

## CHAPTER 25

AN ACT concerning State-issued high school diplomas and supplementing Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

**BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

C.18A:50A-1 Provision of State-issued high school diploma.

1. A State-issued high school diploma shall be provided by the New Jersey Department of Education to persons 16 years of age or older and no longer enrolled in school to document the attainment of academic skills and knowledge equivalent to a high school education. Demonstration of the appropriate level of academic competency for receipt of the State-issued high school diploma shall include, but need not be limited to, passage of the Tests of General Educational Development (GED) of the American Council on Education.

C.18A:50A-2 Rules, regulations relative to State-issued high school diploma.

2. Notwithstanding any provision of P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) to the contrary, the Commissioner of Education may adopt, immediately upon filing with the Office of Administrative Law, such rules and regulations as the commissioner deems necessary to implement the provisions of P.L.2008, c.25 (C.18A:50A-1 et seq.). The rules and regulations adopted by the commissioner shall be effective for a period not to exceed 12 months. Rules and regulations shall thereafter be amended, adopted, or re-adopted by the State Board of Education pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.).

The rules and regulations shall include, but not be limited to:

a. the establishment of reasonable and appropriate fees for persons seeking a State-issued high school diploma by examination or re-examination of the Tests of General Educational Development (GED) of the American Council on Education; provided that the fees shall not exceed the actual cost of the tests and their administration; and

b. the establishment of the manner in which a not for profit third party may participate in the administration of examinations and re-examinations of the Tests of General Educational Development (GED) and in the collection of fees from person seeking a high school diploma by examinations and re-examinations of the tests. The rules and regulations regarding not for profit third parties shall be in conformance with the application and approval process overseen by the Department of Education and the General Educational Development Testing Service of the American Council on Education.

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved June 30, 2008.