



October 2012

Dear New Yorker:

URGENT: Your current scores on the GED® test are expiring soon.

We are writing with some urgent news that applies specifically to you. We understand that in the past three years, you passed some parts of the GED® test. Congratulations on this great accomplishment!

We want to let you know that your current scores are only valid until December 31, 2013. After that date, there will be a new GED® test, and your current scores on the sections you have passed will no longer count. After January 1, 2014, you will have to start all over.

In order to complete the test and receive your high school equivalency diploma, we encourage you to consider taking the GED® again by the end of 2013. To increase your likelihood of passing when you take the test again, we strongly encourage you to study. You also may want to consider participation in a preparation program. If you are planning to take the GED® again before your scores expire, the time to take action is NOW.

FREE ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE: We want to make you aware of programs in New York City that can assist you with passing the GED®.

- 1) To ensure your best chance for success, we recommend you visit one of New York City's Literacy Zones, which have counselors who can help you understand the best course of action for you. They can help you find a program that can serve your needs. Please call or visit one of the organizations on the attached sheet for more information.
- 2) Within New York City, you can also call 311 or Youth Connect at 1-800-246-4646 to find an adult education program in your community. 311 is the cost of a local call, and is open 24/7. YouthConnect is a free call. If you were previously enrolled in an adult education program, you can also contact that program directly.
- 3) You can also visit [YouCanToo!](http://www.nyc.gov/youcantoonyc) (www.nyc.gov/youcantoonyc), a website which features a GED prep program locator, online tools, resources and over 50 videos of adult learners in New York City. YouCanToo! provides comprehensive information and motivational success stories to help adult learners reach their educational and career goals.
- 4) The New York State Education Department has also set up an Online Media Connection to provide free study materials in preparation for the GED®. These materials can be accessed on the NYSED website at www.access.nysed.gov/aep by clicking the "Free Study Materials" button on the left side of the screen. You can also access these materials with the URL www.fastforwardny.org.

Congratulations again on taking an important step towards obtaining your high school equivalency diploma. We hope to see you at a Literacy Zone soon and wish you the best of luck in achieving your goals!

Sincerely,

Kevin G. Smith
Deputy Commissioner – ACCES
NYS Education Department

Christine C. Quinn
Speaker
New York City Council

Robert Jackson
Chair, Education Committee
New York City Council

Michelle L. Light
Executive Director
NYC Office of Human Capital Development

Jeanne B. Mullgrav
Commissioner
NYC Department of Youth and Community Development

Dorita Gibson
Deputy Chancellor for Equity and Access
New York City Department of Education

John Mogulescu
Senior University Dean for Academic Affairs and Dean of the School of Professional Studies
City University of New York

James Meier
Interim Executive Director
Literacy Assistance Center

For confidentiality reasons, your name has not been shared with anyone outside of the New York State Education Department and this information is being sent to you by the New York State Education Department.

LITERACY ZONES BY BOROUGH

(For information on GED® instruction and testing, contact a Literacy Zone in New York City)

Brooklyn

Turning Point

5220 Fourth Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11220

718-360-8113/8159 <http://turningpointbrooklyn.org/about-us/programs-services/#literacy>

The Bronx

Highbridge Community Life Center

1438 Ogden Avenue, Bronx, NY 10452

646-393-9533, ext. 117 <http://www.highbridgelife.org>

Manhattan

CUNY Borough of Manhattan Community College

25 Broadway, 8th Floor, New York, NY 10004

212-346-8843 <http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/literacyzone>

Literacy Partners, Inc

Push Family Welcome Center

127 West 127th St. NY, NY 10027

646-351-0258 <http://www.literacypartners.org/need-help/become-a-student>

Northern Manhattan Improvement Corp.

76 Wadsworth Ave., NY, NY 10033

212-822-8323 <http://www.nmic.org>

University Settlement Society of New York Inc.

184 Eldridge St., NY, NY 10002

212-533-6306

http://www.universitysettlement.org/us/programs/adult_literacy/literacy_zone

YMCA of Greater NY

Harlem YMCA Outreach Center (Family Welcome Center #1)

2627 Adam Clayton Powell Jr., Blvd. NY, NY 10039

Harlem YMCA Branch (Family Welcome Center #2)

180 West 135th Street NY, NY, 10030

212-912-2100 <http://www.ymcanyc.org/harlem/pages/harlem-ymca-literacy-zone>

Queens

CUNY York College

94-43 160th St., Jamaica, NY 11451

718-262-3861 <http://www.york.cuny.edu>

Queens Borough Public Library

Jeanne Elmezzi Adult Learning Center

37-44 21st St Long Island City, NY 11101

718-752-3723 <http://www.queenslibrary.org>

Queens Borough Public Library

Peninsula Adult Learning Center

92-25 Rockaway Beach Blvd. Rockaway Beach, NY 11693

718-945-7058 <http://www.queenslibrary.org>

Staten Island

Jewish Community Center of Staten Island

1859 Victory Blvd., Staten Island, NY 10314

718-508-3895 http://www.sijcc.org/community_main.html