



Getting Your High School Diploma in Northwest Iowa can seem complicated and overwhelming. We are here to help. Everyone's situation is unique so the best thing to do is to contact us to figure out the best path. Call 712-631-5657 or email [adulthoodliteracy@nwicc.edu](mailto:adulthoodliteracy@nwicc.edu).

**1. Can't I just get a GED?**

The GED is not available in Iowa. The High School Equivalency Test (HiSET) is the only high school diploma test in the state. NCC's Adult Education and Literacy program is the only provider of the HiSET in Northwest Iowa.

**2. How old do I have to be?**

You must be 16 years and 9 months to take the HiSET. You cannot be currently enrolled in a high school.

**3. How long will it take me to get my high school diploma?**

It depends. If your in-take assessment shows you are ready for the HiSET, you will only need to complete a minimum number of hours. It is more typical for students to spend several months on each of the five subjects.

**4. Why do I have to take a class?**

The state of Iowa requires all students receive instruction before taking the HiSET. We offer classes year round on campus 9am-noon and online for students who are unable to attend in person. Students can only join a class at the beginning of one of our five ten-week terms.

**5. Do I have to be a United States citizen?**

No. We can help any adult in Northwest Iowa get a high school diploma regardless of immigration status.

**6. How much does it cost?**

All High School Equivalency Diploma (HSED) classes are free. The test is \$10.75/section, and there are scholarships available.

**7. What if English is not my first language?**

We offer ESL support for HSED students. The HiSET is offered in both English and Spanish.

**8. What's the first step?**

Orientations are offered five times a year on NCC's campus. Upcoming 2022 orientation dates are: January 19, March 30, June 8, August 17, and October 26.