



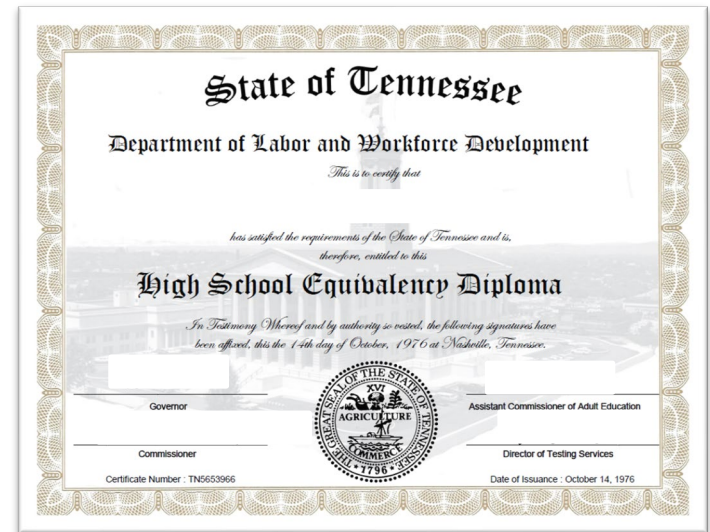
Department of  
**Labor & Workforce  
Development**

Adult Education

# Alternative Pathways for High School Equivalency

# What is a High School Equivalency (HSE) Diploma?

- Official TN secondary school credential
- Allows entry into postsecondary, training, jobs, promotions, higher wages
- ~430,000 working-age Tennesseans without HS diploma or equivalent
- TDLWD oversees HSE preparation programs and diplomas
- Currently, HiSET exam is only option



# Lois M. DeBerry Alternative Diploma Act

- TCA 4-3-1422. Lois M. DeBerry Alternative Diploma Act -- Assessments that lead to high school equivalency credential.
- (b) The department of labor and workforce development is authorized to make recommendations relative to assessments that lead to the award of a high school equivalency credential. **The state board shall review the recommendations of the department. Any recommendation approved by the state board of education shall be considered a high school equivalency assessment and the successful completion of such assessment shall lead to the award of a high school equivalency credential.** The department, as needed, may consult with or request assistance from other state agencies in performing its duties under this section.

# How is Current Diploma Pathway a Problem?

- Only option currently approved for diploma is HiSET exam
  - 5-subject, multiple-choice (plus a written essay), time-limited, standardized test, just like the GED
- Students are eager to have other options
- Other states have created alternative pathways
- Alternative pathways can expedite the journey to postsecondary and career opportunities

# Proposed New Assessments

- Tests of Adult Basic Education (TABE)
  - Math, Reading, Language (Writing)
- Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems (CASAS)
  - Math, Reading
- ACT WorkKeys
  - Math, Reading
- All are approved by the U.S. Department of Education as tests suitable for determining measurable skill growth in adult education students
- Passing scores correlate to passing scores on HiSET and GED

# Checklist

## Complete ONE of the following:

- Pass the HiSET exam (all 5 subtests)
- Pass the GED exam (all 4 subtests)

## Or, demonstrate competency in math, reading, writing, science, and social studies by completing the following:

<b>MATH</b> <i>Complete ONE:</i>	<b>READING</b> <i>Complete ONE:</i>	<b>WRITING</b> <i>Complete ONE:</i>	<b>SCIENCE</b> <i>Complete ONE:</i>	<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b> <i>Complete ONE:</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Score 8 or higher on HiSET math <a href="#">test</a></li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Score 145 on GED math <a href="#">test</a></li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Score 537 or higher on TABE math <a href="#">test</a></li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Score 214 or higher on CASAS “Math GOALS” <a href="#">test</a></li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Score 83 or higher on ACT WorkKeys “Applied Math” test</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Score 8 or higher on HiSET reading <a href="#">test</a></li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Score 145 or higher on GED language arts <a href="#">test</a></li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Score 536 or higher on TABE reading <a href="#">test</a></li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Score 228 or higher on CASAS “Reading GOALS” <a href="#">test</a></li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Score 78 or higher on ACT WorkKeys “Workplace Documents” test</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Score 8 or higher on HiSET writing test AND score 2 or higher on HiSET <a href="#">essay</a></li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Score 145 or higher on GED language arts <a href="#">test</a></li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Score 547 or higher on TABE language test</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Score 8 or higher on HiSET science <a href="#">test</a></li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Score 145 or higher on GED science <a href="#">test</a></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Score 8 or higher on HiSET social studies <a href="#">test</a></li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Score 145 or higher on GED social studies <a href="#">test</a></li></ul>

# Test Administration

- All tests are administered in accordance with TDLWD policy and test publisher requirements
- Test administrators must complete required training and adhere to required policies and procedures

# Thank You!

## Contact Info:

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