Update on the New York State Diploma Requirements and Pathways to Graduation

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NYSCOSS Winter Institute

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Diploma Requirements in NYS are Two Fold

22 Diploma Credits
- Completing a unit of study and mastering the learning outcomes for the course

5-9 Assessments
- Obtaining a passing score on a Regents examination, Regents Competency Test (RCT)* or Department Approved Alternative

These requirements are separate and distinct and do not have to happen simultaneously. Students may earn diploma credit for successfully completing a course but fail to meet the corresponding Regents assessment requirement.

OR

Students can fail a course and receive no academic credit but fulfill an assessment requirement if they pass a Regents examination in that course.

*The RCT is only available to students who entered grade 9 prior to Sept 2011
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credits - 22:</th>
<th>Assessments – 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4      ELA</td>
<td>ELA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3      Mathematics</td>
<td>1 Math</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3      Science,</td>
<td>1 Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4      Social Studies</td>
<td>1 Social Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>½      Health</td>
<td>1 Pathway Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1      Arts</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1      Language other than English (LOTE)</td>
<td>Note: There are <strong>Department Approved Alternatives</strong> to some of the Regents Exams found at:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 ½    Electives</td>
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</table>
Requirements to be admitted to a Regents Examination

Section 8.2 of the Rules of the Board of Regents:

• All students who have completed the course of study leading to a Regents Exam have the right to be admitted to that exam.

• Students may not be barred from an exam for disciplinary reasons or because their achievement in a subject is considered unsatisfactory.

• In the case of a science Regents Exam, only students who have also met the laboratory requirement, which includes 1200 minutes of hands-on laboratory experience with satisfactory laboratory reports, may be admitted.
Credit By Examination
Only applicable to courses culminating in a Regents Exam

A student may earn a maximum of 6 1/2 units of credit for either a Regents or local diploma without completing units of study for such units of credit, if:

• based on the student's past academic performance, the superintendent of a school district or his or her designee, determines that the student will benefit academically by exercising this alternative;

• the student achieves a score of at least 85 percent on the Regents examination;

• the student passes an oral examination or successfully completes a special project to demonstrate proficiency, in such knowledge, skills and abilities normally developed in the course but not measured by the relevant Regents examination;
Credit Requirements: No change – 22 credits
Assessment Requirements: Students who are otherwise eligible to graduate June 2015 and thereafter have the following assessment options:

- All Students **must pass** the following **four (4) required** Regents Exams:
  - 1 Math, 1 Science, 1 Social Studies, ELA; and
- Students **must choose one (1)** of the following additional examinations:
  - Additional Social Studies Regents Exam; or
  - Additional Science Regents Exam; or
  - Additional Math Regents Exam; or
  - Approved CTE, LOTE or Arts Pathway Assessment; or

(This assessment must measure content other than that measured by one of the four required Regents Exams)
What are the Pathway Assessments in CTE?

Currently, the following 13 assessments have been recommended for approval as CTE pathway assessments: [http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2014/September2014/Pathways.pdf](http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2014/September2014/Pathways.pdf)

- The ProStart National Certificate of Achievement
- Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Student Certification
- A+ Certification (CompTIA)
- Network+ Certification (CompTIA)
- National Institute of Metal Working (NIMS) Skills Certification
- PrintED
- Student Electronics Technician (SET)
- Carpentry Level-1 Certification
- Assessment of Skills and Knowledge for Business (A*S*K)
- Advertising and Design (NOCTI)
- Accounting – Basic (NOCTI)
- Agricultural Mechanics (NOCTI)
- Hospitality Management – Food and Beverage (NOCTI)
What are the approved pathway assessments in the Arts and Biliteracy (LOTE)?

Pathway assessments in the Arts and LOTE have not yet been approved by the Department. As soon as assessments have been identified they will be released. Locally developed Checkpoint B examinations in LOTE are not approved pathway assessments.

What are the approved pathway assessments in Humanities?

Pathway assessments in the Humanities include an additional social studies Regents Exam, any English or social studies assessment from the list of Department Approved Alternatives Examinations found at [http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/hsgen/archive/list.pdf](http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/hsgen/archive/list.pdf)
What are the approved pathway assessments in STEM?

- Any additional science or mathematics Regents Exam

Can students identified as having a disability use the pathways 4+1 option in conjunction with the low pass safety net and the compensatory safety net in order to earn a local diploma?

- Yes
Social Studies Changes that Impact the Diploma Requirements

When is the first administration of the new Global History and Geography II (1750 to present) Regents Examination?

- The first administration will be in June 2018.
- Designed to be administered at the end of grade 10 and cover only the content from year 2 (1750-present) of this course.
- Students entering grade 9 in September 2016 will be subject to this exam.

How will the Social Studies credit requirements change as a result of the proposed changes to part 100?

Currently the graduation requirements call for 4 credits in Social Studies. 1 credit must be US History, ½ must be Economics and ½ must be Participation in Government.

Under the proposed change to part 100, the remaining 2 credits in Social Studies will have to be in Global History and Geography.

Other Regents Actions Affecting the Diploma Requirements
ELA Flexibility

At the October meeting, the BOR approved emergency regulations allowing, at district discretion, the students who entered grade 9 prior to 2013, who are instructed in Common Core ELA, to take the Comprehensive ELA Regents (2005) in addition to the Common Core ELA Regents Exam. The higher of the two scores may be used for transcript purposes and will be used for accountability purposes.

This flexibility has been in place but is now extended for an additional 3 administrations: January 2015, June 2015 and August 2015.

This flexibility does not extend to students who enter grade 9 in 2013 and thereafter. These students must pass the ELA Common Core in order to graduate.

Updated Transition to CC Regents Exams Memo
Additional Administration of Integrated Algebra

There will be an additional administration of the Integrated Algebra Regents Examination in June 2015.

At the November meeting, the BOR approved emergency regulations providing that students who are instructed in Common Core Algebra I may, at district discretion, take the Integrated Algebra Regents in addition to the Common Core Algebra I.


Available to:

- Students who began instruction in Common Core Algebra prior to September 2014 (Extended or “Stretch” Courses)
- Any students who (in the past) completed a course of study in Integrated Algebra (Core Curriculum 2005)
The Appeals Process Since 2005

• Under certain circumstances students who score a 62-64 on a required Regents Examination may submit an Appeal to their district to graduate with that lower score.
• Students whose appeal is granted for 1 exam may earn a Regents diploma.
• Students whose appeal is granted for 2 exams may earn a local diploma.
• Applicable Regulation 100.5(d)(7) (http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#regpasscore)
• Forms can be found at http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/gradreq/appeal-form.pdf
Students seeking to appeal must meet the following criteria

The student has:

• taken the Regents examination under appeal at least two times;
• obtained a score of 62-64 on the Regents Exam under appeal;
• taken advantage of academic help in the subject tested by the Regents examination under appeal;
• an attendance rate of 95 percent (except for excused absences) for the school year during which the student last took the Regents examination under appeal;
• passed the course for which the appeal is being sought;
• been recommended for an exemption to the graduation requirement by the student’s teacher or Department chairperson in the subject of the Regents examination under appeal.
New Appeal Process for English Language Learners

At the October 2014 meeting the Board adopted by emergency action an amendment to CR 100.5(d) related to the appeals process to graduate with a lower score on a Regents exam.

Currently under certain circumstances students can appeal scores of 62-64 on any required Regents exam. The revised regulation allows students who are identified as English Language Learners to appeal a score of 55-61 on the ELA Regents Exam and, if granted, receive a local diploma.

**Eligibility Conditions**

Student must be classified as an English Language Learner and have:

- entered the US in grades 9-12
- Otherwise eligible to graduate in 2015 and thereafter (adopted at the Feb. BOR Mtg)
- taken the test at least twice; and
- scored between 55 and 61 on at least one attempt; and
- received AIS in ELA; and
- an attendance rate of 95%; and
- a passing average in the corresponding course; and
- a recommendation by teacher or department chairperson.

Transition to Common Core Assessments in ELA

Grade 9 students beginning in 2013 and thereafter:
• must be instructed in Common Core ELA
• must take and pass the Regents Examination in ELA (Common Core) in order to meet diploma requirements

Students who began grade 9 prior to 2013
• May continue to be instructed in the ELA Core (Revised 2005) or transition to the Common Core at district discretion
• Must take the ELA Regents assessment aligned with their instructional program
• For the June 2014 thru August 2015 test administrations only, students instructed in the Common Core may, at local discretion, take the Regents Comprehensive Examination in ELA (2005) in addition to the Common Core Regents Examination in ELA in order to meet diploma requirements.
Transition to Common Core Assessments in Mathematics

• Students beginning their first commencement level mathematics course in September 2013 and thereafter must be enrolled in a course aligned to the Common Core (likely Algebra I) and take the corresponding Common Core Regents Exam.

• Those students first enrolled in Algebra I (Common Core) in the 2013-14 school year, may at local discretion, take the Regents Exam in Integrated Algebra while it is still being offered, in addition to the Regents Exam in Algebra I (Common Core) in order to meet diploma requirements. The higher of the two scores may be used for transcript purposes.

• Students who began Algebra I Common Core Instruction in September 2014 or thereafter may take only the Algebra I (Common Core) Examination

New Note: The recently added June 2015 administration of the Integrated Algebra Regents Exam is available only to students who began Algebra instruction prior to Sept. 2014.
• Students who began commencement level Mathematics prior to September 2013 may continue to be instructed in the Mathematics Core Curriculum (Revised 2005) and continue to take the corresponding Regents Examinations in Integrated Algebra, Geometry and Algebra 2/Trig.

Geometry:

• For the June 2015, August 2015 and January 2016 test administrations only students receiving Geometry Common Core instruction may at school district discretion take the Geometry Regents aligned to the 2005 standards and may meet the mathematics requirement for graduation by passing either exam.

• Additional guidance on the transition to Common Core Regents Examinations can be found at

### Transition Timeline for Regents Examinations in ELA and Mathematics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>First Administration</th>
<th>Last Administration</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ELA (Common Core)</td>
<td>June 2014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algebra I (Common Core)</td>
<td>June 2014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geometry (Common Core)</td>
<td>June 2015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algebra II (Common Core)</td>
<td>June 2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrated Algebra</td>
<td></td>
<td>June 2015 (extended)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algebra 2/Trig</td>
<td></td>
<td>January 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regents Comprehensive Exam in ELA</td>
<td></td>
<td>June 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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*The June 2015 administration is not available to students who began Common Core instruction in 2014*
Proposed Amendment Related to the USDE Waiver for Double Testing in Grades 7 and 8 Mathematics

School districts are allowed for another year, 2014-15, to administer **only** the mathematics Regents Examinations to accelerated 7th and 8th grade students without also having to administer the grade 7 and 8 grade level math assessment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Useful Links</th>
<th>Link</th>
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Questions?