

INFORMATION SHEET

Office of Correctional Education



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CONTACT: (916) 445-8035

General Education Development (GED)

The General Education Development (GED) program is provided to inmates/students who possess neither a high school diploma nor a high school equivalency (HSE) certificate. Inmates/students receive instruction in English/Language Arts, Mathematical Reasoning, Science, and Social Studies in preparation to take a HSE exam.

In keeping with the California Penal Code, 2053.1 (a2) inmates/students reading at a 9th grade level or higher are assigned or have the opportunity to enroll in a general education development /high school equivalency class. Inmates/students are placed into the GED program after completing prerequisites (Adult Basic Education (ABE) III or the required TABE score) so long as they do not already possess a high school diploma or a high school equivalency certificate. Inmates/students who are assigned/enrolled into the GED program are provided subject matter preparation to pass high school equivalency exam(s).

In order to qualify to take a HSE Exam, inmates/students must demonstrate readiness based upon the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) of 9 or higher, or a Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System (CASAS) Test of 145 or higher and computer literacy skills. Students/inmates may take a computer-based GED or a paper and pencil HSE exam on a case-by-case determination. The GED test is taken on a computer which delivers test data directly to the scoring site, the test is scored, and results are returned immediately. To achieve the GED certificate, inmates/students must achieve a minimum score of 145 in each section and a total score of 580 on the entire test battery (all four parts). A passing score on HSE exams signify inmates/students have the skills and knowledge necessary for college entrance and/or entry into the workforce.

Location(s): All Institutions

Length of Program: Assignments and enrollments into this program are considered open entry/open exit. Inmates/students progress at their own pace, reflecting their effort and desire to learn.

Enrollment: Inmates may be assigned by a Classification Committee, to a GED program or voluntarily enroll in a Voluntary Education Program (VEP) to obtain a high school equivalency.

Eligibility Requirements: Reading Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) of 9.0 or higher.



CDCR's Division of Rehabilitative Programs (DRP) manages adult inmate and parolee rehabilitative programs. Its top priority is to provide rehabilitative programming and life skills to offenders in an effort to reduce their likelihood of reoffending after their release from prison. DRP is comprised of the Office of Offender Services (OS), the Office of Correctional Education (OCE), and the Office of Program Accountability and Support (OPAS).

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