



From GED to High School Equivalency Test(s)

What does the 2017 MN legislation mean for my students and me?

Brad Hasskamp | Adult Secondary Credential and Education Policy

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What does the legislation say?

**Replace
“G.E.D.” with
“High School
Equivalency
Test”**



2017 Statute Details

Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 124D.549, is amended to read:

~~124D.549 GENERAL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT (GED) TESTS RULES;~~

~~COMMISSIONER~~ COMMISSIONER-SELECTED HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY TEST.

The commissioner ~~may amend rules to reflect changes in the national minimum standard score for passing the general education development (GED) tests,~~ in consultation with adult basic education stakeholders, must select a high school equivalency test. The commissioner may issue a high school equivalency diploma to a Minnesota resident 19 years of age or older who has not earned a high school diploma, who has not previously been issued a general education development (GED) certification, and who has exceeded or achieved a minimum passing score on the equivalency test established by the publisher. The commissioner of education may waive the minimum age requirement if supportive evidence is provided by an employer or a recognized education or rehabilitation provider.

But what does that really mean?

What is the purpose of this legislation?

- Remove one specific product name from state statute
 - History from 1940's to today
- Create authority for the Education Commissioner to approve one or multiple high school equivalency tests for state-issue high school equivalency diplomas
 - ABE stakeholders will be consulted
- Conduct an official competitive procurement process
 - Will need to be repeated likely once every 5 years

3 Current Diploma Choices for Minnesota Adults

Adult Secondary Credential Options



**Credit-
Based
Diploma**



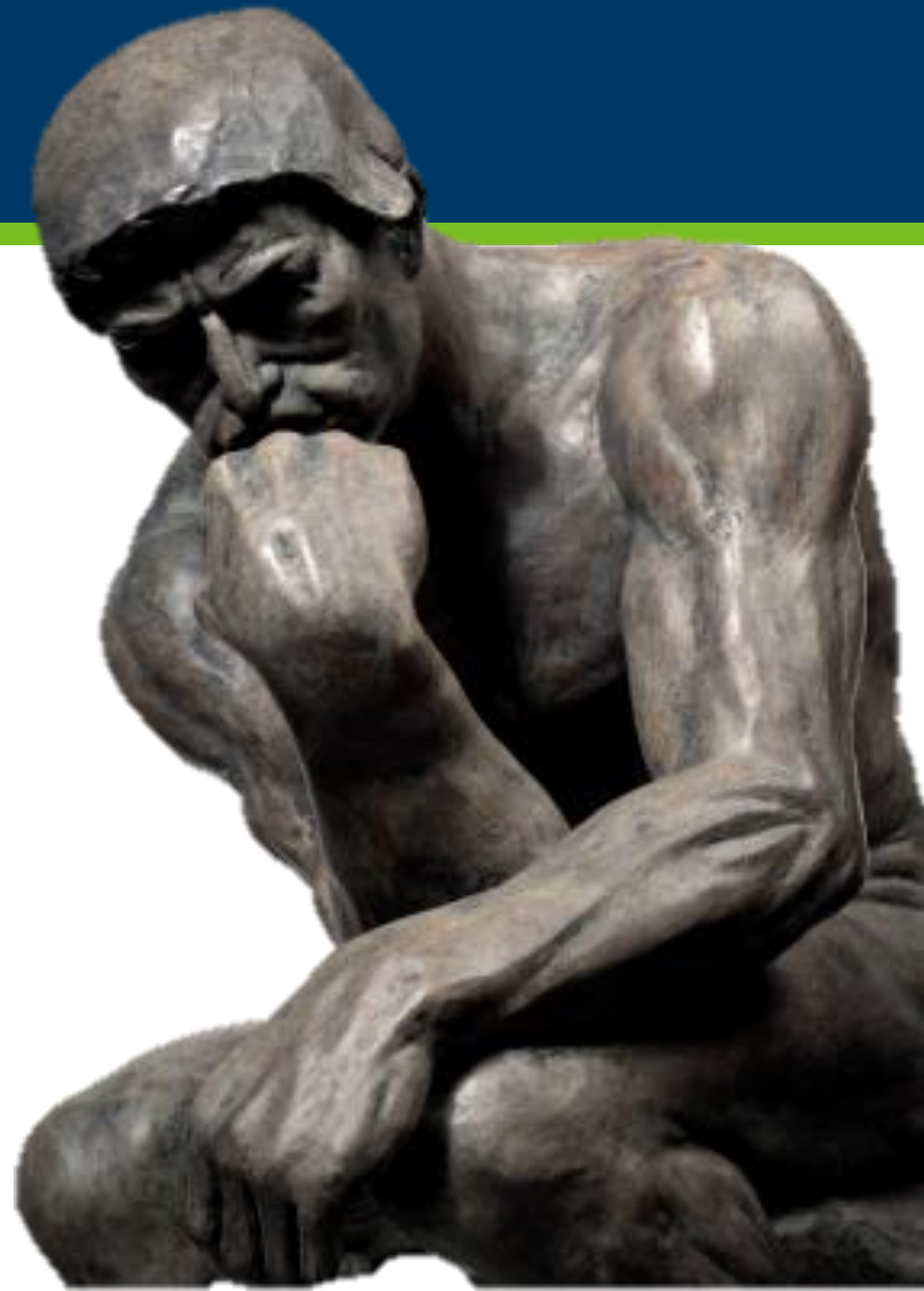
**Test-
Based
Diploma**



**Competency-
Based
Diploma**

Criteria to Consider

- **Academic Standards Alignment**
- **Test Center Infrastructure**
- **Credentialing System Ability**
- **Ability to Send Data**
- **Transferability and Access**
- **Professional Development**
- **Tester Subsidy Support**
- **Reputation, Relationships and Success with Postsecondary Institutions and Employers**
- **Accommodations for Disabilities**
- **Test Price**
- **Others?**




What criteria are most important to you in considering a high school equivalency test?

Implications and Implementation

4 Phases

1. Planning and Process Development
2. Overview and Recommendations for Criteria and RFP
3. RFP Process
4. Approval, Transition Planning, and Implementation



Four golden, 3D-rendered human figures are arranged in a circle, holding hands. They are positioned on a white, circular platform that appears to be floating above a dark blue background. The figures are stylized with large, rounded heads and simple bodies, rendered in a bright, metallic gold color. They are all facing inward, creating a sense of unity and collaboration.

Who are the “ABE stakeholders?”

HSE Test Selection ABE Stakeholder Working Group

Name	Consortium
Adam Kuehnel	DOC
Amy Fish	Detroit Lakes
Amy Stotzheim	SPCLC
Andy Albee	Robbinsdale
Annessia Swann	AIOIC
Brent Olinger	Metro East
Britt Gulstrand	Metro East
Christian McCleary	SPCLC
Dave Close	Red Lake
Dave Haugen	Minneapolis
Karen Wolters	Mankato
Lindsey Cermak	SPCLC
Patty Fleege	Duluth
Sarah Hoggard	Deaf ABE
Shane Mueller	South Washington County



How can I learn more?



- Emails from Cherie Eichinger
- Web Chat with MNABE
- Announcements after stakeholder working group meetings
- Updates at regional events
- Call for feedback
- Other ideas?



What additional research/activities should be included in the process to select a high school equivalency test?

A person in silhouette stands on the left side of the frame, looking out over a vast landscape. The scene is set during sunset or sunrise, with a warm, orange and yellow sky filled with soft, wispy clouds. In the distance, a range of blue mountains stretches across the horizon. The foreground is a field of tall grasses, some of which are in focus. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

Other Questions and Considerations Looking Ahead?

Thank you!

Brad Hasskamp

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