

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS 2015 ACT 55 CIVICS TEST REQUIREMENT As Amended by 2017 Act 59

1. What is the civics test requirement?

2015 Act 55, requires that all persons who earn a high school equivalency diploma (HSED) or certificate of general education development (GED) in Wisconsin pass the civics test that is required for high school graduation with a score of 65* correct out of 100 questions.

*2017 Act 59 changed the passing score from 60 to 65 effective September 23, 2017. Persons who took the test between 7/1/16 and 9/22/17 and earned between 60 and 64, have passed the test and will not have to retest to earn the higher score.

2. Which civics test?

The 100 questions that may be asked of a person applying for U.S. Citizenship given by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. Here is the link: <https://www.uscis.gov/citizenship/teachers/educational-products>.

3. When does this requirement take effect?

For any person earning a GED or HSED after July 1, 2016.

4. I already passed some GED tests, does this requirement apply to me?

Yes, it applies to anyone who has not completed testing and been credentialed by July 1, 2016.

5. How the test will be delivered?

The test will be delivered on the computer. It will be 100 questions with multiple choice answers that you click on to answer. You will have 102 minutes to take the test and review your answers. As you are taking the test, if you don't know the answer to a question for sure, you may answer it (or not) and mark the question "flag for review" and then return at the end by clicking on the "question review screen."

6. Where do I take this test?

At the same testing center where you take your GED tests or complete your HSED requirements.

7. How do I schedule the test?

Please create an account at www.ged.com. Once you have completed orientation, the jurisdictional hold will be lifted by the test center and you will be able to schedule your civics test.

8. What does the test cost and how do I pay?

The cost of the test is \$10 and you may pay by credit card or by purchasing a \$10 voucher at <http://www.pearsonvue.com/vouchers/pricelist/ged.asp>; select Wisconsin and there is a voucher for \$10.

9. May I use three credits of social studies or a civics course to meet this requirement?

No, the new law does not permit the three credits of social studies or the approved civics course, only the new civics test.

10. I am a naturalized citizen, do I still have to take this test?

Yes, you must take the 100 question test and earn a score of 65 or better.

11. Does this apply to students who are not doing the GED tests to earn an HSED?

Yes, all students must take the civics test, even if they are earning a high school equivalency diploma based on high school credits, college credits, foreign diploma, or competency (509).

12. Are there accommodations to take the civics test?

Yes, if a student has a disability, the student would apply for accommodations using the Reasonable Accommodations Request System (RARS) that is available through the account on www.ged.com.

13. How will I know if I passed?

Generally within two business days you will be able to see your test score on your account in www.ged.com.

14. If I don't pass, when can I re-test? What will it cost?

Wisconsin requires a 30 day wait period to retake any test. The cost will be \$10.

15. I don't like this change in the law, who may I contact?

You may find out who your legislator is through this website:
<http://legis.wisconsin.gov/> or by calling 1-800-362-9472.

16. What languages are available to take the test?

English and Spanish

17. I completed the test at my high school, do I need to take it again?

Provide your high school transcript or documentation from your high school that shows you passed the new civics test to your testing center and you will not have to take the test again.

For Additional Information:

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