

Appendix A: GED Online – Student Survey

Background Information

What is your current status? (Check one)

currently enrolled in the online program finished/withdrawn from the online program

If you are no longer participating in the online program, check what is the reason? (*Check one*)

you passed your GED

work schedule changed so you are unable to spend time working on GED

family needs changed so you are unable to spend time working on GED

online program is too difficult

online program is different than what you thought/don't like structure

self-discipline/don't like to study independently

you are taking on-site classes with teacher explanation/assistance

other (list reason)

am currently enrolled in the online GED program

What is the estimated time in weeks/months that you have worked on your online GED? (*check one*)

less than 1 month

7-9 months

1-3 months

10-12 months

4-6 months

over 1 year

Please check all of the subject areas you have studied online. (*Check all that apply*)

Math

Social Studies

Reading

Science

Language Arts-Writing

Computer Use

Do/did you have access to a computer outside CTAE? (*check one*)

yes no

If yes, where: (*check all that apply*)

home library a friend other

Do/did you work on your GED study away from CTAE? (*check one*)

yes no

How many hours a week do you usually spend on the computer when you search the Internet, write emails, access Facebook, and conduct other work not related to your online GED study? (*check one*)

less than 5 hours a week 16-20 hours a week

6-10 hours a week 21-25 hours a week

11-15 hours a week more than 26 hours a week

How many hours a week do/did you usually spend working on your online GED materials? (*check one*)

less than the required 15 hours a week

15 hours a week

16-20 hours a week

more than 20 hours a week

What reasons do/did you have for studying for the GED online? *Rate the responses.* Give #1 for the most important reason you decided to study online. Give #2 for the second most common reason. Give #7 for the least common reason.

schedule doesn't permit attending classes on campus

transportation to/from campus is a challenge

distance to campus is too far to drive each day

gas money for trips to campus is too expensive

prefer independent learning

_____ children are at home and so parent needs to be at home

_____ other (please list)

Challenges

Using a new computer program is often hard at first, then it sometimes gets easier.

How often did you need to get help during the first week of using the program? (*check one*)

_____ never _____ 1-2 times _____ several times

After the first week, how often each session do/did you need to get help for using the program? (*check one*)

_____ usually never _____ 1-2 times a session _____ several times each session

Rate the kinds of help you have requested from your teacher. Give #1 for the type of help you have asked for the most. Give #3 for the least amount of assistance given.

___ help getting the computer started or figuring out how to get the computer to work

___ help understanding what the program was asking me to do

___ help in figuring out how to get the work correct

Rate how difficult you find/found each of the online GED programs (*check one for each subject area*)

Math

___ Didn't use ___ Fairly easy ___ A little difficult ___ often difficult ___ usually too difficult

Language Arts-Reading

___ Didn't use ___ Fairly easy ___ A little difficult ___ often difficult ___ usually too difficult

Language Arts-Writing

___ Didn't use ___ Fairly easy ___ A little difficult ___ often difficult ___ usually too difficult

Social Studies

Didn't use Fairly easy A little difficult often difficult usually too difficult

Science

Didn't use Fairly easy A little difficult often difficult usually too difficult

Teacher Contact

If you work(ed) away from CTAE, how often does/did the teacher contact you? (*check one*)

daily weekly monthly rarely, if ever

When the teacher contacts(ed) you, s/he emails(ed)/calls(ed) for the following reason: (*check all that apply*)

insufficient hours logged onto the computer

inadequate work/work completed incorrectly

other (please list)

Teacher Help

Check the choices that describe the type and frequency of contact you have/had asked your teacher. (*Check all that apply*).

Almost never. I just log(ged) onto the computer and do my work. I rarely contact(ed) my teacher.

Just at the beginning of my online GED experience (the first week or so) I asked for help.

Just at the beginning and end of sessions when I work(ed) at CTAE I ask(ed) for help.

A few times each session when I work(ed) at CTAE I ask(ed) for help or the teacher checked to see how I was doing.

Only when the work was/is too hard or directions are unclear I ask(ed) for help.

Only when there were/are computer problems I ask(ed) for help.

Survey Demographics

Gender male female

Age under 20 years 41-50 years

21-30 years 51-60 years

31-40 years 61 years and older

If you are willing to speak with a researcher regarding your online GED experience, please put your name and email and phone number below.

Name: _____ Phone and email: _____