## **GED Accommodations**

October 24, 2024
AACAE Conference Arkansas



### Agenda

- Overview
- Disability categories
- Accommodation process
- Documentation requirements
- Best way to assist
- Questions





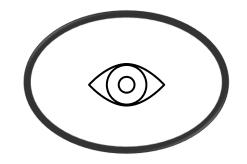
#### **Accommodations Overview**





#### Categories of Disabilities









**Learning and Other Cognitive Disabilities** 

Documentation within the last 5 years

**Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder** 

Documentation within the last 5 years

Psychological and Psychiatric Disorders

Documentation within the last 1 year

Physical Disorders and Chronic Health Conditions

Documentation within the last 1 year



### Requesting Accommodations

Create an account at GED.com

Click yes to the question about accommodations (modified testing)

Create an account in the GED Accommodations Request System Only click the activation link once

Contact <u>accommodations@ged.com</u> with questions/concerns





Effective August 1, 2023, accommodation approvals will be valid for 2 years.

(some exceptions apply)



### What is NOT considered a disability?

ESL (English as Second Language)

"Slow Learner"

Active substance abuser

**Test Anxiety** 

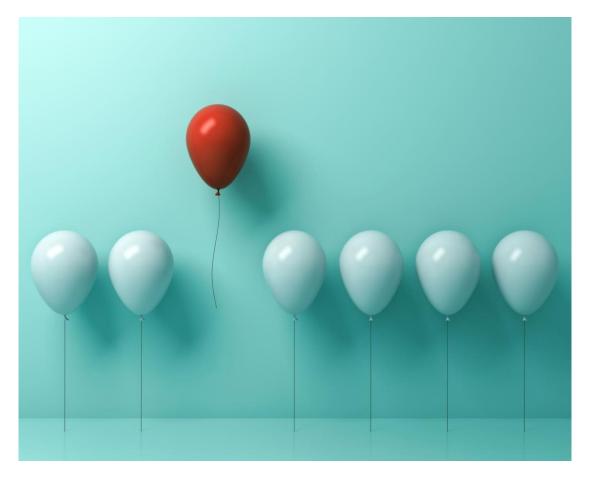


Homemade diagnoses



#### **Commonly Requested Accommodations**

Reader/ Extra recorder Time Extra "stop-the-Separate clock" Room breaks

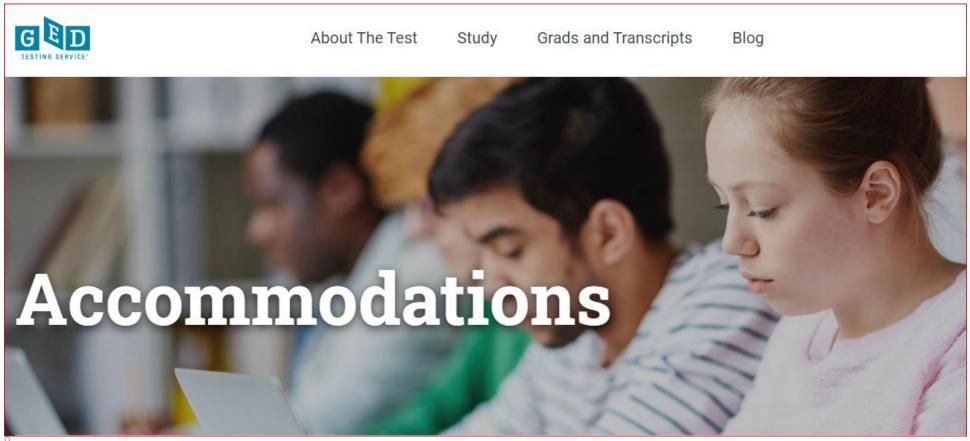




#### **Documentation Guidelines**

#### Review documentation guidelines:

https://ged.com/about\_test/accommodations/





## Accommodation Request Volume – Arkansas

Year	Total Requests	Approved/Partial Approval	Incomplete	Denied
2024 Jan-Sept	66	55	11	0
2023	73	56	17	0
2022	72	58	14	





### Accommodation System Features

#### **Online Request System**

Candidates request accommodations online. Starts with them clicking "yes" to the accommodation question on GED.com

#### Web Scheduling

Candidates with approvals of extra time, breaks and other things that do not require manual intervention are directed to schedule online.



## **Assistive Technology**

Adaptive Universal Access equipment features Magnification **JAWS** 



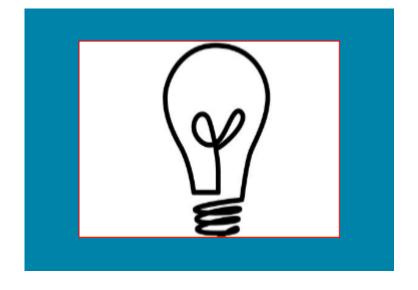
## Emerging Trends in Accommodations and Accessibility



Accommodation vs Fundamental Alteration



Accommodations vs Security



Non-standard requests



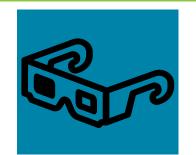
#### **Accommodation Review Process**

- Who reviews requests?
- How are determinations made?
  - Consider all documentation
  - Continual calibration
  - Written explanations





#### **Outer Limits of Accommodations**



#### **Unlimited time**



The accommodation cannot be so extreme that test validity is compromised

## Waiving a portion of the test \_\_\_\_\_



The accommodation cannot fundamentally alter the test's purpose

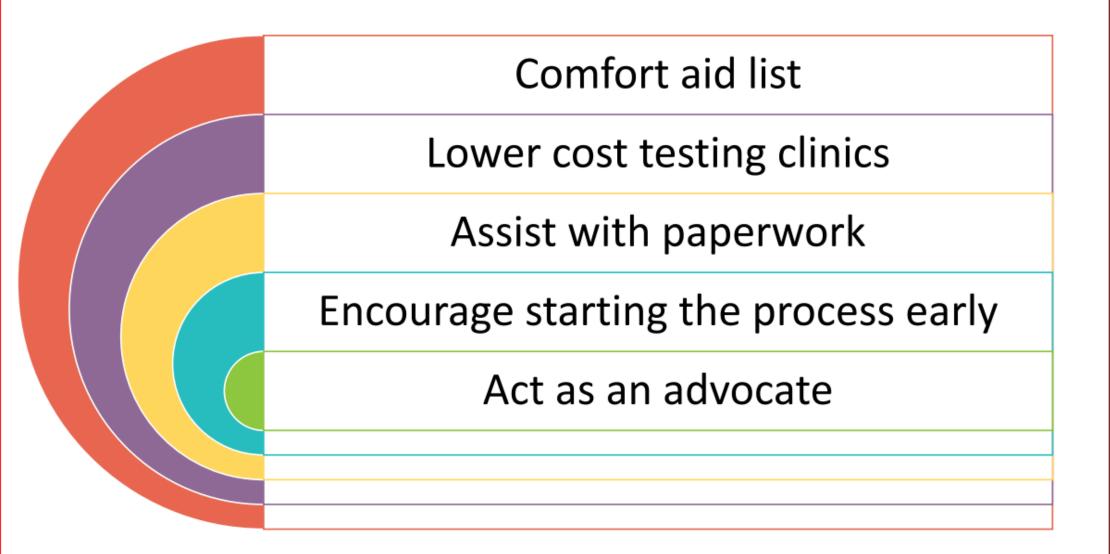
## Administer medical care



The accommodation cannot jeopardize test security or the safety of staff/others



## How can you help your students?





# Resources on the Accommodation Page

- Frequently Asked Questions
- Lower-cost Testing Clinics in the United States
- Personal Items and Minor Modifications

Questions? Email <u>accommodations@GED.com</u>





### **Scheduling Information**

- The determination letter will have scheduling instructions
- Separate room approvals require a call back
- Approvals of reader and recorder require 8 business day lead and a call back
- If there is no answer when the agent calls back and they are unable to leave a message, an email will be sent to the candidate's email
- If the advocate should receive the call back, tell the scheduling agent the name and phone number to call
- If a message is left with an appointment offer, it is only for 2 days. After the two days, the candidate must call again
- Candidates and advocates should not call test centers directly



## Questions





# **Contact Information**

**Debbie Bergtholdt** *Manager, Accommodations* 

accommodations@ged.com



