a passing level.
- Pre-assessment results determine how soon the student can take the GED tests, not the amount of hours spent in class.
- 12 hours of general orientation and 1 hour of GED orientation.
- A four hour orientation is conducted for all students; the CASAS assessments are administered at the end of the orientation. Eligible students may then go to their class locations and take the official practice tests.
- A minimum of 20 hours is required.
- No instruction hours are required if the student qualifies for the GED testing based on CASAS pre-assessment and official GED practice test.
- Instructional hours are dependent upon initial TABE and practice Test Scores.
- Students must be enrolled in the class, but there is no time requirement.
- 7-12 hours are required; some students may not need instruction.
- Students are required to have at least 12 hours of assessment, instruction and/or review; enrollment in GED online Program or in classes is acceptable.
- There is not requirement; students normally spend a total of 12 hours (9 hours in orientation and three hours in the classroom).
- Students who enter program with high TABE scores may begin testing.

9. How can examinees pay for the GED Tests?

Check	Money Order	Credit Card	Cash
51	49	31	58

Comments:

- Scholarships provide payment for the GED tests.
- The foundation pays the testing fees for all students.
- Money orders can only be accepted at Adult Learning Center due to no cashier on site.

Other/General Comments:

- Beaufort Community College – GED testing is administered by Student Services, not the Basic Skills Program.