

What we offer:		
GED Program	ESOL Program	Other programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizenship Preparation Class • Yoga • Digital Literacy • Women’s Health Initiative
What is the GED?		
The GED (General Educational Development) test is the test used by New York State to issue high school equivalency diplomas.		
About the GED:		
The GED test requires students to take and pass subtests in four subject areas: English, math, science, and social studies. All information about the GED, including ways to study, practice questions, when and where the test is offered, and how to sign up to take the test, can be found at https://ged.com/ .		
About the GED program at the School Sisters of Notre Dame Educational Center:		
The School Sisters of Notre Dame Educational Center, located at 87-04 88 th Avenue in Woodhaven, NY, provides classes to prepare women to take the GED test. Classes are small and the environment is welcoming and supportive. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classes are offered Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. • Classes are taught by certified teachers and are taught in English. • Classes are offered in the following subjects: English, math, science, and social studies. • There is a \$40 fee to register each year. There is no cost for classes or books. • Classes begin in September and continue until June. • All classes are in person. 		
Eligibility for attending the School Sisters of Notre Dame Educational Center program:		
Women must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be committed to working on their high school equivalency diploma • Be twenty years old or older (no upper limit) • Be able to attend classes Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. • Have the background in English and mathematics to work on the high school curriculum in English 		
To register for GED classes:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Come to the Center between 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday throughout the school year. • **Please note: Summer hours are Tuesday-Thursday. • You will be given a short test in English and math as part of the registration process. • There is a \$40 registration fee each year. There is no fee for classes or books. • Classes will begin 		
Frequently asked questions:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When do classes begin? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Classes begin in September. In 2024, classes will begin on Monday, September 16. However, students can join the program during the school year. • I need to take only certain subjects, since I’ve already passes some of them. Can I attend this program? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Yes. Several students who are in our program take only some classes because they have already passed the GED in some subject areas. • Sometimes I’ll need to miss class. Is that ok? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Yes, we understand that life happens and students will need to be absent. Students are asked to contact the Center and let us know that they will miss class. • Will we be using laptops and desktop computers in class? 		

- Yes, laptops and desktop computers are used in class to facilitate learning and to prepare students to take the GED test which is done on computer.
- Is there a cost for the program?
 - Yes. There is a \$40 fee to register. There is no cost for books or classes.
- Can I take the GED test at the Center?
 - No. The GED test needs to be taken at a NYC HSE (High school Equivalency) Testing Center. We will help you find a testing center and register for the GED test.
- What do I need to bring to class at the Center?
 - You need to bring pens, pencils, notebooks, and folders. The most important things to bring, however, are your heart and your mind, your energy and perseverance, and your determination and desire to work hard and succeed.
- How long will I need to study at the Center?
 - The length of time that women study at the Center depends on the amount of schooling they have already had, how quickly they learn, and how much time they can study on their own. As soon as students attain a sufficient level of proficiency in a subject area, their teacher will encourage them to register for the GED test in that subject.

About the GED in New York State:

States have different requirements for granting a high school equivalency diploma. At the website <https://www.acces.nysed.gov/hse/high-school-equivalency-hse>, you can find further information that pertains to New York State residents. There you will see other pathways through which New York State residents can obtain a high school equivalency diploma.

Good news: There is no cost to take the GED test for New York State residents.

Interested in finding out more about the GED program at the School Sisters of Notre Dame Educational Center?

- Send an email with your questions to cathy.stare@ssndecwomens.org.

Description of GED Classes:

English: Students develop critical thinking skills that enable them to write a clear and analytical essay on a given topic. Students read passages and answer questions that demonstrate their reading ability.

Mathematics: Building on basic math skills, students study geometry, algebra, graphs, and functions.

Science: Students use logic and reasoning to interpret information and draw conclusions in a science context and to design and interpret science experiments.

Social Studies: Students learn to analyze historical events and arguments as well as read graphs to interpret social studies information.

Computer: Since the GED test is taken on computer, students use computers in class to practice writing their essay and answering a variety of types of questions.

May 9, 2024

ESOL – English for Speakers of Other Languages

What is ESOL?

- ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) is a program designed to strengthen the reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills in English in people for whom English is not their native language.

About ESOL at the School Sisters of Notre Dame Educational Center

- The ESOL program at the SSND Educational Center provides classes for students with six levels of proficiency in English.
- Classes include Introductory Level, Levels 1 through Level 5/Advanced Conversation, and Beginning and Intermediate Writing via Zoom. A student’s class is based on her fluency in English.
- There is a \$40 fee to register each year. There are no costs for classes or books.
- All classes are in person, except for the Writing Classes via Zoom.
- Most classes use the Ventures textbook series. This series focuses on practical topics such as personal information, school, health, family and friends, and the local community

Eligibility for attending the School Sisters of Notre Dame Educational Center ESOL program:

- Women must be at least 21 years old. Classes are for women only.
- Classes are Monday through Thursday. Classes meet two or three times a week. Different levels of class meet on different days and at different times.
- To determine the appropriate level of instruction for a student, students take a placement test. Placement tests are normally given three times a year: in September/October, January, and June.

I want to take English classes at the Center. What should I do?

Take the placement test:

- Come to the Educational Center on June 17, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. for the placement test. Please be on time for the test.
- You must be 21 years old or older to take the test.
- The test will take approximately 1½ hours.
- You do not need to bring anything with you to the test.
- Do not bring children with you to the test.

After you take the placement test, you can register.

- You will come back to the Center on June 18, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. to register for your class. When you register, we will tell you the level of your class and the time and days your class will meet.
- Bring a registration fee of \$40 with you.
- Classes will begin in September 2025; days and times will depend on the class level.

Description of ESOL Classes:

- The basic literacy skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking in English are taught at each level of instruction.
- Conversation is an important focus of instruction. Students develop fluency in English as they converse about practical topics such as shopping, health, and daily living.
- As students progress from one level of instruction to another, they strengthen their writing skills. In the Introductory level, students learn the alphabet and write simple sentences. In each succeeding level, students write more complex sentences. By the time they are in Level 5 or a Zoom writing class, students are able to write short compositions.