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SUBSTANTIALLY DISCOUNTED GED® TESTS NOW AVAILABLE IN ILLINOIS

Illinois Community College Board Offers Subsidy Through \$400,000 Grant

WASHINGTON— The Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) is helping state residents pass the GED[®] test and earn high school equivalency diplomas through grant funding that reduces the cost of the test.

This grant is part of an initiative to support residents across the state in need of a high school credential that can lead to additional workforce and postsecondary education opportunities.

Students can take any of the four GED test subjects (Reasoning Through Language Arts, Mathematical Reasoning, Social Studies or Science) for \$10 each using the code: **ILSAVE20**. The discount reduces the individual test subject price from \$30 down to \$10.

"Taking these tests can lead to better lives, and this grant funding may help minimize a small burden on the thousands of hard-working residents who are being strained by the pandemic," said ICCB Executive Director Brian Durham.

Eligible students must meet state residency requirements to use the discount code. They may take as many test subjects as needed to earn their GED credential while grant funding lasts.

"This grant from ICCB is coming at a critical moment during this turbulent economic time," said GED Testing Service Vice President CT Turner. "Many students are taking this time to further their education and gain the skills they need to enter a new job, career training, or college program."

Earning a GED credential is the first step to postsecondary education, vocational training, and better career opportunities. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, individuals with a high school diploma earn \$9,000 more per year than those without a diploma. The GED test is designed to help learners gain the skills they need to succeed in postsecondary studies and beyond. More than 50% of GED graduates across the country are attending college and certificate programs.

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The grant provider, <u>ICCB</u>, is the state coordinating organization for the Illinois Community College System. It administers state and federal grants to community college districts and adult education providers and manages high school equivalency testing for Illinois.

Students can learn more about this testing discount by logging into their free GED.com account. More information about the GED test program and creating an account can be found at <u>GED.com</u>.