

ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR K.A.R. 88-24-2

1. Summary of proposed regulations, including purposes.

The overall purpose for the proposed amendments to this regulation is to adopt the modified passing scores set by GED Testing Service (GED TS) for the 2014 series GED test. The 2002 series GED test is the version most recently used prior to 2014. The Board has crafted and is proposing the following amendments:

K.A.R. 88-24-2 establishes the GED test score requirements for issuance of a Kansas State High School Diploma. The proposed amendments reflect the recalibrated scores set by GED TS for the 2014 series GED test. The passing scores were normed in 2013 using high school seniors preparing to graduate high school, and recalibrated on March 1, 2016 after analysis of performance and outcome data. GED TS reviewed performance standards during 2014 and 2015 using internal and external performance and outcome data from multiple sources. This review resulted in a modification of the passing standard to be more representative of high school graduates. The modified cut score retroactively applied to all GED tests taken on or after January 1, 2014. Nearly 400 Kansans retroactively passed the GED test, and many more passed at least one of the subtests due to this modification. A passing score on the 2014 GED test is intended to be reflective of a college and career ready, computer literate workforce needed to be successful in today's workforce and postsecondary education.

2. Reason or reasons the proposed regulation is required, including whether or not the regulation is mandated by federal law.

This regulation and the proposed amendments implement the Board's authority under state law to administer the GED program in Kansas. The regulation is not mandated by federal law, but it is required to maintain consistency with the GED testing requirements set by Pearson VUE, the owner of the test.

3. Anticipated economic impact upon the Kansas State Board of Regents.

There will be no economic impact from these amendments on the Board of Regents office.

4. Anticipated financial impact upon other governmental agencies and upon private business or individuals.

The 2014 series GED test continues to be more rigorous than the 2002 series test it replaced. The cost to take additional subtests will be mitigated because up to two retakes are allowed if taken within twelve months of the initial subtest at a reduced \$13 fee (rather than the \$33 per subtest charged to first time testers). The lowered need for retakes will lessen the overall test cost for GED test takers. The cut score modification will allow more Kansans to earn the GED credential, which is a basic requirement for all postsecondary education and many middle-skill jobs.

5. Anticipated economic impact upon private citizens.

See response to paragraph number 4, above.

6. Less costly or intrusive methods that were considered, but rejected, and the reason for rejection.

See response to paragraph number 2, above.