



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

TO: Adult Career and Continuing Education Services (ACCES) Committee

FROM: Kevin G. Smith 

SUBJECT: Proposed amendment of section 100.7 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, relating to the State High School Equivalency Diploma

DATE: September 9, 2015

AUTHORIZATION(S):  

SUMMARY

Issue for Discussion

Should the Board of Regents amend section 100.7 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, relating to the requirements for the State High School Equivalency diploma?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Review and implementation of policy.

Proposed Handling

This item will come before the ACCES Committee for discussion at the September Regents meeting

Background Information

Commissioner's Regulations section 100.7 implements the High School Equivalency Diploma (HSE). The regulation provides conditions, standards and requirements for the administration of the HSE test and the issuance of the State's HSE

diploma. The regulation has been amended a number of times over the past 30 years and contains some outdated provisions, inaccuracies and inconsistencies.

The proposed amendment will update, provide clarity and make necessary technical changes to section 100.7 including provisions relating to the Alternative High School Equivalency Preparation Programs (AHSEP) as well as implement the following policy changes:

- Allows candidates who take the HSE test in a language other than English, where available¹, (and receive a transcript with an inscription stating that the exam was taken in such language) to receive a new transcript without such designation providing that the candidates take and pass the HSE Reading and Writing subtests in English².
- Allows all candidates under the age of 19 to receive a HSE diploma upon passing the HSE test. (Eliminates the current provision that provides only a passing transcript to such candidates who meet age eligibility criteria of acceptance into the military or acceptance to a post-secondary institution).
- Makes permanent the current provision in the regulation that allows a passing score on at least one but not more than four of the sub-tests of the GED[®] examination taken in calendar years 2002 through 2013 (2003 through 2013 for the Spanish version of the examination) to be accepted as a passing score on the corresponding sub-test or sub-tests of the new HSE examination, the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC), administered on or after January 1, 2014 and before January 1, 2016. The proposed amendment would allow GED[®] sub-test scores to be accepted for sub-test score(s) on TASC examinations administered on or after January 1, 2014.
- Will reflect Departmental policy since 1998 which allows Home Schooled students who are 17 years old to take the HSE, and extend that policy to include Home Schooled students who are 16 years old to take the HSE.

A Notice of Proposed Rule Making will be published in the State Register on September 9, 2015. A copy of the proposed amendment is attached. Supporting materials are available upon request from the Secretary to the Board of Regents.

¹ Currently, the HSE test is available only in English and Spanish.

² The proposed amendment substitutes the HSE Reading and Writing subtest for the “designated English language proficiency examination” in the existing regulation, because the latter examination is no longer available.

Timetable for Implementation

If the Committee agrees with the approach outline above, it is anticipated that the proposed amendment will be presented for adoption at the November Regents meeting with an effective date of December 2, 2015.