

Novato USD

Administrative Regulation

Certificate Of Proficiency/High School Equivalency

AR 6146.2
Instruction

Certificate of Proficiency

*****Note: Pursuant to Education Code 48412, the State Board of Education (SBE) will award a "certificate of proficiency" to persons who pass the California High School Proficiency Examination (CHSPE) established by the California Department of Education (CDE) to assess proficiency in reading, writing, and mathematics skills. A list of test centers and testing dates (once in the fall and once in the spring) is available on the CHSPE web site. The CDE will keep a permanent record of the issuance of all certificates. *****

*****Note: 5 CCR 11523 requires the principal of each high school to distribute information about the exam to students in grades 11-12. A flyer that may be used for this purpose is available on the CDE web site in both English and Spanish. At their discretion, districts may revise the following paragraph to require distribution of such information to students in grade 10. *****

Any student may apply to have his/her proficiency in basic skills verified by examination according to criteria established by the California Department of Education if he/she meets one of the following conditions: (Education Code 48412)

1. Is age 16 or older
2. Has been enrolled in the 10th grade for one school year or longer
3. ~~Is enrolled in the second semester of the 10th grade~~ **Will complete one school year of enrollment in 10th grade at the end of the semester during which the CHSPE will be administered**

The principal of each school maintaining grades 11 and 12 shall distribute to each student in those grades an announcement explaining the California High School Proficiency Examination. (**CHSPE**). When announcements from the California Department of Education or its contractor are received, this information shall be distributed early enough to enable interested students to register for the test to be given in the fall of that year. (5 CCR 11523)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

*****Note: The following optional paragraph reflects CHSPE Frequently Asked Questions on the CDE's web site. *****

The principal also shall advise students that the certificate of proficiency awarded upon passing the CHSPE, while equivalent to a high school diploma, is not the equivalent of completing all coursework required for high school graduation and therefore students should contact the admissions office of the college or university they are interested in attending to determine if the certificate satisfies college admission requirements.

If a student receives the proficiency certificate, the district shall indicate the student's accomplishment and the date of the ~~proficiency certificate~~ award on the student's official transcript. (5 CCR 11521)

(cf. 5125 - Student Records)

~~Receiving the high school proficiency certificate does not exempt students from attending school unless they are at least 16 years old and have~~ **Any student who has received the certificate of proficiency may be exempted from compulsory school attendance upon his/her request, with** verified parent/guardian permission. (Education Code 48410; ~~5 CCR 11522~~)

(cf. 5112.1 - Exemptions from Attendance)

~~Upon request,~~ the Superintendent or designee shall provide a form for obtaining parent/guardian consent for exemption from compulsory school ~~attendance by students ages 16 and 17 who have demonstrated proficiency.~~ **The form and** shall contain at least the following information: (5 CCR 11522)

1. A general explanation of the student's rights of exemption from compulsory attendance and of reenrollment in the public schools
2. The date of issuance of the certificate of proficiency
3. The signature of the parent/guardian and the date
4. The signature of the school administrator who has personally confirmed the authenticity of the parent/guardian's signature and the date

~~(cf. 5112.1 - Exemptions from Attendance)~~

If a student age 16 or 17 terminates his/her enrollment after receiving the high school proficiency certificate, he/she may re-enroll in the district ~~with no adverse consequences~~. If he/she subsequently terminates enrollment again, he/she may be denied re-enrollment until the beginning of the following semester. (Education Code 48414)

(cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)

High School Equivalency Certificate/**GED**

*****Note: Education Code 51420-51427 provide that persons may be awarded the California High School Equivalency Certificate by taking a general educational development test and receiving a score that is at least as high as that determined by the SBE to be equal to the standard of performance expected from high school graduates. *****

*****Note: 5 CCR 11530-11532, as amended by Register 2013, No. 39, delete the requirement to use only the General Educational Development (GED) test adopted by the General Educational Development Testing Service for the purpose of awarding a high school equivalency certificate. Subsequently, in March 2014, the SBE approved the use of three tests: the GED, the High School Equivalency Test (HiSET) provided by the Educational Testing Service, and the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC) provided by CTB/McGraw Hill. Local testing centers will have the option to offer one or more of these tests. *****

An eligible person may earn a high school equivalency certificate by passing a general educational development test designated by the State Board of Education pursuant to Education Code 51420, including the General Educational Development (GED) test, the High School Equivalency Test (HiSET), or the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC).

Any person is eligible to take ~~the General Educational Development (GED)~~ a test leading to a high school equivalency certificate if he/she is a resident of California or a member of the armed forces assigned to duty in California, ~~has not completed high school~~, and meets one of the following criteria: (Education Code 51420; 5 CCR 11532)

1. Is 18 years of age or older, or within 60 days of his/her 18th birthday, regardless of enrollment status
2. Is not currently enrolled in school and is within 60 days of when he/she would have graduated from high school had he/she remained in school and followed the usual course of study
3. Is 17 years of age, has been out of school for at least 60 consecutive days, and provides a letter of request for the test from the military, a postsecondary educational institution or a prospective employer
4. Is 17 years of age, ~~is incarcerated in a California state or county correctional facility~~ **has accumulated fewer than 100 units of high school credit, is confined to a state or county hospital or to an institution maintained by a state or county correctional facility**, and meets other criteria listed in 5 CCR 11532
5. **Is 17 years of age, has accumulated fewer than 100 units of high school credit prior to enrollment in an academic program offered by a dropout recovery high school as defined in Education Code 52052, and has successfully completed the dropout recovery high school's instructional program which is aligned to state standards, offers the**

opportunity for a high school diploma, and provides services for at least one year

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