Career Tech Matters

by Dennis Franks • Sept. 26, 2014

It's taken her 40 years, but Linda Hatfield of Circleville is on her way to getting her GED.

The GE retiree said when she moved to Circleville and learned that ABLE was housed in our Mound Street campus, it was too convenient not to take classes.

"Since I'm retired, I have no excuse not to go," Linda said.

Linda has already passed the language arts section of the test and took the practice math test yesterday.

A change in how the GED is administered has spurred a new practice test – the GED Ready – and free practice testing is being offered by Pickaway-Ross Career & Technology Center's Assessment Center through Oct. 3.

Marie Barada, Adult Education ABLE coordinator at Pickaway-Ross, said with the elimination of the pencil-and-book system, GED Ready is a better representation of what GED test candidates will face.

"The new system is a computer-based test," Barada said, "and so is GED Ready."

Another advantage of GED Ready is that results are provided faster, allowing test candidates to know sooner what areas they may want to practice before taking the GED.

In addition to language arts and math, the GED Ready – like the GED – tests science and social studies knowledge.

"Math and language arts are the sections we spend a lot of time on during preparation," Marie said.

Linda Hatfield works prepares to take the GED Ready test in math yesterday. GED Ready is a computer-based practice test for people preparing to take the GED.

"Because of this, I recommend test-candidates take those sections on the GED Ready and then decide if they want to take the others."

Linda said the preparation that she's had for the GED Ready – and the test itself – has been very helpful.

"It really prepares you by making you comfortable on the computer. It puts you at ease and takes the fear away of 'Oh, I have to take a test.' "

Practice testing will be conducted at Pickaway-Ross' Circleville campus, at 424 E. Mound St., from 5 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 30.

It will also be conducted at Pickaway-Ross' main campus, 895 Crouse Chapel Road in Chillicothe, from 5 to 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 30; and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 2.

Registration at http://register.pickawayross.com/ShowGroups.awp is required. Test candidates will need a valid photo ID, active e-mail and password.

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