

# Your New Stars Suite



This document introduces the new courses featured in the Stars Suite. Stars Suite still features our cornerstone product, Novel, a library of middle and high school courses, but now includes new preparatory courses.

The process to enroll students into these new prep courses is the same process as Novel's enrollment. This document describes the new prep courses in detail, and the course modes by which they can be delivered.

Please call your account representative or our HelpDesk, (866) 890-8152, if you have any questions.

## What's New?

### Introducing new prep courses:

The Stars Suite introduces new preparatory courses including High School Prep, Pre-GED, GED, and TestPak. High School Prep aids in a student's academic transition from middle to high school. Pre-GED and GED equip students for the GED exam. TestPak prepares high school students for state exit exams. To offer more options for student success, the Prep Courses also feature new course delivery modes: Full Course and Adaptive Assessment.

As always, these new courses are created using a stringent, research-based development process that starts with a review of state and national academic standards to determine required learning outcomes.

 high school prep™

 testpak™

 ged duo™

### Two ways to deliver prep courses:

#### Full Course Mode:

Students cover all lessons, submissions, and take a final exam.

#### Adaptive Assessment Mode:

Students take an initial assessment and then receive a prescribed course of study. Items which the students have mastered are marked as "Complete," while non-mastered topics are marked as "New." Students work through the new concepts and take a comprehensive follow-up assessment covering both new and completed topics to ensure they have truly mastered the content. Based on the follow-up assessment the program will then regenerate a course of study, with new randomized submissions. Students can continue cycling through the program until all concepts are mastered.



# high school prep™

**Purpose:**

Designed to bring students to grade 8.9 proficiency; high school readiness

**Topics:**

Language Arts: Vocabulary, Reading Comp, Grammar, Structure of Writing  
 Math: Problem Solving (incl. some introductory Algebra), General Principles  
 (incl. some introductory Geometry)  
 Science

**Background:**

Derived from original Novel/Stars material

**Audience:**

Spot remediation in middle school  
 Over-aged middle-school students  
 “Freshman Academy” between 8th and 9th grade to get everyone up the right level  
 9th graders passed on from middle school without mastering the material

**Delivery Modes:**

Full Course  
 Adaptive Assessment



# testpak™

**Purpose:**

To prepare students for high school exit exams

**Topics:**

Comprehensive English: Reading Comprehension, Language Usage, Writing  
 Comprehensive Math: Basic Math, Geometry, Algebra, Data Analysis

**Background:**

Combination of Novel/Stars material and new material  
 The courses were written based on exit exam testable objectives from the following  
 states: FL, GA, CA, AZ, NC, VA

**Audience:**

High school students who are required to take an exit exam to receive a diploma or  
 for the school to secure funding for the following school year  
 Potentially could be used as a preparatory for college entrance exams such as the  
 SAT or the ACT, but as of yet we have no correlation data

**Delivery Modes:**

Full Course  
 Adaptive Assessment



## Pre-GED Track

### Purpose:

Designed to bring students to grade 8.9 proficiency

### Topics:

Language Arts: Vocabulary, Reading Comp, Grammar, Structure of Writing

Math: Problem Solving (incl. some introductory Algebra), General Principles  
(incl. some introductory Geometry)

Science

### Background:

Derived from original Novel/Stars material

### Audience:

GED candidates who are not yet ready to begin on GED-level material

Full Course

Adaptive Assessment

## GED-Prep Track

### Purpose:

To prepare students for the GED

### Topics:

Language Arts: Reading, Language Usage, Writing

Science: Earth & Space Science, Life Science, Physical Science

Math: Problem Solving & Geometry, Statistics, Algebra (incl. calculator and non-calculator)

Social Studies: Geography, Economics, World History, U.S. History, U.S. Government

### Background:

Written as a brand new course. NOT derived from Novel/Stars material

Specifically correlated to the new national GED, in terms of content-focus, format, question-type, answer format, etc.

Purpose of GED is not to have students regurgitate content back to tester. Rather, when given new information (reading, tables, graphs, etc), can the students understand, interpret, analyze, and infer things based on the new information

Includes GED Survival Skills in each lesson: important study skills – ie “If you take nothing else from this lesson, learn this.” Ex: How to Read a Table

### Audience:

GED Candidates:

Adult learners in resources centers, judicial system, etc.

Student learners in schools, Dept Juvenile Justice, etc.

Non-GED candidates – use in school as additional material, supplementary to Novel courseware

(Different reading, different examples, different homework)

### Delivery Modes:

Full Course

Adaptive Assessment

# Prep course differences from the original Novel/Stars:

## Submissions:

Larger question banks

Initial submissions and re-remediation submissions are randomly generated

If a submission is Reset by the teacher, it is not re-randomized

## Exams:

Exam questions are different than questions on the submissions

## Course Types:

Full Course Mode:

Functions exactly like the Novel course type: Work through all the submissions, take a final (here called "Unit Test")

Adaptive Assessment Mode:

Mastery level for the Assessment and Follow-ups is preset at 80% and cannot be changed

Follow-Up Assessments are Comprehensive (over entire course material, not just New)

Automatic re-remediation

Every time a student is re-remediated, submissions are wiped because they have a new prescribed course of study. It does not save all versions of the submission and Follow-up exams; only the most recent.

Generates an Analysis Report of the students' Assessments. Gives the percentage, lesson by lesson, that shows a student's proficiency in the topic area. (To view: Progress Report, select the Initial/Final Assessment)

No "Assigned" column in Item Report. Cannot further un-assign lessons/submissions