



## **Christie Administration Announces Adult Education High School Equivalency Tests to be Fully Computer-Based by January 2016**

**For Immediate Release**

**Contact:** Michael Yaple  
David Saenz

**Date:** December 29, 2015

609-292-1126

**Trenton, NJ** – Starting in January 2016, New Jersey will be the first state to have fully implemented computer-based testing for high school equivalency diplomas at all of its centers. Paper-based testing will no longer be offered with the exception of those with a demonstrated need for a special accommodation.

In December 2013, the Department of Education [announced](#) that it expanded options for New Jersey citizens to receive high school equivalency diplomas by approving three additional assessments for a state-issued high school diploma: the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC), the High School Equivalency Test (HiSET), and the General Education Development (GED). Prior to that time, the GED had been the only adult education assessment since 1959.

New Jersey is one of only a handful of states offering its citizens multiple testing options, which has helped decrease costs through competition. At this time, 39 states offer only the GED, while seven states offer one of the other two assessments but not the GED, and four, including New Jersey, offer all three.

When the expansion was announced in December 2013, New Jersey had 30 approved test centers. In early 2016, New Jersey will have 42 testing centers in operation with the anticipation that there will be more opening throughout the year.

"New Jersey continues to provide greater educational opportunity by expanding the number of tests and testing centers," said Commissioner of Education David C. Hespe. "At the same time, we're leading the country in meeting the technological demands of the 21st century by providing computer-based assessments. This reflects the same technological shift to electronic assessments seen in public schools and colleges, including college-entrance exams."

The Department of Education's website offers additional information on [adult education](#), as well as a listing of all [test centers](#) throughout the state.