

The **GED** Credential

The American Council on Education developed the GED® Diploma in the 1940s to help veterans who had joined the military without finishing high school. Passing the test allowed them access to careers and postsecondary programs that required a high school diploma.

20 million GED® graduates and counting

Over 45% of GED® grads enroll in postsecondary training within 3 years

98% of postsecondary and employers accept the GED® credential

Individuals aged 25 and up with a high school diploma or a high school equivalency credential like the GED, earn on average **\$684 more per month** than those who have less than a high school education. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, there are also nearly twice as many jobs available for those with at least a high school diploma or GED than another other education level.*

**<https://www.bls.gov/careeroutlook/2024/article/education-level-and-openings-2023-33.htm>*

DID YOU KNOW?



UNDERSTANDING THE TEST

The GED® Test measures a person has gained the same or “equivalent” knowledge of a traditional high school graduate. GED® earners are just as prepared to enter the workforce, launch a career, or

enter postsecondary degree or training programs as their traditional high school graduate counterparts. Students must earn a minimum score of 145 to pass each of the GED® subtests before earning their credential.

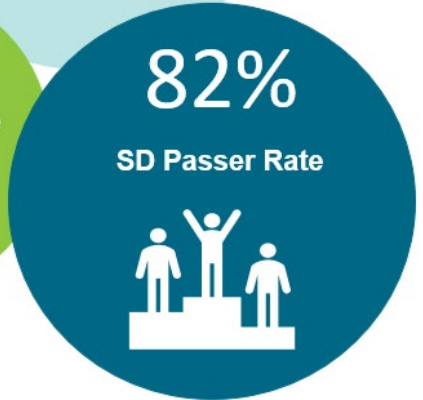
REASONING THROUGH LANGUAGE ARTS		SOCIAL STUDIES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading for Meaning Grammar & Language Identifying and Creating Arguments 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading for Meaning in Social Studies Analyzing Historical Events & Arguments in Social Studies Using Numbers & Graphs in Social Studies 		
<p>🕒 Time to Test: 150 minutes</p> <p>💰 Cost: \$50</p>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p>SUBJECT AREAS</p> </div>	<p>🕒 Time to Test: 70 minutes</p> <p>💰 Cost: \$50</p>		
SCIENCE		MATHEMATICAL REASONING		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading for Meaning in Science Designing & Interpreting Science Experiments Using Numbers and Graphics in Science 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Graphs & Functions Basic Math Geometry Algebra 	
<p>🕒 Time to Test: 90 minutes</p> <p>💰 Cost: \$50</p>		<p>🕒 Time to Test: 115 minutes</p> <p>💰 Cost: \$50</p>		







2023 GED

South Dakota Quick Facts

523 people earned their credential in South Dakota in 2023, bring the total to over 5,000 South Dakotans earning their GED® since 2014. South Dakotans are passing the GED® Test at a rate of 82% versus the national average of 75%.



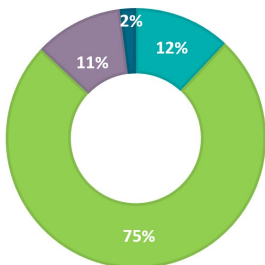
- 
20½
Average Test Taker Age
- 
2.9
Average Tests per Student
- 
153
Average Passing Score
- 
5.3
Average months earn a credential

In 2023, 1,212 South Dakotans were working toward earning their GED® Credential with 818 of those being first time test takers. The average age of testers in South Dakota was 20½ years old, and the average number of tests taken by each unique test taker was 2.9. South Dakotans scored an average 153/200 on their GED® exams and took just over 5 months to earn their credential.

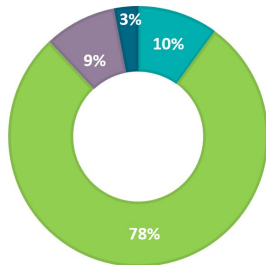


GED® testers must score a minimum of 145 out of 200 on each of the exam's four subtests to pass. Scores between 165-174 are considered having the skills and knowledge to be college ready, and scores above 175 may even qualify students to earn college credit. South Dakota test takers, consistently score above the national average on all four subtests and had higher passing scores.

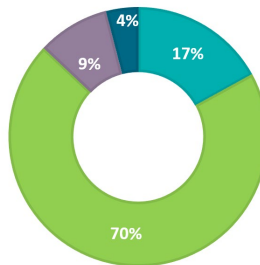
REASONING THROUGH LANGUAGE ARTS (RLA)



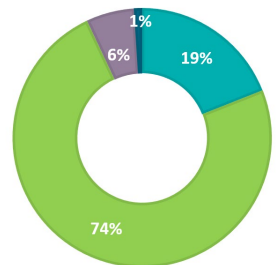
SCIENCE



SOCIAL STUDIES



MATH



■ Non-passing Attempts (144 ↓)
 ■ High School Equivalency (145-164)
 ■ College + Credit (175+)
 ■ College Ready (165-174)

