

# GED Learning Path

Pre-School – Grade 8



Essential Learning Program

SmartGED Course 

SAQA Evaluation & Verification (NQF4 Equivalency)

SAT's / NQF5 / Record of Prior Learning

College



University



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**GED<sup>®</sup>Academy**

The **SMART** way to Study, Learn and Pass **GED**

- ✓ A Grade 12 alternative
- ✓ Recognised by SAQA (**NQF 4**)
- ✓ Flexible
- ✓ Affordable
- ✓ Self-Paced
- ✓ Course includes **BONUS** resources
- ✓ **FREE** Placement Test

Get smart with **Smart GED**

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**Affordable fees:**

Monthly Subscription: R500

**Package includes:**

- ✓ Digital lessons
- ✓ PDF Study Guide
- ✓ Bonus Material and links
- ✓ Study Tips and Tricks
- ✓ Typing Course
- ✓ **FREE** Placement Test

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## Subjects Offered in this course:

- ✓ **Math**
- ✓ **English (RLA)**
- ✓ **Integrated Science:**  
Biology, Chemistry & Physics
- ✓ **Integrated Social Science:**  
World History, World Geography,  
Political Science & Economics

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Students work at their own pace  
and schedule exams once our  
**pre-readiness testing** has found  
students to be **exam-ready**.

Exams are written at any Boston  
College nearest to your location.

**Exam Fees:**

**\$80/subject**

**due at the time of booking**

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**Requirements:**

**A device  
(laptop/pc/tablet with keyboard)**

**Headphones**

**Internet Connection**

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## FAQ's

### **What is the GED®?**

The **GED®** is a high school Grade 12 equivalency\* credential.

In the early 1940's veterans returning to the United States after World War II needed to obtain academic credentials to get civilian jobs and gain access to tertiary education or training. The GED® test was developed for this purpose, similar to an adult matric. It has subsequently been written by more than 17 million students in the USA and around the world, including South Africa!

All fifty states in the United States officially offer the GED® tests and they are written in more than 3000 testing centres worldwide.

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## FAQ's

### **What subjects does the GED<sup>®</sup> test?**

The GED<sup>®</sup> test consists of four subjects which you can book to write on different days:

- Reasoning through Language Arts – 150 minutes (including a 10-minute break)
- Mathematical Reasoning – 90 minutes
- Science – 90 minutes
- Social Studies – 90 minutes

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## FAQ's

**What is the pass mark on the GED<sup>®</sup> test?**

Each test is scored on a scale from 100 to 200 and you must get 145 for each subject to pass. This means you should answer at least 60-65% of the questions on each test correctly in order to pass.

You must pass each test in order to pass the GED<sup>®</sup> overall.

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## FAQ's

**Is the GED<sup>®</sup> credential recognized in South Africa?**

*Example of a SAQA Certificate of Evaluation*

\*SAQA, the South African Qualifications Authority, has evaluated the GED<sup>®</sup> and found the National Senior Certificate as its closest comparable qualification. Candidates with a GED<sup>®</sup> credential may be eligible to apply for a Certificate of Evaluation from SAQA which states that the closest comparable qualification in South Africa is the National Senior Certificate (matric) or an NQF Level 4 qualification. You can read this for yourself on their site here: [SAQA](#)

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FAQ's

**Is the GED<sup>®</sup> a matric?**

No, the GED<sup>®</sup> is considered to be a foreign grade 12 equivalent\*. The *nearest comparable* South African qualification is the National Senior Certificate, grade 12 or matric.

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## FAQ's

**Can candidates with a GED<sup>®</sup> credential apply to a South African university?**

*Example of a certificate of foreign conditional exemption issued by Universities South Africa*

A student can only be accepted to study at a South African university if they qualify for, apply for and are granted exemption from Universities South Africa (USAF, formerly known as HESA).

Only students who meet any of the possible exemption requirements as per the [Gazette](#) , may apply to USAF for consideration.

- Foreign Conditional Exemption
- Senatorial Discretion
- Mature Age Exemption

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## FAQ's

**Can you study at a tertiary institution with a GED<sup>®</sup>?**

Different faculties of different institutions may have their own entrance criteria, **so it is always best to first check with the institution of your choice.** However, in general, the GED<sup>®</sup> credential is recognized as being equivalent\* to Grade 12. See the question above.

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## FAQ's

### **How long does it take to prepare for the GED<sup>®</sup>?**

The online study material, powered by Essential Education, that we offer is self-paced, so the time it may take candidates to prepare and feel ready to book their tests may vary, depending on the candidate's level of education prior to starting the online course.

Enrolment is for one year starting anytime, but this can be renewed if necessary.

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## FAQ's

**Is there a minimum requirement to write the GED®?**

There is no prerequisite qualification. To write the GED® tests in South Africa, candidates must be **age 17** or older and must have a form of South African identification with a **photo and signature**, such as a Smart ID, ID book or Passport.

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## FAQ's

### When do I get my GED<sup>®</sup> test results?

When you have written and passed all four tests you will receive an electronic version of your GED<sup>®</sup> High School Equivalency Credential, issued by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education in Washington, DC.

You get one free paper diploma posted to you, but **you have to follow the instructions in the email you receive and claim it .**

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## FAQ's

You do not get a free transcript. You have to pay for a hard copy to be sent to you from the USA.

You can apply online for a hard copy at a cost of USD \$15 plus postage. We can send our enrolled clients guidelines for this application on request.

Click on the image of the Transcript to see a larger version.

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## FAQ's

### **Can a candidate rewrite if she/he fails?**

Yes, the test may be rewritten twice. If a candidate fails twice, the test may only be rewritten again 60 days later...(but we'll help you prepare to succeed!)

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## FAQ's

### **Are accommodations allowed for candidates with learning disabilities or special educational needs?**

Yes...Click here for information about accommodations and the necessary application forms: [Accommodations](#)

To apply for disability accommodations, candidates must contact the Pearson VUE International GED Testing Service Booking Line in the UK. Here is a local Johannesburg number you can dial which redirects you to them: 011-083-6433. Their office hours are 09h00-17h00 UK time.

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## FAQ's

**What are the technical requirements of my pc or laptop for using the GED Academy™ online classes?**

Technical requirements for *Essential Education's* **GED Academy™**:

- Internet Browser: Use only the Chrome browser on a laptop or desktop computer  
On a tablet, iPad or other mobile device use the Puffin Web Browser
- PDF viewer (built in Chrome)
- Monitor Resolution: 1280×768 or higher
- Sound card and speakers or headphones

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## FAQ's

### **How do I book the GED<sup>®</sup> Tests?**

Candidates must book their tests themselves online at the official **GED<sup>®</sup> Testing Service website** at <https://ged.com/>. A fee of USD \$75 per test must be paid online **using a credit card**. Click here for screenshot guidelines through the process of **Online GED Test Booking**.

**Please note that candidates must have a South African ID or passport with a photo and signature, in order to write the GED<sup>®</sup> tests.**

Foreigners must have a **study permit or refugee status** in order to be allowed to write the tests in South Africa. [See below](#).

This is in accordance with the Immigration Act and regulations set out by the Department of Home Affairs.

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## FAQ's

### **Where do I write the GED<sup>®</sup> Tests in South Africa?**

There are 38 [GED<sup>®</sup> test centres in South Africa](#) at Boston VUE Testing Centres. When you book your tests online you will be given the option of choosing the test centre closest to your address and the address of the test venue, a contact number and a map will be provided. You can choose from the available dates and time slots and book a test date and time that is convenient for you.

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## FAQ's

**Will I be able to study at a University or College?**

**Yes** – you can study at college or university with a GED<sup>®</sup>.

- GED<sup>®</sup> graduates may apply to **overseas universities and international online universities.**
- GED<sup>®</sup> graduates may qualify for admission to **higher certificate and diploma courses** in a wide range of fields at **South African colleges and universities.**
- To study towards a **degree at a South African university**, a GED<sup>®</sup> graduate must first meet the requirements set by USAF for exemption.

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## FAQ's

### **To study towards a degree in South Africa**

You can only apply to South African universities if you qualify for exemption.

**Exemption is NOT required for admission to DIPLOMA and HIGHER CERTIFICATE** courses at South African universities and private institutions of higher learning. It will still be possible to qualify for admission to these courses with a GED<sup>®</sup>.

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## FAQ's

**A student with a GED<sup>®</sup> may potentially receive one of the below documents if you meet the respective requirements for one of these options:**

- Foreign Conditional Exemption
- Senatorial Discretion
- Mature Age Exemption – if you are age 23 or older you may qualify for exemption
- Tertiary Qualifications** – If you pass a course the equivalent of first year university level at a college, offline university or **online university**, then you can apply to Universities SA to grant you university exemption and then apply to enroll at a university.
- Academic and Professional Certificate at NQF Level 5** – refer to the **bold paragraph (c) from the Higher Education Act 101 of 1997 below**

**"Certificate of complete exemption by virtue of academic and professional certificates."**

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## FAQ's

...continued

### 17(c)

**A person who has passed examinations at a university or other institution approved by the Committee of Principals which represent a minimum of, or the equivalent of a minimum of 120 credits, registered at level 5, or higher, on the National Qualifications Framework of the South African Qualifications Authority;**

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## FAQ's

...continued

- **Recognition of Prior Learning** – All higher education institutions in South African must have a policy and procedure to assess prospective students' RPL to see if they can enter the courses with a reasonable chance of success.
- RPL provides a way for the university to acknowledge your knowledge and skills gained via non-formal education and/or work experience, in order to obtain admission towards a qualification. It may also include candidates lacking the minimum requirements for entry into a formal learning program (e.g. matriculation endorsement).

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## FAQ's

As with any matric option, there is no guarantee that a GED<sup>®</sup> graduate will be issued with exemption from USAF, nor that a university will accept his/her application.

**PLEASE NOTE:** You **MUST** check with the universities and specific faculty of your choice that they will accept these foreign qualifications with one of the categories of exemption. Many degrees and courses have additional requirements which you will also have to fulfill, no matter what Grade 12 credential you have.

**But as stated before, there is an online solution...**

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## FAQ's

International, overseas online universities offer many benefits such as the following

- 1.no exemption requirements needed from USAF
- 2.GED<sup>®</sup> is recognized and widely accepted
- 3.studying in the safety and security of your own home or office
- 4.flexibility and convenience
- 5.time and place of your choice
- 6.develop technical skills
- 7.look good on your CV as they indicate commitment, motivation and perseverance
- 8.global networking
- 9.international recognition

**...and many other benefits.**

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