

District: Tupelo Public School District
Section: J - Students
Policy Code: JCD(1) - GED Program

~~GED PROGRAM~~

~~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.~~

~~LEGAL REF: Mississippi DOE policy 902 GED Standards-
MCA §§ 37-13-92(4); 37-13-92; 37-13-92; 37-35-3; 37-35-9~~

~~Last Review Date: _____
Review History: [1/1/1900][1/1/1901]~~

~~ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES~~

~~Guidelines for the GED Program, including the PreGED program (hereinafter referred to as "GED/PreGED") 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/PreGED program. Documentation of the committee recommendation shall be maintained for each student. The criteria for student participation in the GED/PreGED program will consist of the following:~~
 - ~~a. The student must be at least 16 years of age but may be admitted with administrative approval for students under the age of 16;~~
 - ~~b. The student must be at least one full grade level behind his/her 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 diploma; and~~
 - ~~d. The student must be certified to be eligible to participate in the GED/PreGED 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/PreGED program until behavioral modification goals for exiting the alternative education program have been attained.~~

3. The recommendation for placement in the GED/PreGED program must be approved by the superintendent. Students shall not be placed in the GED/PreGED 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.
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4. Licensed teachers are assigned to instruct and supervise GED/PreGED classes which are provided Monday through Friday for a minimum of twenty (20) hours per week.
5. The student/teacher ratio in the GED/PreGED program shall not exceed 15:1 with an exception of 20:1 when an aide is employed full time to assist the teacher.
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6. 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.
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7. The facility housing the GED/PreGED program shall be commensurate with facilities provided to other students and shall meet minimum accreditation standards for public school buildings as required in the current edition of Mississippi Public School Accountability Standards. The GED/PreGED program shall not be housed in a vocational facility unless a request for waiver has been granted.
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8. The District shall maintain the cumulative folder and permanent record of each of its eligible student placed in the GED/PreGED program.
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9. Evaluation of the student's progress shall be conducted at regular intervals according to GED/PreGED policy, and the appropriate records shall be maintained and subject to the Mississippi Department of Education review. Assessment and evaluation records will be appropriately maintained to ensure individual student confidentiality.
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10. Students placed in the GED/PreGED program will be excluded from participation in the Mississippi Student Assessment Program based on the development of alternate accountability measures.
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11. Students participating in the GED/PreGED program are not eligible to participate in regular academic classes nor in other programmatic activities including athletics, choir, band or other extracurricular activities, however, such students may participate in existing job and skills development programs or similar programs developed in conjunction with the GED/PreGED program and the vocational director.
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12. 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.
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13. The District shall make all reports as required by law.
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