



**Office of
Human Capital
Development**

**Future of Education for
New Yorkers without
High School Diploma**

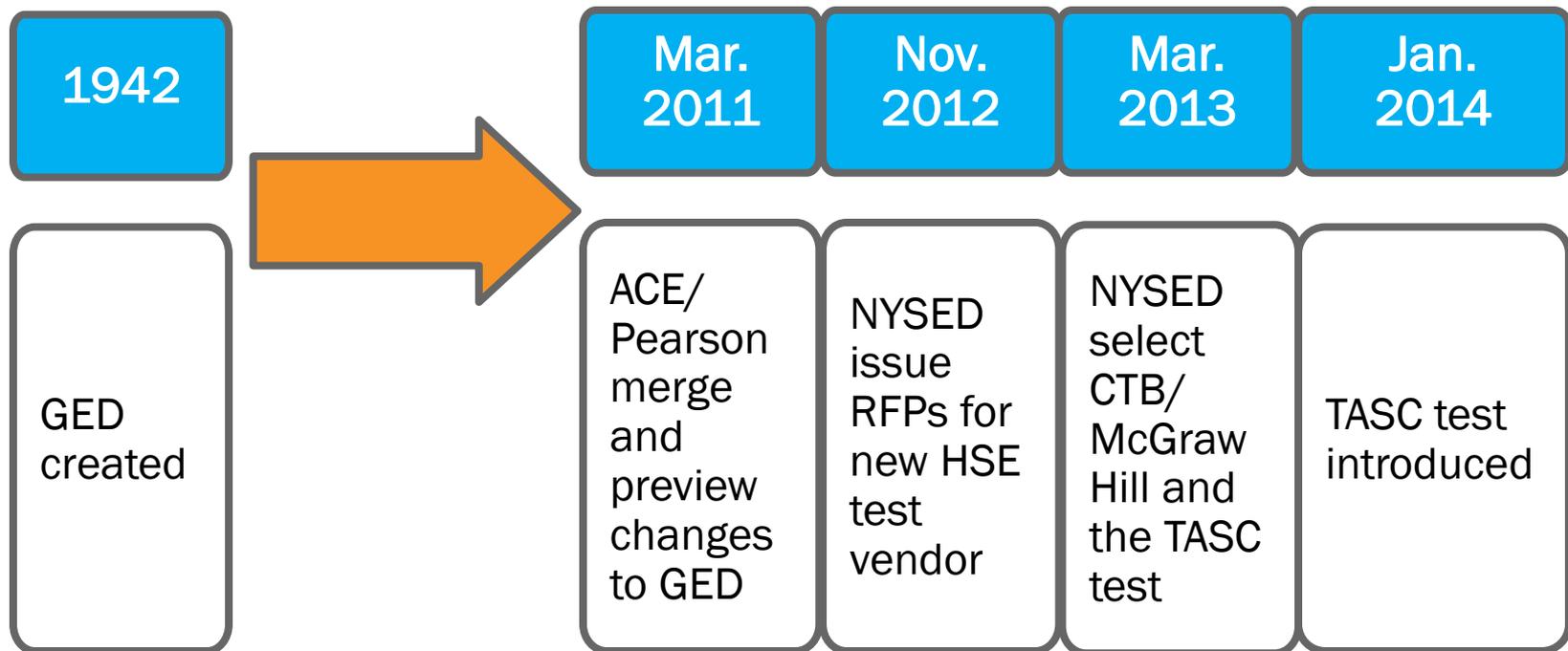
What We Will Cover

1. What has changed with the HSE transition ?
2. Where are we now with the adult education delivery system in New York City?
 - HSE needs
 - HSE preparation programs
3. What are the emerging priorities due to the HSE transition?

What has changed with the HSE transition?

HSE Transition: From the GED to the TASC

After 70 years of one HSE pathway, 2012-14 has been a period of great change and the terrain is still shifting.



GED v. TASC

	GED (through 2013)	Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC) (as of Jan. 2014)
Subjects	Covers English Language Arts (ELA) Reading, ELA Writing, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies	Covers same subject areas but will be aligned to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and the Next Generation Science Standards with increased rigor each year until 2017
Format	Administered in paper-based format	Administered in paper-based format with computer-based format phased in (up to 20% in 2014, up to 40% in 2015, up to 60% in 2016)
Score	Graded for passing score by NYSED	Graded for passing score and college readiness by CTB/McGraw Hill
Cost	Free of charge under State law	Free of charge under State law
Prerequisite	No requirement to demonstrate readiness before sitting for the test	TBD

Where are we with NYC adult ed services?

HSE Needs

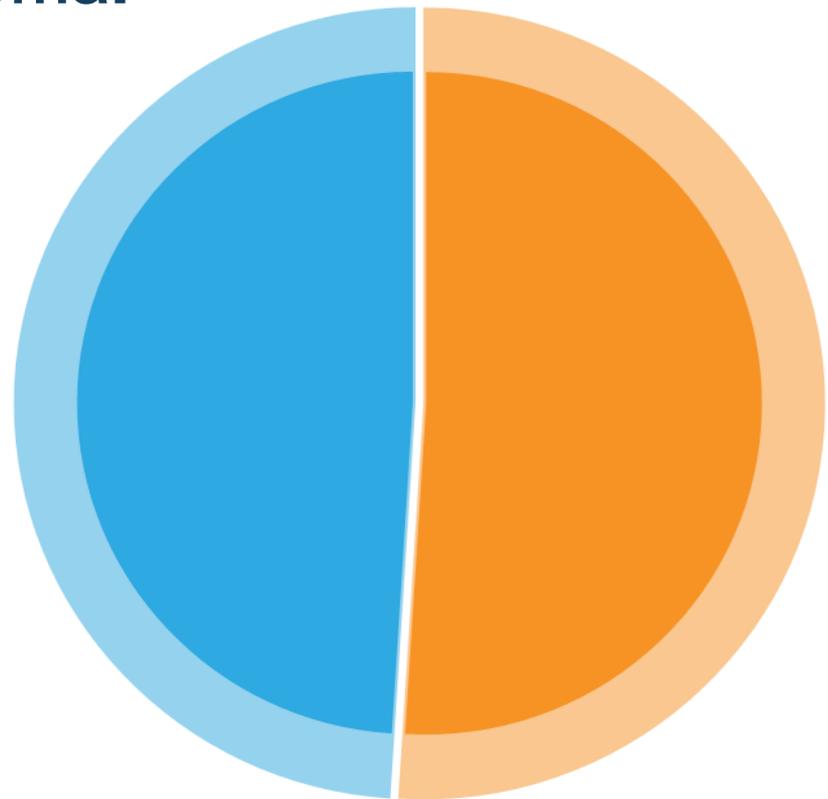
1.14 million NYC residents over 25 years old do not have a school diploma.

Less than 9th grade

51%

9th to 12th Grade

49%

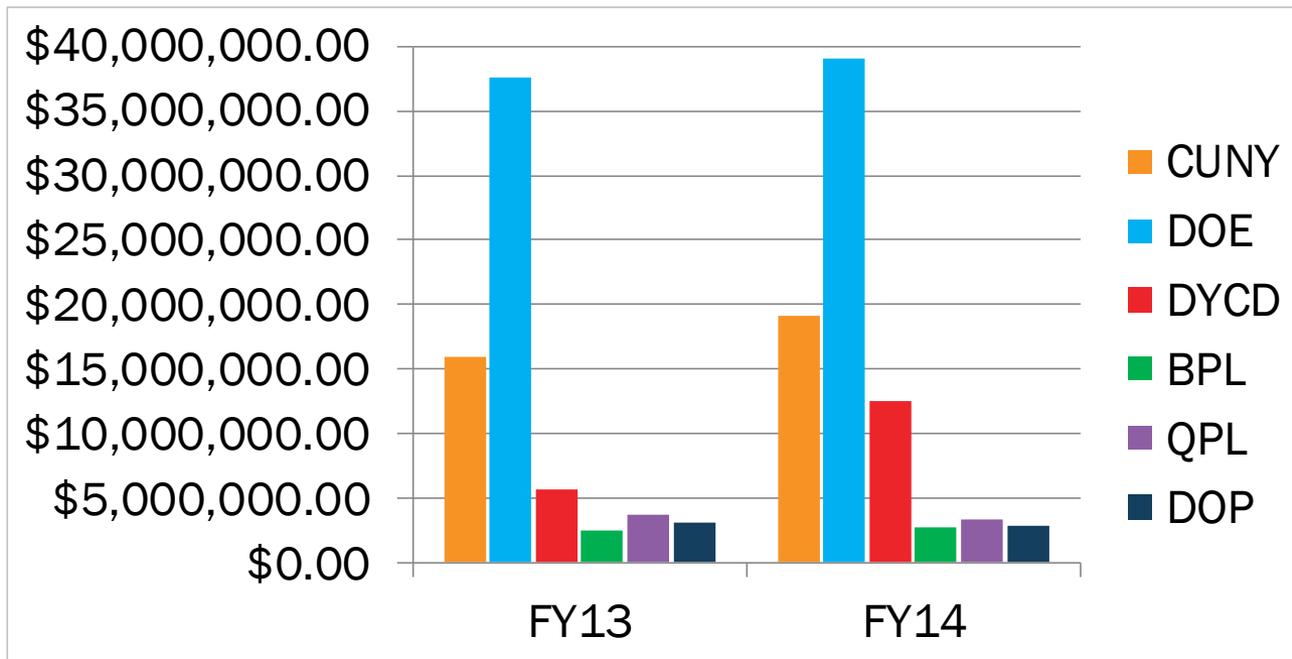


Preparation Matters

- **45,301** people took the GED in NYS in 2012.
- **25,851** of those test takers were in NYC.
 - **43%** of NYC's **total test takers** passed.
 - **65%** of NYC's **prep program students** passed.
 - **32%** of NYC's **walk-ins** passed.

Limited Resources for Adult Education

Funding for Adult Basic Education/ESOL/Literacy/HSE prep



FY 13: Approximately **14%**
of Workforce/Adult Ed Budget

FY 14: Approximately **15%**
of Workforce/Adult Ed Budget

NYC's HSE Prep Providers

- NYC Department of Education
 - Office of Adult and Continuing Education
 - District 79: Alternative Schools and Programs

- City University of New York

- NYC Department of Youth and Community Development

- NYC Libraries

- NYC Department of Parks and Recreation

- NYC Department of Probation

- NYSED-funded CBOs

- Privately-funded CBOs

- Labor unions

 Largest providers

 Smaller providers

Data Challenges

1. Inconsistent definitions of HSE prep
2. No universal NYC database
3. Two State databases
 - NYSED-funded adult education programs (ASISTS)
 - Includes 49 NYC programs
 - Tracks enrollment by reading/math level
 - Does not track enrollment by HSE prep
 - NYSED-approved HSE programs
 - Includes 214 NYC programs
 - Does not track enrollment
 - Tracks students referred to HSE test

What are the emerging priorities?

Key Issues due to HSE Transition

With input from ten City agencies, DOE, CUNY, the libraries, two mayoral offices, two professional development organizations, OHCD and NYSED identified **four key issues**:

1. Professional Development
2. Communications
3. Computer Infrastructure and Skills
4. Test Readiness

Issue #1: Professional Development

What is the issue?

- There is an **urgent immediate need to train teachers and develop curricula** aligned to the Common Core State Standards and new HSE content in order to successfully serve NYC students.

How can funders help?

- Support **NYSED Regents Fellow**
- Hire **CUNY experts** to train master teachers
- Develop **better and more instructional materials** targeted to the new test
- Organize **turn-key trainings** for HSE teachers by master teachers
- Help to facilitate **connections between DOE, CUNY, & CBOs**, and add PD seats where possible
- Initiate **volunteer tutor/mentor program** at select NYC pilot sites

Issue #2: Communications

What is the issue?

- After 70 years, the GED has become ingrained and synonymous with HSE. There is a **critical short-term need to educate and inform stakeholders and test takers** about the TASC as the new route to a HSE diploma.

How can funders help?

- Design **professional messaging** campaign
- Develop and purchase **advertisements** in newspapers and subway stations, and disseminate posters
- Develop and place **radio and tv PSAs**
- Establish **free telephone hotline** for students/stakeholders to learn about TASC

Issue #3: Computer Infrastructure and Skills

What is the issue?

- There is a **longer-term need to enhance computer infrastructure and skills over the next three years** to reach the computer-based administration targets of up to 20% in 2014, 40% in 2015, and 60% in 2016.

How can funders help?

- Conduct a **survey** of computer infrastructure and broadband needs of HSE prep providers
- Boost capacity of test centers with **new mobile labs** at 15 testing sites in NYS
- Provide **computer skills training** for HSE prep teachers and students using software piloted under BTOP program

Issue #4: Test Readiness

What is the issue?

- Evidence suggests that those who take a preparation class, or even just a formal practice test, do better on the HSE exam. There is a **need to better target and match limited test preparation resources** with students in need of assistance.

How can funders help?

- Administer the **TASC Readiness Test** at all test centers for “walk-ins”
- Hire **part-time test administrators** at underserved test centers
- Support maintenance and expansion of “**Find a Class for Adult Education**” **online tool** to help New Yorkers find free, publicly-funded classes



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