

Offering GED Services

As an Employment Counselor for the past four years, I have come to realize that arguably the most difficult barrier to employment is the lack of a high school diploma or G.E.D. In fact, in some ways not having graduated from high school is more of an obstacle to securing a job than having a criminal background.

Although I repeatedly encourage regular customers to contact H.C.C., T.S.U., or East Side Village Learning Centers, they always seem to have had some reason why they have not begun studying for a G.E.D.

Therefore, I propose that I offer G.E.D. classes here in the Astrodome Center for our customers. One possibility would be three one-hour classes per week, to be scheduled at the Center's convenience.

My qualifications for teaching this class are: a certified secondary English teacher, with 14-plus years of teaching experience in ages 4-adult. I taught for five years as an inner-city middle school teacher with H.I.S.D., and have an additional four years as an instructor in HoustonWorks' very successful in-school program targeting at-risk middle school students. In that program we successfully met the objective of raising our students' competency levels two years in mathematics and two years in English each school year.

Moreover, I have two years of high school teaching experience in Arizona, four years of working with all age groups in Malaysia and Indonesia, two years of part-time employment with San Jacinto College and another two years with Houston Community College as a college instructor of philosophy. I am currently teaching a three-hour H.C.C. class on Saturday mornings, Introduction to Philosophy. Finally, since 2009 I have occasionally been tutoring individual G.E.D. students through WyzAnt.com.

It is my belief that by having WorkforceSolutions offer G.E.D. classes at our centers, we may be able to help some of our customers not only successfully gain employment, but also become successes in life.

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