



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR SEAN PARNELL

**Department of Labor and
Workforce Development**

Office of the Commissioner

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February 21, 2014

The Honorable Lynn Gattis
Chair House Education Committee
State Capitol Building, Room 106
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Gattis,

Thank you for the opportunity for Director Harvey to provide information regarding Adult Basic Education program and specifically the General Educational Development (GED) test for the House Education Committee on February 14, 2014. Provided below are responses to inquiries regarding the GED raised during the meeting.

Question: Can private home school students take the GED?

Answer: GED Testing Service policy concerning eligible test-takers states that the individual must be at least 16 years old and not currently enrolled in an accredited high school, including those accredited by regional accrediting bodies and also those approved by the state's department of education. Private home school students who meet the criteria would be able to take the GED

Question: What was the number of GED test takers in FY2013 over 18 and under 18?

Answer:

- 31 = 16 years of age
- 171 = 17 years of age
- 1,422 = 18 and older
- 1,624 = FY2013 total number of GED graduates*

Question: How many GED examinees took tests in FY2013 but did not complete?

Answer: 16 = 16 years of age

95 = 17 years of age

1,119 = 18 and older

1,230 = FY2013 total number of GED examinees who did NOT complete in FY2013

Any of those that did not successfully complete the battery of tests in FY2013, could have completed the tests between July 1 and December 31, 2013 before the GED test and fee schedule changed on January 1, 2014.

Please let me know if you have further questions. I welcome the opportunity to speak with you on these or any other topics related to the department.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Palotias for". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dianne Blumer
Commissioner