



**Discussion Resolution
February 5, 2020**

State of New Jersey
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

A Resolution to Adopt The Revised Qualifying Scores for State-Issued High School Diplomas

Whereas, the New Jersey State Board of Education (State Board) has required that adult education students pass all sections of one of the New Jersey High School Equivalency Assessments in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.2 and 6A:20-1.4.

Whereas, the State Board in 2013 adopted three different tests (GED, HiSET, and TASC), which qualify a person for a State-issued high school diploma, and each test's initial qualifying scores; and

Whereas, after the test's initial qualifying scores were adopted by the State Board, the General Education Development (GED) had established in 2016 the passing score per subject to be 145; and

Whereas, the High School Standard Equivalency Test (HiSET) also established in 2014 that the passing score per subject to be 8, with a total battery score of 45; and

Whereas, the passing score of 9 instead of 500 per subject was adopted in 2014 for the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC); and

Whereas, in 2019 the Department researched the studies of the passing scores of GED and HiSET to determine the validity of and the theoretically appropriate passing scores for those tests; and

Whereas, based on this research, the Department recommends to the State Board that revisions be made to the qualifying scores for the GED, HiSET and TASC and that those passing scores for the GED and HiSET be applied now and retroactively from 2014; and

Whereas, the Department will monitor the impact of these new qualifying scores on the passing rates for each subject area and will report any problems with the same to the State Board; and now therefore be it

Resolved, that the State Board hereby approves the Department's recommendation to adjust the qualifying scores for the GED, HiSET and TASC and that those passing scores for the GED and HiSET be applied now and retroactively from 2014; and be it further

Resolved, that the New Jersey State Board of Education hereby acknowledges and approves the following passing scores, effective February 5, 2020:

Passing Scores

Subtest	GED	HiSET	TASC
	Each subtest score range: 1-20	Each subtest score range: 100-200	Each subtest score range: 300-800
Language Arts – Writing	8 and at least a score of 2 on the writing essay	145	500 and at least a score of 2 on the writing essay
Language Arts - Reading	8	Included with writing	500
Social Studies	8	145	500
Science	8	145	500
Mathematics	8	145	500
Total Score Needed	45	NA	NA

Lamont O. Repollet, Ed.D., Commissioner
Secretary, N.J. State Board of Education

Andrew Mulvihill, Vice President
N.J. State Board of Education