HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY / COMMONWEALTH SECONDARY SCHOOL DIPLOMA

The Commonwealth Secondary School Diploma (CSSD) is a high school equivalency credential available to Pennsylvania residents who do not possess a high school diploma and who have met criteria specified in the Pennsylvania Code (22 PA Code §4.72).

Eligibility Criteria
The Commonwealth Secondary School Diploma may be issued to an applicant who:

- Is a resident of Pennsylvania;
- Is at least 18 years of age (or, for 16 and 17 year olds, has an approved age waiver from the Pennsylvania Department of Education);
- Does not possess a secondary school diploma from the United States;
- Is not enrolled in a public, licensed private, registered accredited or licensed nonpublic secondary school; and
- Has either scored a passing score on a high school equivalency test in the same language OR has completed 30 semester hours of study at a U.S. accredited institution of postsecondary education.

Equivalency Options

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<th>Description</th>
<th>HiSET® Exam</th>
<th>GED® Test</th>
<th>30 College Credit Option</th>
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| Description | Test in five subjects  
• Language Arts Reading  
• Language Arts Writing  
• Mathematics  
• Science  
• Social Studies | Test in four subjects  
• Reasoning through Language Arts  
• Mathematical Reasoning  
• Science  
• Social Studies | Alternative for eligible applicants with at least 30 semester hours from an accredited postsecondary institution in the United States |

| Requirements | Passing score of 8 on each subtest, 2 on the essay and a minimum score of 45 on the complete battery. | Passing score of 145 on each subtest | Submit the following to PDE:  
• 30-College Credit Option application  
• Proof of PA residency  
• Official college transcripts |

| Cost | $90 for all five subject tests (or $18 per subject) | $120 for all four subject tests (or $30 per subject) | Cost of 30 college credits at the postsecondary institution |

| Test Format | Paper-based  
• Computer-based  
• English, Spanish | Computer-based  
• English, Spanish | N/A |

| Additional Information | www.hiset.ets.org | www.myged.com | Go to www.education.pa.gov and search for “high school equivalency” |


For More Information
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