PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

LCB File No. R029-13

[TESTS OF GENERAL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT] STATE-APPROVED HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY ASSESSMENTS

NAC 385.402 Purpose. (NRS 385.080, 385.448) [Tests of general education development] **State-approved high school equivalency assessments** enable persons who have not graduated from high school to demonstrate that they have achieved an educational level which is an acceptable substitute for completing a high school education.

NAC 385.404 Eligibility to take tests; duties of school district. (NRS 385.080, 385.448)

- 1. Any person who:
 - (a) Is 17 18 years of age or older;
- (b) Has not graduated from a high school in the United States which is accredited by a regional association; and
- (c) Is not currently enrolled in a high school is eligible to take the tests to determine the person's **[general educational development]** *high school equivalency* if he or she otherwise complies with the provisions of NRS 385.448. No minimum period of residence in this State is required of an applicant before he or she takes the tests.
- 2. The board of trustees of a school district may, upon request and for good cause shown, grant permission to take the [tests of general education development] state-approved high school equivalency assessments to a person who resides in the school district and who is at least 16 years of age but less than [17] 18 years of age if the person satisfies the requirements of subsection [2] 1 of NRS 385.448.
- 3. A school district shall adhere to the [policy] policies of the [general education development testing service] state-approved high school equivalency assessments that the [tests of general education development] state-approved high school equivalency assessments must not be used as part of a regular high school program or used as a high school exit examination.
- 4. A school district shall not allow a person who passes the **[tests of general education development]** state-approved high school equivalency assessments to waive the units of credit required for a standard high school diploma. A person who is at least 18 years of age and who passes the **[tests of general education development]** state-approved high school equivalency assessments may, in accordance with NAC 389.694, waive the units of credit required for an adult standard diploma.
- 5. A person who is 17 years of age, who seeks an adult standard diploma, and who is enrolled in an alternative program for the education of pupils at risk of dropping out of school established by a school district pursuant to NRS 388.537 may, in accordance with NAC 389.694, waive the units of credit required for an adult standard diploma.

NAC 385.406 Identification required. (NRS 385.080, 385.448)

1. An applicant to take the tests must provide valid identification. An acceptable kind of identification is a document containing the applicant's photograph, such as a current driver's license.

2. Before an applicant is admitted to take the tests, the **[chief examiner]** *proctor* who will conduct them shall compare the signature on the document which the applicant presents as identification with the signature on his or her application to take the tests.

NAC 385.408 Minimum passing scores. (NRS 385.080, 385.448) The *current* minimum passing scores are a standard score of 410 on each of the five tests and an average standard score of 450 on the five tests.

NAC 385.410 Initial testing and retesting. (NRS 385.080, 385.448)

- 1. An applicant who takes the **[tests of general education development] state-approved high school equivalency assessments** for the first time must complete the entire battery of five tests before the applicant may be retested on any of the individual tests. **[The applicant must complete his or her initial testing in no more than two sessions held within a period of 6 weeks. If the applicant fails to complete the tests within the 6-week period, the results of his or her initial testing become invalid.]**
- 2. An applicant who completes his or her initial testing [within the 6 week period] but fails to achieve the minimum scores may be retested on the entire battery of tests or on the individual test or tests which the applicant failed. If an applicant to be retested was initially tested with an edition in the English language, a different form of the edition must be used for the retest.
- 3. An applicant may be retested any number of times, although the availability of alternative forms of the test may limit the number of possible retests in any 12-month period.
- 4. An applicant whose scores on the tests qualify him or her to receive a Nevada High School Equivalency Certificate may not be retested.

NAC 385.420 Certificate of educational equivalence. (NRS 385.080, 385.448) A [general education development] state-approved high school equivalency assessment test site that has been approved by the Department shall issue a certificate of educational equivalence (Nevada High School Equivalency Certificate) to each person who has passed the [tests of general education development] state-approved high school equivalency assessments. A certificate will be issued without charge to any person who passes the tests.

NAC 389.694 Waiver of credits for adult standard diploma. (NRS 385.080, 385.448)

- 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person who is [17] 18 years of age or older and who seeks an adult standard diploma may waive units of credit for English, mathematics, science and social studies by taking [tests of his or her general education development] state-approved high school equivalency assessments in those subjects. A person who seeks an adult standard diploma and who is enrolled in an alternative program for the education of pupils at risk of dropping out of school established by a school district pursuant to NRS 388.537 may [not] waive units of credit pursuant to this section.
- 2. The maximum number of credits which may be waived in the areas of English, mathematics and science must be based on the number of credits previously earned which meet the minimum requirements for course content outlined in <u>NAC 389.450</u> to <u>389.511</u>, inclusive, and the credits waived upon the completion of the [General Education Development Test] state-approved high school equivalency assessments.

- 3. Credits in elective courses may be waived only in the area of social studies. The maximum number of credits which may be waived in the area of social studies must be based on the General Education Development Test state-approved high school equivalency assessments.
- 4. The following table sets forth the scores which a person must achieve on the *current state-approved high school equivalency assessments* [tests] to waive credits in required and elective courses and the corresponding number of units which may be waived:

	Designation of	Maximum Number of Units	
		For Score of	For Score of
Subject	Test	450 to 499.9	500 or higher
English	I and IV (average)	2	4
Mathematics	V	1	3
Science	III	1	2
Social Studies	II	1	2

NAC 389.695 Attendance at adult high school program for test preparation. (NRS 385.080, 385.448) The board of trustees of a school district may allow a person who is 16 years of age who has withdrawn from high school so that he or she may take the [tests of general education development] state-approved high school equivalency assessments to attend an adult high school program only for the purpose of test preparation.