

State of Arkansas

As Engrossed: S4/9/25

95th General Assembly

A Bill

Regular Session, 2025

HOUSE BILL 1812

By: Representative Gramlich

By: Senator J. Boyd

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING A STUDENT WHO TAKES AND PASSES A
GED TEST; TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT
AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT; TO CREATE AN EXCEPTION TO THE
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR A STUDENT WHO
TAKES A GED TEST AND RECEIVES A GED; TO AMEND THE
SCORE REQUIREMENTS FOR PASSAGE OF THE GED TEST; AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS EDUCATIONAL
SUPPORT AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT; TO
CREATE AN EXCEPTION TO ATTENDANCE
REQUIREMENTS FOR A STUDENT WHO TAKES A
GED TEST; AND TO AMEND THE SCORE
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE GED TEST.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2913(a)(2)(D), concerning criteria
considered by the State Board of Education for determining the level of
support to be provided to a public school district, is amended to read as
follows:

(D) Other criteria the state board determines appropriate,
including without limitation:

(i) Feeder pattern performance;

(ii) (a) Graduation rates.

(b) However, for purposes of this section, a



1 student who passes a GED test shall not be counted as a dropout when
2 calculating a public school district's five-year graduation rate;

3 (iii) Growth calculations; and

4 (iv) Other indicators of school success.

5
6 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-18-201(a)(2), concerning exceptions to
7 the requirement that each child of a certain age shall enroll in and attend a
8 school, is amended to read as follows:

9 (2) A child who has received a GED or a high school diploma or
10 its equivalent as determined by the State Board of Education is not subject
11 to the attendance requirement under this section;

12
13 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-18-201(a)(4), concerning exceptions to
14 the requirement that each child of a certain age shall enroll in and attend a
15 school, is amended to read as follows:

16 (4) A child sixteen (16) years of age or older who is enrolled
17 in an adult education program under subsection (b) of this section ~~or in the~~
18 ~~Arkansas National Guard Youth Challenge Program is not subject to the~~
19 ~~attendance requirement under this section.~~

20
21 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-18-201(c)(1), concerning a student
22 enrolled in a private, parochial, or home school who wishes to enroll in an
23 adult education program or take the GED test, are amended to read as follows:

24 (c) Students sixteen (16) years of age or seventeen (17) years of age
25 enrolled in a private, parochial, or home school who desire to enroll in an
26 adult education program shall meet the following requirements:

27 (1)(A) Students shall apply for enrollment to the adult
28 education program.

29 (B) A student enrolled in a private or parochial school
30 shall ~~provide;~~

31 (i) Provide a letter from the principal or
32 administrator of the private or parochial school to verify enrollment; and
33 ~~shall~~

34 (ii) Achieve a score 8.5-grade level or above as
35 determined by the Adult Education Section on either the Test for Adult Basic
36 Education or a minimum score of four hundred fifty (450) on each section and

1 ~~a minimum composite score of four hundred ninety (490) on the GED practice~~
2 ~~test.~~

3 (C) A student that is home schooled shall provide a
4 notarized copy of the notice of intent to home school provided to the
5 superintendent of the local school district as required by § 6-15-503;
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7 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 6-18-201(d), concerning a student enrolled
8 in a private, parochial, or home school who wishes to take the GED test, is
9 amended to read as follows:

10 (d) Students age sixteen (16) or above enrolled in a public, private,
11 parochial, or home school who desire to take the GED test shall meet the
12 following requirements:

13 (1) A public school student shall ~~not be required to~~ obtain
14 permission or approval from ~~any official in a~~ the public school district in
15 which he or she is enrolled before being allowed to take the test;

16 (2) A student enrolled in a private or parochial school shall
17 provide a letter from the principal or administrator of the private or
18 parochial school to verify enrollment;

19 (3) A student enrolled in a home school shall provide a
20 notarized copy of the notice of intent to home school provided to the
21 superintendent of the local school district as required by § 6-15-503; and

22 (4) A student enrolled in a public, private, parochial, or home
23 school must achieve at least the minimum official GED *practice* test scores.
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25 /s/Gramlich
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28 **APPROVED: 4/21/25**
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