# GED® Test: Science
# Performance Level Descriptors
# What Your Score Means: Level 1 — Below Passing

Test-takers who score at this level typically have a limited but developing proficiency demonstrating the skills in the following categories: examining scientific text, understanding and applying scientific methods and concepts, and interpreting scientific data using numeric reasoning.

Test-takers at the Below Passing level typically demonstrate the following skills:

## Analyze Scientific and Technical Arguments, Evidence, and Text-Based Information

- Cite specific textual evidence to support a finding or conclusion at a limited and/or inconsistent level

## Applying Scientific Processes and Procedural Concepts

- Identify and refine hypotheses for scientific investigations at a limited and/or inconsistent level
- Reason from data or evidence to a conclusion at a limited and/or inconsistent level
- Identify the strength and weaknesses of one or more scientific investigations (i.e. experimental or observational) designs at a limited and/or inconsistent level

## Reasoning Quantitatively and Interpreting Data in Scientific Contexts

- Describe a data set statistically at a limited and/or inconsistent level
- Understand and explain non-textual scientific presentations at a limited and/or inconsistent level
- Express scientific information or findings numerically or symbolically at a limited and/or inconsistent level
- Express scientific information or findings visually at a limited and/or inconsistent level

In order to progress to the Pass/High School Equivalency level, test-takers need to:

1) continue to strengthen the skills listed in the Below Passing Level, including:

    - Cite specific textual evidence to support a finding or conclusion

- Express scientific information or findings verbally
- Identify and refine hypotheses for scientific investigations
- Understand and explain non-textual scientific presentations

and

2) develop the following additional skills:

- Understand and explain textual scientific presentations
- Identify possible sources of error and alter the design of an investigation to ameliorate that error
- Identify and interpret independent and dependent variables in scientific investigations
- Understand and apply scientific models, theories, and processes
- Apply formulas from scientific theories