

**Adult Basic Education
Mission Statement**

The Lifelong Learning Section of the Oklahoma State Department of Education (SDE) has been providing basic skill instruction for educationally disadvantaged adults since the late 1960's. In Oklahoma 19% of the adults over the age of 25 have not finished high school. In human terms this statistic means a workforce unprepared for the sophisticated demands of the workplace. It also may mean that future generations will not place a high value on finishing their education. As adult educators our mission is to ensure that these Oklahoman's have the opportunity to be fully participating workers, parents and citizens in our state. Adult Literacy and Education is an investment in our people.

STATISTICALLY SPEAKING.....

In 2006 there were 482,350 adults in Oklahoma without a high school diploma 9,202 were administered the GED Test with 6,293 passing the test.

SALLISAW ADULT LEARNING CENTER

The Sallisaw Adult Learning Center is sponsored by the Sallisaw Public School District, which provide the instruction you may need for the test. You can talk to the teachers at the Adult Learning Center to decide whether you need to study for all of the test, or if you need to brush up on your skills in certain areas.

However, should you decide that you want to attend a class with GED instruction your next step is to contact the Sallisaw Adult Learning Center at (918) 776-0976 to receive information about Adult eEducation and GED preparation programs available to you.

ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY PROGRAMS

Adult Basic Education and Literacy Classes: Classes are provided for adults who need basic skills instruction in reading, writing, mathematics, life skills and job readiness.

Family Literacy: These programs offer adult education and effective parenting for parents, early childhood education for their children, and parent and child together time. By learning together, families become empowered to break the cycles of under-education and poverty.

Workplace Education: Through partnerships with business and industry, customized, job-specific instructional programs are developed and taught to incumbent and underemployed workers.

English as a Second Language (ESL): These classes offer limited English speaking adults an opportunity to learn both spoken and written communication and survival skills.

Supporting Adults with Learning Disabilities (LD): Adults who may have a learning or other disability receive instruction by adult educators trained in recognizing and screening for LD and in using effective teaching strategies and accommodations. Adults with documented LD may apply for accommodations on the GED Test.

Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF): Through a contract with the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, local Adult Learning Centers provide assessment and literacy, basic skills and job readiness to TANF clients statewide.

Corrections Education: Adult basic education, literacy and GED preparation are provided to residents in correction facilities.

ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY PROGRAMS

General Education Development (GED) Test Preparation: In addition to the areas listed above, adult learners receive instruction to prepare them to take the GED Test.

The GED Testing Program: The GED Tests consist of five tests which measure achievement in subject areas similar to a high school program of study: Language Arts, Reading; Language Arts, Writing Part I/II; Mathematics; Science and Social Studies.

GED General Information

The General Education Development Tests (GED Tests) can give you the opportunity to earn a high school equivalency diploma. This credential is recognized as a key to employment opportunities, advancement, further education, and financial rewards.

What are the GED Tests?

The GED Tests are five tests in the area of Language Arts-Writing Skills, Language Arts-Reading, Social Studies, Science and Mathematics. The questions in each of these tests require you to use general knowledge and thinking skills. Few questions ask about facts, details, and definitions.

Am I eligible to take the GED Tests?

You are eligible to take the tests if you are not enrolled in, and have not graduated from, high school, and you meet the requirements set by the state of Oklahoma, with regard to age, the length of time since you left public school and residency.

What are the GED Tests like?

With the exception of Language Arts-Writing Skills, which requires you to write an essay, and the Mathematics Test, which has open-ended questions that require that some of the answers be entered on to a Alternative Grid or a Coordinate Plane, all of the questions on the GED Test are multiple choice with five possible answers given. The questions range in difficulty from easy to hard, and cover a wide range of subjects.

Minimum Test Scores

A standard score of not less than 410 on each of the five tests, and an average standard score of 450 on all five tests. The total standard score must be equal to or exceed 2250.

Requirements for Testing

Minimum age for testing is 18 years of age with no qualifications; however in order to register and be tested at 16 or 17 years of age, registrants must provide a class and test agreement form provided by the Oklahoma State Department of Education. The form must be signed by the principal/superintendent of the school district that the registrant lives in, parent, and be notarized.

Requirement for Retesting

Retests must be taken in accordance with the state GED Retest Policy after completion of the full battery. A candidate must retest first on any test on which he/she achieved a score below 410.

Method of Applying

Applicants must meet age and residency requirements. Applications must be made on state approved forms obtained from and filed with the official GED Testing Centers.

Fees

Maximum allowable charges for the following will be:

- Full Tests-\$50.00 (cash or money order only)
- Re-Tests-\$20.00 (cash or money order only)

NOTE: There will be no refunds issued for “no shows” on test day!!

Director of the Sallisaw Adult Learning Center

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**The Disadvantaged Women in America.
How Adult Education Can Promote Her Growth and Development**

Educationally, economically, or psychologically disadvantaged women suffer from even more social and economic injustices than do other women. Although a woman's ability to provide for herself rises with her educational level, approximately half of all American women lack a high school diploma. Family relationships, religious tradition, school practices, and blue collar attitudes foster women's feelings of fatalism and powerlessness. Interviews with three Adult Basic Education (ABE) program participants reveal that disadvantaged women feel a lack of freedom, fear of life, and lack of confidence. They resent the way they are treated as wives and are accustomed to being dependent. Four ABE objectives can alleviate these feelings:

- 1. To enable women to develop academic skills.**
- 2. To help women recognize and appreciate their abilities and strengths.**
- 3. To promote the full development of each women's intellectual capacity.**
- 4. To make women aware of available life-style options.**

To achieve these goals teachers must be able to teach women from disadvantaged backgrounds. Personal and vocational counseling, individualized instruction, and flexible programs allowing for women's childrearing responsibilities are necessary. Widespread sexism in learning materials with respect to roles, vocational opportunities, and life-styles must be eliminated.

THE DESCRIPTION OF AN ADULT LEARNER

Whether you want to begin a college career, complete your high school diploma or simply take a few classes to broaden your skills, the Sallisaw Adult Learning Center offers versatility, flexibility, convenience and a first-rate education. We have a variety of programs designed for adults with busy lives who want to pursue their educational needs. You will learn in an environment that emphasizes and supports personal goal development. The Sallisaw Adult Learning Center offers prior learning assessment that allows adult learners to demonstrate their learning that has occurred through prior work, education and life experiences.

TIPS FOR ADULT LEARNERS

Adult learners share certain tendencies. As a rule they are motivated with much good experience that will serve them in the classroom. Adult learners often have a life or problem centered focus to learning and usually are genuinely motivated to learn from within. Adult learners often need to stand back and evaluate the educational process to make sure that it is serving their needs.

Adult learners will be successful if the learners take an active role in the educational process. Adult learners enjoy planning and evaluating their progress. Adult learners need to let go of preconceived ideas of higher education and keep an open mind. It will help adult learners to choose subjects that are relevant to their lives or work.

It may help adult learners to write out goals and time commitments. Put down class, work, homework and time with friends and family. Make it a point to get to know the teachers. Sometimes adult learners have to substitute or use different learning projects to succeed. Knowing the faculty members will help with the new ideas and suggestions.

It is a good idea for adult learners to understand their learning styles. It will help to go to counseling and/or a testing center of the educational institution for this evaluation. Instruments are available through educational institutions that will evaluate learning styles and give pointers on the best ways to learn. Understanding learning styles will assist adult learners in identifying areas where they may be weak. It will also show the learning styles that best suit the adult learner.

ABCs of the GED

- The GED tests are tough. The GED is not a remedial study program.
- Only six out of ten graduating high school seniors would earn passing scores if they took the GED Tests.
- The GED Tests cover what graduating high school seniors are supposed to know about language arts-reading, language arts-writing, social studies, science, and mathematics. They also measure reading comprehension, analytical ability, writing ability, and other important skills.
- The GED Tests last a total of about 8 hours.
- Most people prepare for the GED Tests-with review classes, books, and practice tests. Many already have the knowledge and skills they need. Passing the GED Tests let them prove it.
- People who pass the GED Tests have stronger reading skills on average than graduating high school seniors.
- About one out of every seven people who receive high school diplomas, each year earns that diploma by passing the GED Tests.
- About two out of three persons taking the GED Tests plan to enter a two-year college, four-year college, trade, technical, or business school during the next year. Another one in eight GED test-takers plan to take on-the-job training during the next year.
- About two-thirds of the people taking the GED Tests finished the tenth grade before leaving high school. About one-third are under twenty years of age.
- More than ninety-five percent of employers nationwide employ GED graduates on the same basis as high school graduates in terms of hiring, salary, and opportunity for advancement.
- Since 1942, more than twelve million adults have earned GED Diplomas.

