May 17, 2017

The following was sent to KYAE listserv.

GED® Test Taking Voucher Announcement

GED® Test Voucher Supplement Program – May 2017

Since the introduction of the 2014 GED® test, KYAE has partially offset both the cost of GED Ready™ tests and official GED® tests with vouchers. To determine how best to use limited resources to continue support for local programs and students, KYAE staff met earlier in the year with a focus group of KYAE adult education directors to listen to their feedback on what support they preferred. The consensus among the local program directors was that a statewide buy of GED Ready™ test vouchers by KYAE has greater value for students than supplementing the official GED® test fees. The group reported that the GED Ready™ test is a valuable tool for both educators and students and advised they want to continue its use.

The group indicated it is fairly common to obtain community resources to buy GED® test vouchers (e.g., “scholarships,” student sponsors, etc.) for students in need and is easier to obtain funds for this purpose versus for purchase of the GED Ready™ tests.

The following are practical examples of existing support that may currently be accessible for students:

- Based on a survey of KYAE programs, it appears most KYAE programs reported they are already providing additional fee assistance for their GED® test-takers. Local businesses and organizations often donate to assist KYAE GED® test-takers who may not be able to afford the cost. (Reports have suggested that lack of ability to afford the test is not the case for all students.) Many programs also apply for United Way, Dollar General, and/or other local grants to help their students with the test fees. GED® test vouchers can be purchased at the Pearson VUE vouchers store at: http://www.pearsonvue.com/vouchers/pricelist/ged.asp.

- Students will also be able to continue to benefit from the discounted retake program available from GED Testing Service®. The discounted retake program allows students to retake each content area two additional times for $10 for each attempt as long as the retakes are taken within a year of the initial test. The discount is automatically applied by GED Testing Service® at checkout.

- If students work with participating employers and participate in the GED® Works initiative (Walmart, Taco Bell, KFC, and Southern Grocers), many expenses are covered, including vouchers to take the GED® tests.

In light of program directors’ feedback and the availability of other student test-taking support, KYAE will discontinue the issuance of GED® test vouchers after June 30, 2017. ALL GED® test vouchers that have been distributed will expire (must be redeemed by) July 31, 2017. KYAE will continue to purchase GED Ready™ test vouchers for local programs in FY 2017-18.

Please see the next page for a GEDTS®-produced information sheet on GED® test vouchers.

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GED Testing Service® Vouchers

1. What are vouchers?
   a. Vouchers enable test preparation programs, corporations, academic institutions and other organizations to provide financial assistance to test-takers.
   b. Vouchers are available in two ways:
      i. Multi-use voucher: Applied to all 4 content areas per test taker. The test taker can schedule multiple appointments with this voucher or schedule all 4 content areas in one appointment.
      ii. Single-use voucher: Applied to one content area. The test-taker would need a different voucher for each content area.
   c. Vouchers are a method of payment that can be valid for the entire test fee or a portion of the test fee.
   d. Vouchers always have a unique code.
   e. Vouchers are non-refundable and non-returnable.
   f. Vouchers can only be used for the jurisdiction tests they were purchased for.
   g. Vouchers expire 12 months from the date they are issued.

2. How to order vouchers:
   b. Select Order Forms and Pricing Lists.
   c. Choose GED Testing Service® as the client.
   d. Click on your jurisdiction and a price list will open.
   e. Click on the Voucher Order Form link.
   f. Fill out the form with the appropriate number of vouchers needed.
      i. Pearson VUE accepts Visa, MasterCard, AMEX, check and money transfers as forms of payment.
   g. Submit the form and print a copy for your records.

3. How are vouchers redeemed?
   a. Voucher creation will be processed within 2 business days from the time payment has been processed.
   b. The voucher numbers will be sent to the email address on file.
   c. The voucher can be redeemed as payment when scheduling a test by selecting “Voucher” as the payment method and providing the voucher number where indicated.