

# Statement on Permitting GED Testing in Public School Buildings

*May 6, 2020*

Yesterday, Minnesota Department of Education Commissioner, Mary Cathryn Ricker, announced that operating a GED Testing Center in compliance with Minnesota Department of Heath guidelines is an allowable use of a school building (View the School Building Use Section of the [Minnesota Distance Teaching and Learning Implementation Guidance](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA1MDUuMjEwODU0OTEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2VkdWNhdGlvbi5tbi5nb3YvbWRlcHJvZC9pZGNwbGc_SWRjU2VydmljZT1HRVRfRklMRSZkRG9jTmFtZT1NREUwMzIxODgmUmV2aXNpb25TZWxlY3Rpb25NZXRob2Q9bGF0ZXN0UmVsZWFzZWQmUmVuZGl0aW9uPXByaW1hcnkifQ.cfZlvVsov-nxkP8F5N__7t-B8r14o5kIjfuknZwvHH0/br/78258580519-l) (link below).

Please note that it is my understanding that the Commissioner’s “allowable use of a school building” provision:

1. Applies only to GED Testing Centers located in K-12 public schools; the provision does not apply to GED Testing Centers located in non-school buildings which continue to be subject to other Executive Order provisions.
2. Is permissive, meaning it permits, but does not require GED Testing Centers located in public schools to re-open.
3. Requires that programs follow the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) guidance provided in the [School Building Use Guidance for In-Person Assessment/Hands-On Course Completion](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA1MDUuMjEwODU0OTEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2VkdWNhdGlvbi5tbi5nb3YvbWRlcHJvZC9pZGNwbGc_SWRjU2VydmljZT1HRVRfRklMRSZkRG9jTmFtZT1tZGUwMzI1NjMmUmV2aXNpb25TZWxlY3Rpb25NZXRob2Q9bGF0ZXN0UmVsZWFzZWQmUmVuZGl0aW9uPXByaW1hcnkifQ.X8KSWpEyiLWf-idW5Gqstg7P6iuKPDNp63oxeFskAtA/br/78258580348-l) (link below).
4. Does not waive GED Testing Service or Pearson VUE requirements regarding test center operations. GED Testing Centers must comply with all GED Testing Service and Pearson VUE requirements, while also following Minnesota Department of Health guidance.

**Important Links**

* [Minnesota Department of Education’s COVID-19 Updates](https://education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/health/covid19/) (https://education.mn.gov/MDE/dse/health/covid19/)
* [Minnesota Distance Teaching and Learning Implementation Guidance](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA1MDUuMjEwODU0OTEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2VkdWNhdGlvbi5tbi5nb3YvbWRlcHJvZC9pZGNwbGc_SWRjU2VydmljZT1HRVRfRklMRSZkRG9jTmFtZT1NREUwMzIxODgmUmV2aXNpb25TZWxlY3Rpb25NZXRob2Q9bGF0ZXN0UmVsZWFzZWQmUmVuZGl0aW9uPXByaW1hcnkifQ.cfZlvVsov-nxkP8F5N__7t-B8r14o5kIjfuknZwvHH0/br/78258580519-l) (available at https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA1MDUuMjEwODU0OTEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2VkdWNhdGlvbi5tbi5nb3YvbWRlcHJvZC9pZGNwbGc\_SWRjU2VydmljZT1HRVRfRklMRSZkRG9jTmFtZT1NREUwMzIxODgmUmV2aXNpb25TZWxlY3Rpb25NZXRob2Q9bGF0ZXN0UmVsZWFzZWQmUmVuZGl0aW9uPXByaW1hcnkifQ.cfZlvVsov-nxkP8F5N\_\_7t-B8r14o5kIjfuknZwvHH0/br/78258580519-l)
* [School Building Use Guidance for In-Person Assessment/Hands-On Course Completion](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA1MDUuMjEwODU0OTEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2VkdWNhdGlvbi5tbi5nb3YvbWRlcHJvZC9pZGNwbGc_SWRjU2VydmljZT1HRVRfRklMRSZkRG9jTmFtZT1tZGUwMzI1NjMmUmV2aXNpb25TZWxlY3Rpb25NZXRob2Q9bGF0ZXN0UmVsZWFzZWQmUmVuZGl0aW9uPXByaW1hcnkifQ.X8KSWpEyiLWf-idW5Gqstg7P6iuKPDNp63oxeFskAtA/br/78258580348-l) (available at https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA1MDUuMjEwODU0OTEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL2VkdWNhdGlvbi5tbi5nb3YvbWRlcHJvZC9pZGNwbGc\_SWRjU2VydmljZT1HRVRfRklMRSZkRG9jTmFtZT1tZGUwMzI1NjMmUmV2aXNpb25TZWxlY3Rpb25NZXRob2Q9bGF0ZXN0UmVsZWFzZWQmUmVuZGl0aW9uPXByaW1hcnkifQ.X8KSWpEyiLWf-idW5Gqstg7P6iuKPDNp63oxeFskAtA/br/78258580348-l).

**Virtual Meeting**

The Minnesota Department of Education ABE/GED team will be hosting a short webinar for staff working in GED testing centers and ABE administrators regarding the attached notice on Thursday, May 7 from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.  To register for the virtual meeting, please go to:  [https://attendee.gototraining.com/r/7180586491784952065](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fattendee.gototraining.com%2Fr%2F7180586491784952065&data=02%7C01%7Cbrad.hasskamp%40state.mn.us%7Cbf740fb36731445fa03508d7f1c3b895%7Ceb14b04624c445198f26b89c2159828c%7C0%7C0%7C637243695219210802&sdata=o1fqhtVZf2oVKJ10qBcBvfTJqOPAkdARVCNw5Rid7d4%3D&reserved=0)

***Please Note: This virtual meeting is for staff working in GED testing centers and ABE administrators. Due to limited webinar system capacity, we cannot open this meeting to all ABE staff.*** *We will record this webinar and post the link to the recording at the* [*MNABE State Presentations page*](http://www.mnabe.org/state-abe-presentations) *(www.mnabe.org/state-abe-presentations).*

**Questions**

If you have any questions/concerns, please contact Brad Hasskamp brad.hasskamp@state.mn.us or Todd Wagner todd.wagner@state.mn.us.

Thank you.

Todd Wagner, State ABE Director

and

Brad Hasskamp, Adult Secondary Credential and Education Policy Specialist

Minnesota Department of Education