

All About GED

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Your complete cookbook to achieve phenomenal results in GED

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Foreword

Education is a very important part of life and is something that you should take very seriously. The type of future life you will have will greatly depend on how serious you take your education. Some people are not aware of how important education is and they think they can get through life by only putting half of an effort into becoming properly educated. Almost always, these people's lives will end up completely different than they imagined in their earlier years. This is due to the fact that without proper education, you will surely not be successful in life.

Do you have friends or have you ever met someone who has everything you want in life? For example, they may have a big house, a beautiful family, a pool in the back yard and a convertible in the driveway. Do you know what all of these people will have in common, they will have a proper education.

For some people, mainstream school does not offer an environment that is suitable for them to learn in. On the other hand, some people just want to get high school over with and some people are over the age that allows them to go back to high school. There is something that can help each one of these types of people and that would be the GED.

The following chapters of this book will go over reasons that might make getting your GED right for you. Also, we will discuss exactly what a GED is and how exactly you can go about getting one and preparing for it.

All about GED

Chapter 1:

Introduction to GEDs

Synopsis

Many people are unaware of the fact that there is more than one way to obtain their education and get a diploma. You do not necessarily have to spend four years in high school. There is a test that offers people the option to basically skip high school. Keep in mind, you will still need to be just as educated as someone who has completed high school in order to pass the test. Many people have the misconception that it is much easier to take your GED than to finish high school, this is not the case.

The fact is that the GED is actually quite difficult. The test was designed to be challenging to ensure that those who pass it are just as educated as those who went through four years of high school and received their diploma.

There are many important things that you should know about taking the GED. The most important place to begin would likely be to make sure that you understand exactly what the GED is and its benefits as well as its disadvantages.

The following information will go over the basics of the GED. This information will help you to make a better determination of whether or not the GED route is the right path for you.

The Basics

The GED test is a test that determines whether or not you have the education equivalent of a person who has graduated high school. The GED is the only equivalency test that is recognized across all fifty states. This test is by no means a walk in the park. It will require you to have knowledge in many different subjects. The difficulty of the GED test is the reason why more and more colleges as well work places are looking at GEDs the same way that they see a high school diploma.

Many people who have their GED decided to obtain it for many different reasons. Some people may tend to feel lost in a crowd while in a classroom while others may find it difficult to study and concentrate while at school. There is also the people who feel like high school is just not a good fit for them and feel as if it is time that they get their career or college education started. One of the biggest benefits of obtaining your GED is probably the fact that it does allow you to bypass years of school and get your life started, however it will not be easy.

Some people decide to get their GED because they did not get their high school diploma when they were younger. These people may feel as if they did not accomplish something very important and tend to have a void in them that they cannot fill. Eventually this void pushes them to get their GED. There have even been cases where people in their sixties have taken their GED test. This proves that you are never too old and that it is never too late for you to get your GED.

There are multiple benefits and advantages that you can receive from getting your GED but it is important that you are aware of the negatives of

getting your GED as well. You need to understand that social interaction is important and school is a great outlet for socializing. Many people will tell you that some of their best memories are from high school from nights such as prom or homecoming. Deciding to get your GED means that you will be giving up a lot of these fun times and many of some of the best memories you ever had.

Aside from all personal reasons, there are also many financial reasons why you should obtain your GED if you do not have or plan on getting your high school diploma. Did you know that those who have a high school diploma or GED make an average of \$568,000 in their lifetime. That is a lot of money and it is just based off of an average. You could potentially land a job with a diploma or GED that can make you an upwards of \$1,000,000 more in your lifetime than that of a person who does not have either.

It may seem a bit intimidating to take your GED, especially for older individuals who have been out of school for some time. You tend to forget things that you learn in school as the years go by and this is only natural. Thankfully there are classes you can take as well as some other helpful things that will bring all of the information back to your mind.

The GED test is nothing to be scared of. All you need to do is make sure that you are well prepared and that you want it bad enough. I'm sure you have heard the saying that anything is possible if you set your mind to it. Well it's true, especially when it comes to taking the GED test.

Your efforts will be well rewarded when you are able to be proud of yourself for your accomplishments. It will feel really good when you are able to hang

your GED diploma on the wall with pride. As well, some places that do GED testing even do graduation ceremonies for those who pass. This is great because it offers individuals the opportunity to experience a graduation ceremony as close to a high school graduation as possible.

Think of how many things could improve in your life if you just motivated yourself to get your GED. The only one who can make the choice is you, this is not something that someone else will be able to do for you.

I'm sure that the basics of the GED have you interested in learning more. The following chapters will go over more detailed information pertaining to the GED test and will go over some important information about the test that you should know in order to properly prepare yourself.



Chapter 2:

Advantages of Getting a GED

Synopsis

There are many different advantages that you can receive from getting a GED. No matter what type of person you are, there are sure to be benefits that you can receive from getting your GED. One of the biggest is a successful life and next in line would probably be your pride.

There was a time in the past when a person getting their GED was frowned upon and people looked down on them as a quitter. This time is long gone. People now have a much better understanding of GEDs and they understand that they are just as valuable as a high school diploma.

If you are wondering what exactly you will get out of obtaining your GED, you are reading the right book. The following chapter will go over the benefits and advantages of taking your GED test.

GED Advantages

As stated before, there are many different reasons to get your GED. These advantages will surely motivate you to push yourself to take the test. If you are a person who is on the fence about whether or not you should take the test you may want to consider paying close attention to the rest of this chapter.

The following are some of the advantages that go along with choosing to take the GED test:

- **Higher Lifetime Earnings**

It is a well-known fact that those who have proper education and the diploma and degrees to back it up make much more money in their lifetime than someone who does not. Well the same is true for those who decide to get their GED. These tests are no longer frowned upon the way that they were in the past. GEDs are now viewed as respectable credentials for education. If you want to be able to have nice things in life and be able to do all of the things that you want to do you are going to have to make sure that employers know that you are educated and one way to do this is to get your GED.

- **Better Chances of Landing a Job**

Your chances of landing a job without any type of diploma or GED are next to nothing. This is due to the fact that population is on the rise and so is the demand for education. It is hard these days to even get a job in the fast food industry without having at least a GED. The world of employment is very competitive and you want to make sure that

you have everything you need to back you up in your arsenal to ensure you land the job of your dreams, or to be frank with you any job at all.

- **Shortcut to College**

There are a lot of people who choose to get their GED solely for the purpose of being able to go straight to college. This happens for many different reasons. Some people may feel as if high school is a waste of time and they are ready to pursue bigger adventures in life. There are also people who choose to do this due to the fact that they are mature beyond the level of their peers. No matter what the reason is, if you are looking for a shortcut to college, taking your GED test is the best way to go.

- **Better Chances of Staying out of Jail**

Your chances of becoming incarcerated later on in life are dramatically decreased when you have a GED. This is due to the fact that you will be much more appealing to employers. As stated before, it is now very difficult to get any type of job without some type of diploma. Jail is not a happy place and I am sure it is not where you would like to spend your future so getting your GED may be something that you want to consider doing.

- **Pride**

The amount of pride that you will receive from putting in the hard work to get your GED will be almost overwhelming. As most people know, the best things in life must be worked for and pride is no

exception. You will make not only yourself proud but your family as well.

- **Family**

If you plan on having a family of your own one day, as I am sure you do, you are going to need to have an education. Most households these days need to have two incomes in order to be able to have a comfortable living. If you already have a family of your own I am sure that you want nothing but the best for them. Things may be tight right now due to the fact that you do not have your GED. Well there is only one person who can solve this problem and that is you. If you ever want your family to be able to do fun things and take vacations to nice places, you are going to have to at least have your GED.

There are people who do make a good living without having their GED or their diploma but this is actually quite rare. Do not be one of the people that get caught up in a dream that never happens. Go with the sure thing and get your GED. Doing this is probably the best insurance policy you could have to ensure a brighter future.

Chapter 3:

How do GEDs work?

Synopsis

The process of obtaining a GED is really not that difficult. The hardest part of the whole process is being motivated enough to sit down and force yourself to study. Chances are that if you are an adult you have forgotten a lot of things that you learned when you were last in school.

Once you are confident in your ability to take and pass the test you will need to go to a testing facility where you will then take the GED exam. The GED is a little different than most other tests and the scoring is a bit different as well. It can be a bit confusing for some people how the whole thing works.

The following chapter will shed light on the basics of how GED test scores work and how the whole testing process works in general. These are important details so you should make sure to pay close attention.

How it Works

The GED test is just like any other test whereas you have to get a certain score in order to either pass or fail the course. What is different about this test is the fact that you are not graded on each specific test by itself but rather the entire exam. The term for this is a battery score. In order for you to pass the test you will have to have an average score between all subjects that meets a certain set standard. This comes along with benefits and disadvantages. An example of a benefit that this brings would be the fact that you can help raise your battery score with the subjects you are best at. An example of a negative impact this causes would be the fact that you can lower your battery score with subjects you are not that good in. Along with the battery score for the entire test, an individual taking the GED exam must also have a score above a set standard on each course alone.

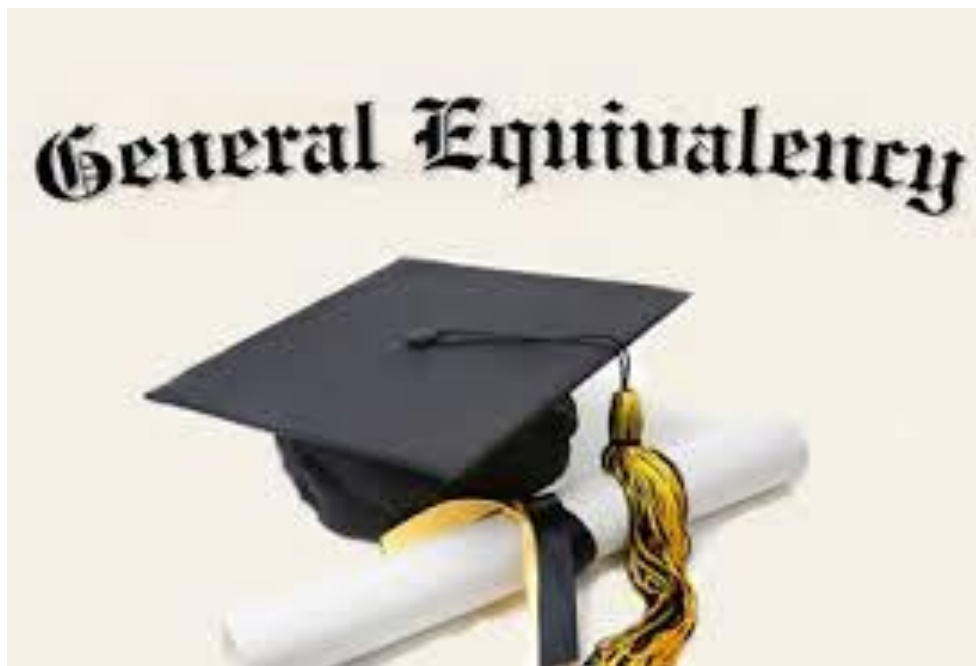
You will be timed while you take the test and the average amount of time it takes is about seven hours. There are predetermined skills that follow regulatory standards that you will be tested on and these skills are:

- **Language arts, reading**
- **Language arts, writing**
- **Mathematics**
- **Social studies**
- **Science**

When testing, you will be asked to put away all forms of electronics, except a calculator that is provided to you for equations during the mathematics portion of the test. It is very important that you follow this rule because

failure to do so may result in the proctor thinking that you are cheating. Any suspicion of cheating on the GED exam will lead to immediate failure of the test and no possibility of refund of your money.

You will not get the results of your test right away. If you pass the test your GED diploma as well as your results will be mailed to you. If you do not pass, your results will still be mailed to you and are a good reference point for studying.



Chapter 4:

Where can You Take the GED test?

Synopsis

It is much easier to get things done when there is more than one option for places to go to get it done. That is one of the great things about taking a GED test. There are countless places that offer GED testing now as people are beginning to realize more and more how valuable GED actually are.

Locations used to be limited that offered GED testing and this made it rather difficult for some people to take the test. This is especially true for those who did not have their own transportation or those who lived in rural areas. Thankfully today this is no longer the case. Almost everywhere you turn there is somewhere that offers GED testing.

The following chapter will shed some light with you about where you can look to find places that offer GED exams.

Know Where to Go

For some people, the biggest challenge to overcome when getting their GED is trying to find a location to take the exam. For some this may be because they are not aware of where they can take a test and for others the problem may be that they are overwhelmed with the amount of options that they have.

One thing to keep in mind about the GED exam is the fact that no matter where you take it, it will be the same test. This thought alone should get rid of some of your stress. Another thing to keep in mind is the fact that those who are giving you the test want you to pass, so there is no need to fear the fact that you will not know them.

Community centers and Youth centers are often great places to start with if you want to take your GED exam. These centers often offer this test to the public and in some cases you can even get the test for free. Another benefit that these community centers will often offer is GED classes that will help you become better prepared for the test and help those who have not passed in the past.

Another great place to check out if you want to get your GED is churches and other places that serve the community. Churches often offer the GED test to the public. They do not care if you are a member of their church or if you attend church at all. They are just interested in giving back to the community and helping you in any way possible. For this reason they also often times offer their services to the public for free.

There is also an option to take the test online. This is an option that should be used with caution however. Taking the test online can be quite costly.

What is really scary about online GED exams is the fact that they can be fraudulent. The last thing you want to do is prepare yourself for a test and be anxious over the results to only find out that the entire thing was fake and that your money was conned off of you.

A safer way of using the internet for taking a GED exam would probably be using it to search for places in your area that offer GED testing. As stated before, the amount of places that offer testing seems like it continues to increase as time goes on. I can almost guarantee you that there is a location that offers GED exams in your area, if not more than one.

You can also use the help of certain government phone lines. These lines are designed to provide the public with important information on where to find places that offer services such as GED exams.

As you can see, your options for where you can get your GED are not limited. This should motivate you even more to get your GED. It can be easy to fall into a routine of saying, "I'll do it tomorrow" over and over but tomorrow never comes. The fact that you now know how easy it is to find a location that offers GED testing should surely make you want to go take that first step towards a brighter future.

You need to keep in mind that you will have to do the work of locating a location for the exam. Do not sit around and wait for the exam to come to your door because it surely never will.

Chapter 5:

What Will the GED Test Cost?

Synopsis

One thing that can contribute to people not getting their GED is the cost of the exam. For some the price may not dig as deep into their pockets while others simply cannot afford it or do not want to spend the money on it.

If you are one of these people do not worry because you are not alone and it is common. There are ways though that you can afford the GED and there are actually ways that you can get it for free.

The following chapter will go over the cost of the GED exam and will provide you with some hints and tips that will help you to find a location that offers affordable testing or ways in which you can even get it for free.

One of the great things about a GED exam is the simple fact that it is much cheaper than what you likely expected. It usually runs around about \$120 but there is a small fee that is paid to testing centers. This fee will usually be around \$38 so it is not something that should break your bank.

Investing in Your Future

You have to think about the money you spend on your GED exam as an investment into a much brighter future. You have to keep in mind all of the things you will be able to do in the future once you are able to get a good job. Think of all the nice places you could go and all of the nice things you could have. Think of the life that you could create for your family by furthering your education. Now that you have all of these things in mind, does \$120 really seem like that much? I am sure it does not.

For those who cannot afford the test there is also the option of finding a location that offers the test for free. Most of these locations will pretest you to make sure that you will be able to pass the exam. If you fail the pretest you will be placed in classes to help you with the subjects you are struggling with, these classes are usually free. Once you are able to pass your pretest, the location offering the exam will then give it to you free of charge.

Colleges are a great place to look when you want to get your GED for free. The only thing that you need to be aware of is them trying to rope you in to signing up for additional courses that will cost you money.

GED exams really are not expensive and can even be free if you look hard enough and the return you will get on your investment in the future will continue to increase over time. You will be glad you did it in the future, trust me!

Chapter 6:

Ways to Improve Your Scores

Synopsis

Some people have already taken the GED exam or have already taken pretests in the past and did not have the results that they expected. If you are one of these people do not be embarrassed because you are surely not alone as many people do not pass the GED on their first attempt.

There are ways in which you can improve your scores. A lot of it will just come down to study time and motivation but there are also some important tips you should keep in mind while taking your test that should help to ensure that you scores that you can be proud of.

The following chapter will go over some strategies that will help you to get better scores on your GED test and will provide you with some helpful tips that will help you to score better on your test.

Tips for Higher Scores

As mentioned before, one of the most important things you can do to ensure that you have desirable GED test scores is to practice. The old saying goes, practice makes perfect. There is a reason why people have been using this saying for so long, it is because it is true. Failing to take the time to properly study for your test will almost surely lead to undesired test scores or even possibly failure. It is important that you are aware of how important the GED test is and that you are aware of how it could make your life better. It is for these reasons that you need to make sure that you are properly prepared and to do this you will have to buckle down and study.

Some people have a hard time motivating themselves to do things as studying. If you are one of these people you may want to consider attending some GED classes in your area. These classes can be found all over the place and in most cases they are completely free. In some cases, if you do well on your pretests in your classes you will be given the opportunity to take your GED test for free. Now that seems like a pretty good deal to me.

All of the information you need to study and prepare for the GED can be found at your local library. You can also find study materials for the test online. There are also numerous websites that offer GED pretests, however you should check the reputation of the site, especially when you have to pay for the test.

Another thing that you will need to learn how to do is relax while you are taking the GED exam. A lot of people become very nervous when they take the exam and many who have taken it and pass it will tell you that the key is to remain calm and focused. This may be easier than said, especially when

you have everything that is on the line in your head. You should practice relaxing yourself before your actual test date. Practice some deep breathing techniques and learn how to get your mind to relax. It may seem hard to believe but this simple little trick can actually make a huge difference. Stress during a test can have a real impact on your scores and that's why it even has a name, test anxiety.



Wrapping Up

It is very understandable for people to be a bit nervous or overwhelmed when it comes to taking their GED exam. It is a big event in life and it carries a lot of importance. One thing that you should never let get to you are negative comments from people about those who get GEDs instead of high school diplomas. Everyone is an individual and we are all different. We have freedom of choice and that is what makes life so great. How you choose to get your education is entirely your choice. What matters in the long run is the fact that you made the effort and did the work to get your GED.

It will not take long after you pass your test for your life to make a dramatic turn towards a brighter future. Job opportunities will open up and college becomes a possibility as well. You really would be surprised by the amount of opportunities that would be presented to you after you make the decision to get your GED. It will almost seem like a night and day difference and you will wonder why you did not do it a long time ago.

Remember, it is a big decision to choose to get your GED instead of your high school diploma. It is something that you should put a lot of thought into and you should not make the decision overnight. As stated before in this book, getting a GED has its advantages and its disadvantages. You will have to be the one who weighs the pros and cons and makes the final decision as it is your future. Just use your power to choose responsibly.

If you choose to use the information that has been provided to you in this book I am more than sure that the possibility of you getting your GED is

quite high. Just keep in mind that it will be a lot of work but so are most things in life that are worth doing. The best part is the fact that your GED is something that can never be taken away from you. It will be yours and since you earned it you will be able to look at it with great pride. Everyone you know will also be proud of you and be excited for the fact that you will have a much brighter future. I thank you for your time and I wish you the best of luck, now get out there and pass that test!

