

**MT. HOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE: ABE-GED  
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**ABE-GED Classes**

**1. What classes are offered?**

Math and Language Arts

**2. How long is each term?**

Fall is 11 weeks. Winter, Spring and Summer are 10 weeks.

**3. How much do ABE-GED classes cost?**

\$30 for each class

**4. What do I need to do classes online?**

You will need a computer or laptop and reliable internet access to take online classes. If you do not have a computer, please ask a Student Resource Specialist about checking out a loaner laptop.

**5. What's online learning like?**

In your online classes you will learn by working independently at home and together with your instructor and class online. You may watch videos, playing online games and quizzes (like Kahoot), read articles and complete writing assignments, and meet with your instructor and tutors for online help. Some important qualities to being a successful online learner include motivated to achieve personal goals, can work independently, know how to ask for help, manage time well, open to learning new things, and not getting frustrated or giving up easily.

## **6. What are the class expectations?**

Plan on approximately 8 hours of work per week per class. You will need to plan these hours into your schedule just as though you were coming to campus. Most of your schoolwork is done on your own time, whenever you plan it into your schedule. However, there will be a few **required** hours per week that will be scheduled for online meetings with your instructor and/or class.

The minimum technology requirement is a smartphone with Wi-Fi or other reliable data connection. However, it is suggested that you have a computer with webcam and audio, as well as a printer. If you need a laptop or internet access, please contact a Student Resource Specialist for help. There are only a few basic school supplies needed for your classes: paper, pencils, and a binder to stay organized. The calculator that is **needed** if you are taking the GED: TI-30XS. You may buy online at Amazon, Walmart, etc.

Your instructor will expect you to attend online class meetings regularly and stay in communication with them throughout the term. If you are going to miss a meeting or need an extension on an assignment deadline, you must contact your instructor. If you decide to drop a class, please notify a Student Resource Specialist and your instructor so they can withdraw you.

## **Support and Resources-SRS/Tutors/Accommodations**

### **7. Do you have support for students?**

Yes, every student has a Student Resource Specialist assigned to them. This person can help with setting up and troubleshooting MHCC accounts; college and career advising; GED testing timelines/goals; test-taking strategies, time management and other soft skills; community and college resource connections; and much more.

### **8. Do you have tutors? When are they available?**

Yes, we have tutors in our department who can help with all ABE-GED assignments by phone, email, and Zoom. They offer tutoring at varied times throughout the day to accommodate busy student schedules.

### **9. I have a learning disability and/or had an IEP in high school, is there support I can get at MHCC? How do I get that support?**

You can receive support from Accessible Education Services by calling: 503-491-6923 or emailing: [aes@mhcc.edu](mailto:aes@mhcc.edu).

## **Fees and waivers**

### **10. How much do GED classes cost?**

\$30 for each class.

### **11. Is there support to help pay for classes?**

If you receive any public aid: WIC, SNAP, TANF, OHP (Oregon Health Plan), SSI, & Unemployment, you may be eligible to get a waiver to pay for your classes.

## **High School Students**

### **12. How old do I need to be to take ABE-GED classes or take the GED test?**

16 years old.

### **13. What paperwork do I need from my school district?**

You will need a release or referral form from the high school district you currently live in.

### **14. Where do I go to get a referral from the current school district I am living in (Reynolds, Sandy, Corbett, Gresham/Barlow, Springwater Trail, Centennial)?** Nikki Miller has a contact list.

### **15. What if my school does not do referrals?**

Parkrose, David Douglas, Portland Public Schools, and Estacada are a few examples that do not do releases.

### **16. What does the high school pay for?**

All books, official tests, and practice tests. You must have 60 hours of classroom time and a score of 150 on a practice test before you can request an official test code. **Do not** go to your high school for paying for classes, book, or tests. Nikki Miller will take care of this.

### **17. What if I leave MHCC and would like to come back?**

If you leave and want to return before you are 18 you can take two terms off and come back. However, if it is more than two terms you will need to show proof that you still live in the school district that your referral is from.

**18. Can I go back to high school if the GED program is not what I wanted?**

Yes, if you have a referral, **not** a release. If you have a release you will need to check with the high school that the release is from.

**19. Can I start classes without a release or referral? No.**

**20. Who do I contact with questions?**

Nikki Miller – [nikki.miller@mhcc.edu](mailto:nikki.miller@mhcc.edu) or (503) 491-7577

## **GED testing**

**21. How many tests are there and how long are the tests?**

There are 4 tests, and each test is \$38.

1. Language Arts: 150 minutes, 3 parts, 3 topics, one 10-minute break
2. Social Studies: 70 minutes, 1 part, 3 topics, no breaks
3. Science: 90 minutes, 1 part, 3 topics, no breaks
4. Math: 115 minutes, 2 parts, 4 topics, one 3-minute break

**22. How do I take a practice test?**

“GED Ready” practice tests cost \$6 per subject.

**23. How do I schedule official GED exams?**

Go to [www.ged.com](http://www.ged.com), set up your account, schedule your tests and pay online.

**24. How do I pay for GED exams?**

You will pay for tests online at the time of scheduling with a credit or debit card.

**25. Are the tests in other languages?**

Online GED test available in English and Spanish

**26. Are the tests in person or online?**

Remote testing requirements: Computer with webcam & internet, private workspace with door, government-issued ID, and a practice test score of 145+ within the past 60 days.

**27. What type of identification do I need?**

Testing center requirements: Government-issued ID, like a State issued driver's license or passport.

**28. What time do I arrive for the exam?**

You need to arrive 15-30 minutes early.

**29. What are the expectations during the testing?**

Cell phones and other personal items will not be allowed in the testing room.

**30. What happens during the test?**

You will have an on-screen calculator for parts of the Mathematical Reasoning test, and for certain items on the Science and Social Studies tests; If you want to use a handheld calculator, you must bring a TI-30XS Multiview Scientific calculator on test day - test centers will **not** have calculators for you to borrow.

You will be given three erasable notepads and a marker for notes.

**31. What happens if I DON'T pass the exam?**

If you did not pass one of your GED test subjects, you are given two subsequent retests, with no restrictions between retakes; if you fail the third or any subsequent retest, you must wait 60 days for your next attempt.

You must be 18 to test or be 16-17 and have release paperwork from your high school district.

You will receive two discounted retakes for every GED® test subject you buy but don't pass; You have 365 days after your full price test to use these retakes. After receiving two retakes at the reduced price, the price of the test subject returns to the regular price; In Oregon, there is a \$10 test center fee for test retakes.

## **Transitioning to College**

### **Financial Aid-FAFSA and ORSAA**

#### **32. Is there someone that will help me prepare to go to college?**

YES! We have a team of Student Resource Specialists that will help you prepare to go to college once you complete your GED.

#### **33. What is FAFSA?**

FAFSA (Free Application for Student Aid) is a free application you need to complete to get financial aid from the Federal Government. To be eligible, you need a Social Security Number, and a high school diploma or GED. The amount of financial aid you received is based on your income.

#### **34. What is ORSAA?**

ORSAA (Oregon Student Aid Application) is a free application for students who do not have a Social Security Number or are not US citizens. The amount you receive is based on your income.

## Testing

### 35. What is tCPT (College Placement Test)CPT?

The CPT (College Placement Test) is the college placement test and will place you in the correct level of Reading, Writing and Math in Credit Classes. You will take this after you have completed your GED exams. To take the CPT, you can get more information at <https://mhcc.edu/CPTSchedule/>

## Scholarships, Tuition Waivers, GED Scholarship

### 36. Are there scholarships to help pay for college?

YES! The best part is that we offer 7 Full-Year Tuition scholarships each year. These scholarships are worth \$4500! You can apply through the scholarship application: <https://mhcc.edu/Scholarships/> The scholarship is open from January 1-March 31.

### 37. What is a Tuition Award?

A tuition award is a scholarship that will pay for college credits. It does not cover course fees or textbooks. Students must meet and maintain all Satisfactory Academic Progress standards to receive this award. Cumulative GPA must be a minimum of 2.0. Students must have showed a commitment to completing a degree or certificate program. Awards are for one term only. Students must be enrolled in at least six (6) credits for the term the waiver is in effect. Students can be awarded a single credit award and up to a maximum of 15 credits. Applicants who live in the MHCC district will be given priority. Awards are for in-state tuition costs only. Out-of-state students may apply, but awards are based on in-state tuition.

### 38. What is the GED Scholarship?

We have our own scholarship to support our GED graduates! Each scholarship is a full-year tuition scholarship worth \$4500! We have 7 to give each year. To apply, you need to complete the Foundation Scholarship application at: <https://mhcc.edu/Scholarships/> The award is given for Fall, Winter & Spring terms. You must take at least 9 credits to receive the scholarship.

## **Choosing a Program to Study**

### **39. What if I want to go to college, but don't know what to study?**

Don't worry! We have a team of Student Resource Specialists that can help you explore programs you may be interested in. We can connect you to Career Counselors in the [Career Planning and Placement Center](#) to complete career exploration assessments which will help you with your future plans.

## **Job Search-Work Source**

### **40. Can I get help with finding a job?**

YES! We partner with Work Source Oregon in Gresham. We have our own team of MHCC employees who can help you work on a resume, practice interviewing and job search. You can set up an account at:  
<https://www2.worksourceportlandmetro.org>

### **41. Can I get help with my resume?**

Yes! They offer workshops, for free, to get help with your resume.