

HiSET/GED Comparison

The Montana GED® and HiSET® are each a battery of tests that measure an individual’s academic skills as compared to a high school graduate. If passed, a Montana High School Equivalency Diploma is issued which is accepted by institutions of higher education and employers as equivalent to a regular high school diploma.

HiSET	GED
5 Subtests - 7 hours and 5 minutes to take the entire battery.	4 Subtests - 7 hours and 25 minutes to take the entire battery.
Subject areas: Language Arts Reading (65 minutes), Language Arts Writing (120 minutes), Math (90 minutes), Science (80 minutes), and Social Studies (70 minutes).	Subject areas: Language Arts (150 minutes), Math (115 minutes), Science (90 minutes), and Social Studies (70 minutes).
Each test is scored on a scale from 1-20. To pass: a score of 8 or above on each subtest and a battery total of 45 or above.	Each test is scored on a scale from 100-200. To pass: a score on each subtest of 145 or above.
Computer and Paper Testing. (Montana is not approving any new paper-based testing sites).	Computer Testing Only.
Question Type: multiple choice, and essay.	Question Type: extended response, drag and drop, drop-down, fill in the blank, hot spot, multiple choice, and short answer.
<u>Cost for In-Person Testing</u> \$15 per subtest = <i>\$75 for the battery</i> + up to \$5 test center fee/per subtest = <i>\$25 for the battery</i> Two free retakes (+ up to \$5 test center fee). July 1, 2026 a price increase will be in effect: each subtest will increase by \$3 from \$15 to \$18.	<u>Cost for In-Person Testing</u> \$26 per subtest = \$104 for the battery + up to \$5 test center fee/per subtest = \$20 for the battery One Free Retake (+ up to \$5 test center fee) <i>Return to full price after a second failed attempt and then the next retake is free and so on.</i>
HiSET Online Proctored Tests HiSET Test at Home (remote proctored exam) was discontinued in Montana on September 1, 2025. As of that date, the remote proctored option available in Montana is the GED Online Test.	<u>GED Cost for Online Proctored Tests</u> \$26 per subtest = \$104 for the battery + \$10 online proctor fee per subtest = \$40 for the battery No free retakes on online proctored GED tests.
For more detailed information on the content and structure of the HiSET, visit the HiSET Test At a Glance Information Brief .	For more detailed information on the content and structure of the GED, visit the GED Website .
Adult Education (AE) Programs can help you prepare to pass the HiSET or the GED at no cost. Contact the OPI HSE Helpline to locate an AE Program near you: 406-444-4151 or OPIHSE@mt.gov	

