

POLICY ON RESPONSIBILITIES OF GED® EXAMINEES
and
OWNERSHIP OF TESTS, SCORES, and OTHER DATA

The American Council on Education® (ACE) is the sole owner of the Tests of General Educational Development (GED® Tests) and the responses to those tests, including all test questions, essay prompts, and essays. The GED Tests are not the property of the examinee. The test questions and essay prompts administered at testing centers are the valuable, copyrighted property of ACE. As a condition of testing, an examinee agrees to maintain the confidentiality of all test questions and essay prompts administered to him/her. An examinee may not receive any unauthorized assistance while taking the GED Tests. An examinee may not discuss specific test items or essay prompts with anyone other than the GED Chief Examiner/GED Examiner. An examinee must return all testing items to the GED Chief Examiner/GED Examiner at the conclusion of testing.

A disclosure of test questions in any form by any means in violation of this confidentiality agreement undermines the integrity and security of the GED Tests and is strictly prohibited. Any unauthorized access, reproduction, distribution, or disclosure of test questions by an examinee before, during, or after taking the GED Tests is a violation of U.S. and international intellectual property laws and treaties. Available remedies will be pursued by ACE as appropriate, which may include criminal prosecution, a civil lawsuit seeking damages, and/or canceling or invalidating the examinee's test scores and notifying entities that have received the examinee's test scores.

In addition, a number of third parties perform services relating to the GED testing program. These third parties provide the GED Testing Service™, a program of ACE, with information from or about examinees that is collected on forms that are prepared by ACE or the GED Testing Service, or on modified versions of those forms. The information includes, but is not limited to, candidate demographic details, test scores, accommodation requests, and GED Option testing authorizations. This information is also owned by the GED Testing Service, as it is reflected in the GED Testing Service records.

Jurisdictions (states, provinces, territories, insular areas, military facilities, correctional institutions) that administer GED Tests have various rights to access and use their jurisdiction's GED testing program information separate from GED Testing Service.

ACE reserves the right to update, change, and amend ownership policies at any time.

PRIVACY POLICY

GED® Testing Service, a program of the American Council on Education, recognizes the privacy interests of GED examinees. GED Testing Service™ is committed to respecting that privacy and keeping examinees informed about our data privacy policies.

Except as set forth below, the personally identifiable information an examinee provides when registering for the GED Tests is not made available to third parties without the examinee's permission. An examinee's personally identifiable information includes his/her name, address, identification number, date of birth, test dates, and test scores.

1. Research. GED Testing Service and third parties authorized by GED Testing Service may access and use examinee data for research purposes, including research directed toward improving or reporting on the effectiveness of the GED testing program. Any such access to examinee information will be subject to a confidentiality requirement that prohibits the disclosure or publication of any information that allows individual examinees to be identified. Once a third party has completed services related to the GED testing program, the data used will be permanently removed from the third party's possession. Unless an examinee has indicated otherwise on the demographics form, GED Testing Service may contact an examinee to determine whether he/she is willing to participate in surveys that also are intended to improve or report on the effectiveness of the GED testing program.

2. Legal Proceedings. GED Testing Service may disclose and provide access to personally identifiable examinee information in response to a subpoena or other order in a judicial or other governmental proceeding, or as otherwise required by law. To ensure test security, GED Testing Service may also disclose and provide access to personally identifiable information in order to detect, investigate, or prevent fraud or other unlawful activity or violations of GED Testing Service testing policies.

GED Testing Service has established safeguards to help prevent unauthorized access to or misuse of the examinees' personal information maintained by GED Testing Service, but cannot guarantee that examinees' personally identifiable information will never be disclosed in a manner inconsistent with this data privacy policy (for example, as a result of unauthorized acts by parties that violate applicable law or relevant web policies).

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Questions about this data privacy policy should be directed to GED Testing Service at ged@ace.nche.edu or (202) 939-9490.

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