

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

	HiSET® Exam	GED® Test	30 College Credit Option
Description	Test in five subjects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language Arts Reading • Language Arts Writing • Mathematics • Science • Social Studies 	Test in four subjects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper-based • Computer-based • English, Spanish 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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”
Diplomas/ Transcripts	www.diplomasender.com	www.diplomasender.com	www.diplomasender.com

For More Information

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