

**ADULT COMMUNITY EDUCATION
HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY PROGRAM AND TESTING POLICY**

Any adult, age 16 and over, who is not presently enrolled in high school may participate in the Wells-Ogunquit Adult Community Education High School Equivalency preparation program.

Any adult may take the High School Equivalency exam and be awarded their State of Maine diploma upon successful completion of the test battery if:

1. They are 18 years of age or older and not presently enrolled in any high school.
2. They are 17 years of age and have not been in attendance at a high school for at least one (1) year.
3. They are 17 years of age, have been out of school for less than one (1) year, have written approval from the local superintendent or designee, and have “documented immediate need.” The state definition is as follows:

“Documented immediate need” is a third party commitment to the High School Equivalency candidate that the third party will honor that commitment upon the candidate’s receipt of a High School Equivalency. This would be a written communication from the person making the commitment to the High School Equivalency candidate. Implied in this is the fact that the writer has the authority and capability of fulfilling the commitment. The three areas of eligibility for a “documented immediate need” are employment, post-secondary education, or enlistment in the armed services.

Some examples of documented immediate need are available in the Adult Community Education Office.

Maine legislation does not allow 16 year olds to be tested, regardless.