

## GED Programs

Descriptor: IHDB-E  
Rescinds: IHDB-E

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### BOARD POLICY

The Tupelo Public School District recognizes the need for a General Educational Development (GED) program to assist those students who have not met the requirements for a high school diploma. The District shall provide a GED program that will comply with state law and regulations. The Board authorizes the superintendent to promulgate administrative procedures consistent with this policy.

### ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

Guidelines for alternative education/GED program are as follows:

1. A committee of school staff consisting of campus administrators, counselors, classroom teachers, and support staff will make recommendation for student participation in the GED program. Documentation of the committee recommendation shall be maintained for each student. The criteria for student participation in the GED program will consist of the following:
  - a) The student must be at least 16 years of age but may be admitted with Board approval for students under the age of 16;
  - b) The student must be at least ~~two~~ **one full** grade level behind **his/her ninth grade cohort** or have acquired less than four Carnegie units;
  - c) The student must have taken every opportunity to continue to participate in coursework leading to a ~~regular high school~~ diploma; and
  - d) **The student must be certified to be eligible to participate in the GED course by the superintendent.**
2. Students that have been referred to an alternative education program for disciplinary reasons shall not be eligible for placement in the GED program until behavioral modification goals for exiting the alternative education program have been attained.
3. The recommendation for placement in the GED program must be approved by the superintendent. ~~of the school district.~~ Students shall not be placed in the GED program prior to obtaining written parental or guardian consent for placement. Documentation of parental consent for placement in the program will be maintained for each student.
4. **Students should demonstrate the ability to perform on the Test of Adult Basic Education at an eighth grade level.**
5. The GED component will remain under the supervision of the alternative education administrator.
6. Licensed teachers are assigned to instruct and supervise GED classes which are provided Monday through Friday for a minimum of twenty (20) hours per week.
7. The student/teacher ratio in the GED program shall not exceed 15:1 with an exception of 20:1 when an aide is employed full time to assist the teacher.
8. The curriculum and instructional methodology must address the individual needs of each student as specified in an Individual Education and Career Plan (IECP) developed at the time of placement. The IECP committee consisting of an academic counselor, academic teacher, principal, and vocational personnel will emphasize

academic/instructional needs of the student, job readiness skills, and work experience options.

9. The facility housing the GED program shall be commensurate with facilities provided to other students by the local school district and shall meet minimum accreditation standards for public school buildings as required in the current edition of Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards. 2006. The GED program shall not be housed in a vocational facility unless a request for waiver has been granted.

10. The District shall maintain the cumulative folder and permanent record of each of its eligible student placed in an approved the GED program. shall remain at and be maintained by the school district of origin.

11. Evaluation of the student's progress shall be conducted at regular intervals according to GED policy, and the appropriate records shall be maintained and subject to the Mississippi Department of Education review.

12. Appropriate assessment and evaluation of each student's educational progress shall be conducted at regular intervals according to established policy approved by the local school board. Assessment and evaluation records will be appropriately maintained to ensure individual student confidentiality.

13. 12. Students placed in an approved the GED program will be excluded from participation in the Mississippi Student Assessment Program based on the development of alternate accountability measures.

13. Students participating in the GED program are not eligible to participate in regular academic classes nor in other programmatic activities including athletics, choir, band or other extra curricular activities, however, such students may participate in existing job and skills development programs or similar programs developed in conjunction with the GED program and the vocational director.

14. GED Option graduates should receive official school recognition of their achievement. The student who fails to meet the graduation requirements is not permitted to participate in the graduation exercises. A separate graduation ceremony should be held near the same time as the high school graduation ceremony for their peers. The following students are eligible to participate in graduation ceremonies:

- a) Student receiving a standard high school diploma.
- b) Student receiving a special diploma or certificate of completion, which states: "This student has successfully completed an Individualized Education Program."
- c) Student with disabilities receiving a Mississippi Occupational Diploma.

15. The District shall make all reports as required by law.

#### **EXHIBITS**

None

#### **REFERENCES**

SBE Policy IDDI dated 12/19/97 Mississippi DOE policy 902 GED Standards  
MCA §§ 37-13-92(4); 37-13-92; 37-13-92; 37-35-3; 37-35-9

#### **FORMS**

None

#### **\*RESCINDS**

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