

Report From Agency
FINAL REPORT
CLEARINGHOUSE RULE 21-031
CHAPTER PI 5
High School Equivalency Diplomas And Certificates Of General Educational Development

Analysis by the Department of Public Instruction

Statutory authority: s. 115.29 (4) (a), Stats.

Statute interpreted: s. 115.29 (4), Stats.

The proposed rule revises the means in which students that are at least 17 years of age and are seeking a certificate of educational development may complete the general educational development (GED) test. The proposed rule will repeal the current rule requirement which provides that students that are least 17 years of age must wait to take the final GED test until the end of the semester in which the student turns 18 years of age, thereby allowing students to take the test when they are ready to do so. The proposed rule also recognizes residential programs in the list of entities that provide the type of programming a person must be enrolled in to take the final GED test.

The hearing notice was published in the March 22, 2021 edition of the Wisconsin Administrative Register. A public hearing was held on April 12, 2021.

No persons provided testimony at the April 12, 2021 hearing on the proposed rule. However, the following persons submitted written testimony:

NAME	ORGANIZATION	IN FAVOR OR GENERALLY IN FAVOR	OPPOSED OR GENERALLY OPPOSED	OTHER
Jason Bertrand	Laona School District	X		
Chris Crowe	North Star Academy	X		

Summary of public comments relative to the rule and the agency's response to those comments:

The respondents submitted comment in favor of the proposed rule, arguing that students should be allowed to complete all of the required tests when they are ready to do so academically. They believe requiring students to wait until a later date increases the risk that students will disengage from education prior to being eligible to complete their requirements. The proposed change, which they believe eliminates this barrier, is especially beneficial for students who have been given an opportunity to work in the community and are enrolled in a GED program to support a timely graduation from high school. The respondents encourage the state to amend the current rules that limit when qualified students can complete GED testing and permit students to take the final test when they are ready.

Agency Response: These comments were forwarded to program staff for consideration during the rulemaking process. No changes are needed.

Changes made as a result of oral or written testimony:

No changes were made.

Changes to the analysis or the fiscal estimate:

No changes were made.

Responses to Clearinghouse Report:

The changes were accepted.