# SBCC's Adult High School Program and GED Program – What are the Main Differences?

Adult High School Program	GED and Bilingual GED Program
What do students earn? Students earn a High School Diploma from SBCC once they meet all graduation requirements.	What do students earn? Students earn a General Education Diploma (GED) – a California High School Equivalency Certificate issued by the state, which is considered by most employers and schools as the <i>equivalent</i> to a high school diploma.
What are the Graduation Requirements?	What are the GED Exam Requirements?
1) Complete Subject Matter Credits  English	Score a minimum of 145 on each of these tests:  Reasoning through Language Arts Includes questions about reading passages, grammar and editing, as well as writing a 45-minute response essay  Mathematics Covers math topics such as basic operations, fractions, decimals, percent, statistics, geometry, and algebra; mostly graph and word problems; calculator can be used on most of the test  Science Covers life science, physical science, earth and space; requires understanding experimental design, interpreting graphs, and some mathematics  Social Studies Covers government and civics, US History, economics, geography, some world history; reading, graphs, etc.  All tests are given on computer, and are offered in either English or Spanish.  When campus is open, tests are offered every other Friday evening/Saturday morning at the Schott Campus;
	sign up and pay for tests at the official <u>ged.com</u> website ahead of time. (Talk to your instructor for info about other possible testing options and scholarships.)
What's the class format? What do students do? The format is individualized instruction in a classroom setting. Students work one-on-one with instructors and set their own pace.	What's the class format? What do students do? Students work one-on-one with instructors and set their own pace. Classes are offered both in English and in Spanish (Bilingual GED).
<ul> <li>To earn high school credits, students must:</li> <li>complete coursework assignments (bookwork, computer work, essays, and tests);</li> <li>earn a passing grade on assignments, (they can redo assignments that they did not pass);</li> <li>meet minimum in-class attendance requirements for each course (see #2 above);</li> <li>Grades and credits for a particular course are not</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>To earn a GED, students must</li> <li>pass all four GED Exams</li> <li>Note that:</li> <li>Classroom instruction helps students PREPARE to pass the tests; instructors provide study plans, study materials, practice tests, as well as test-taking tips and feedback on essays.</li> <li>Students need to go to the official GED website (ged.com) to sign up to take the official tests.</li> <li>Official GED Exams are NOT given in class</li> </ul>

1

awarded until course work is completed AND the

minimum hours requirement for that course is met.

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Official GED Exams are NOT given in class.

each one when they are ready.

Students do not take all four tests at once, but take

# **Adult High School Program**

# How long does it take to earn a diploma?

That depends on the student:

- how many credits they still need
- how often they attend class
- their skill level and how quickly and efficiently they work through the assignments.

It may take a few terms, or a few years. Your instructor and advisor can give you a better idea once you start.

### This option may be best for

- students who already have a lot of credits from their previous schools (HS or college)
- students who have the time to complete coursework and put in the attendance hours
- students who prefer to complete coursework rather than take standardized tests

#### When and where are the AHS classes offered?

## Normally, classes are offered Mondays-Thursdays

At the Schott Campus (Room 16) At the Wake Campus (Room 19) Via Zoom\*

\* After you meet with the SBCC School of Extended Learning Student Support Services Advisor, or email the instructors, you will receive an email with a link to the Zoom classroom.

## How much does it cost?

- Classes are State funded, so there is no cost.
- Books and online educational software materials are provided for in-class use at no cost.
- We can also loan out copies of books (for some of the courses) and most of the coursework materials are available via our online class website.

## Is there a graduation ceremony?

Yes! A cap and gown graduation ceremony for AHS and GED students takes place every year in May or June. AHS students who complete all requirements by the graduation deadline can participate.

# **GED and Bilingual GED Program**

# How long does it take to earn a GED?

That depends on the student:

- what their skill level is in reading, writing, and math
- how often they attend class
- what their test-taking skills are like

Some students may just need a brief refresher and are ready to take the official tests in a few weeks; others may need several terms to learn and review material.

### This option may be best for

- students who need a lot of high school credits (i.e., they do NOT have a lot of credits from US high schools)
- students who have relatively high skill levels in reading, writing, and math and don't have time to complete HS credits

#### When and where are the GED classes offered?

### Normally, GED classes are offered Mondays-Thursdays

At the Schott Campus (Room 16) At the Wake Campus (Room 19) Via Zoom\*

### Normally, Bilingual GED Classes are offered

At the Schott Campus (Room 29) At the Wake Campus (Room 21) Via Zoom\*

\* After you meet with the SBCC School of Extended Learning Student Support Services Advisor, or email the instructors, you will receive an email with a link to the Zoom classroom.

#### How much does it cost?

- Classes are State funded, so there is no cost.
- Books and online educational software materials are provided for in-class use at no cost.
- We can also loan out copies, and many of the materials are available via our class website, too.
- GED Exams are \$41 each, but Exam scholarships are available.

## Is there a graduation ceremony?

Yes! A cap and gown graduation ceremony for AHS and GED students takes place every year in May or June. GED students who pass all four GED Exams by the graduation deadline can participate.

For more information, call Student Services at 1-805-898-8160 or email <a href="McSSS@pipeline.sbcc.edu">MCSSS@pipeline.sbcc.edu</a> or <a href="mailto:ahs-ged@pipeline.sbcc.edu">ahs-ged@pipeline.sbcc.edu</a>