

Downey Unified School District

For Adult Students

California High School Exit Examination 2010–11

Notice to Adult Students

All California adult students, except eligible students with disabilities (see Adult Students with Disabilities section), who are enrolled in an adult school that is operated by a public school district are required by state law to satisfy the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) requirement, as well as all other state and local graduation requirements, to receive a high school diploma. This includes adult students who attend a community college that is offering a high school diploma through a public school district. The CAHSEE requirement can be satisfied by passing the examination, or for eligible students with disabilities, meeting the exemption requirements pursuant to California *Education Code (EC)* Section 60852.3, or receiving a local waiver pursuant to *EC* Section 60851(c).

Subjects Covered on the CAHSEE

The examination consists of two parts: (1) English–language arts (reading and writing) and (2) mathematics. All questions are aligned to California’s content standards adopted by the State Board of Education (SBE). Content standards describe what students should know and be able to do at each grade level from kindergarten through grade twelve. Your school or school district can provide you with information on the content standards assessed by the CAHSEE, or you can download the CAHSEE test blueprints located on the California Department of Education (CDE) CAHSEE Program Resources Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/hs/resources.asp>.

Requirements for Passing the CAHSEE

Adult students must earn a score of 350 or higher on each part of the CAHSEE (English–language arts and mathematics) to pass the examination. Adult students do not need to pass both parts of the examination during the same test administration to satisfy the CAHSEE requirement.

Adult Students with Disabilities

Eligible adult students with disabilities are exempt from the requirement to pass the CAHSEE as a condition of graduation from high school (*EC* Section 60852.3). An eligible student, as defined in the law, is a student with an individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 plan that indicates that the student has satisfied or will satisfy all other state and local requirements to receive a high school diploma on or after July 1, 2009.

How long will the exemption last?

EC Section 60852.3 states that this exemption shall last until the California State Board of Education (SBE) makes a determination that alternative means are not feasible or that alternative means are implemented. On July 13, 2010, the SBE determined that alternative means to the CAHSEE for eligible students with disabilities are feasible and requested that the implementation date for alternative means be extended from January 1, 2011 to July 1, 2012. The exemption from meeting the CAHSEE requirement remains in place until alternative means are implemented.

The CAHSEE regulations specify accommodations and modifications that students with disabilities must be permitted to use if specified in the student’s IEP or Section 504 plan for use on the CAHSEE, standardized testing, or for use during classroom instruction and assessments. Students who use an accommodation and earn a score of 350 or higher have passed that part of the CAHSEE. Students who use a modification and earn the equivalent of a passing score on one or both parts of the CAHSEE have not passed. Eligible adult students with disabilities, who wish to meet the CAHSEE requirement by passing the examination and have earned the equivalent of a passing score while taking the CAHSEE with a modification, may choose to apply for a local waiver of the CAHSEE requirement from their local school board. (Although the

local waiver option is still in effect, the exemption under EC Section 60852.3 eliminates the need for the local waiver for students who are eligible for the exemption.)

More information on exemptions, accommodations, modifications, and the local waiver process can be found on the CDE CAHSEE Frequently Asked Questions Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/hs/faq.asp>.

Test Variations for Students who are English Learners

Adult students who are English learners must be permitted to take the CAHSEE with certain test variations if used regularly in the classroom. For example, if regularly used in the classroom, English learners must be permitted to hear the test directions in their primary language or use a translation glossary.

Graduation Requirements

All California public school adult students, except eligible students with disabilities, must satisfy the CAHSEE requirement, in addition to meeting all other state and local graduation requirements, to receive their high school diploma. Adult students who are English learners also must satisfy the CAHSEE requirement.

Testing Dates

As an adult student you will have three opportunities to take the CAHSEE during the 2010–11 school year. The CAHSEE will be administered at **Downey Adult School** on the dates specified below:

2010–11 Designated CAHSEE Testing Dates

English–Language Arts	Mathematics	Administered To
Tuesday	Wednesday	
July 27, 2010	July 28	Grade 12 and Adult
November 9, 2010	November 10, 2010	Grade 11 and Adult
December 4, 2010 (Saturday)	December 11, 2010 (Saturday)	Adult
March 8, 2011	March 9, 2011	Grade 10 Census and Adult

Additional Information

For the latest information regarding the CAHSEE, please visit the CDE CAHSEE Web page at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/hs/>. If you have any further questions about the CAHSEE, please contact our school district office at 562-469-6570.