

Published based on [What Is A G.E.D.?](#)

What Is A G.E.D.?

Are you baffled by the acronym G.E.D.? This stands for General Educational Development - a test that was created in 1942 during World War II. The G.E.D. Test was originally designed to help veterans obtain something similar to a high school diploma so that they could enroll in college. When the war ended, this test was made available to all adults.

What good is a G.E.D. Test? This tells how knowledgeable a person is in subjects that you normally get in a four-year high school education. You're not expected to remember numerous details, definitions, or facts but are required to show how you think about various issues. You will be tested on the knowledge and skills you have obtained from life experiences, radio, television, books, newspapers, and advertising among others. Thus, you can pass the test even if you have been out of school for a certain period of time.

If you pass a G.E.D. Test, you can enter college, avail of training programs, and find a good job. But remember that a G.E.D. diploma (like a high school diploma) won't give you a certain job or help you get into a certain college. However, several colleges and employers honor G.E.D. graduates. A survey found that 92 percent of colleges and 96 percent of employers accept G.E.D. graduates.

The G.E.D. Test usually consists of five parts. These are writing skills, social studies, science, interpreting literature and the arts, and mathematics. All that's needed to pass the test are general knowledge and thinking skills. The test questions are in the form of multiple choice except for Part II of the writing skills test where you are expected to compose an essay.

Several adult education programs, schools, libraries, state governments, and local governments work with the G.E.D. sponsor - the American Council on Education - to assist people who don't have a high school diploma.

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