



NYS Graduation Requirements

Update on Diploma Requirements and Pathways ~ October 28, 2025
NYS Migrant Education Program



Agenda

- Updates
- Reminders
- Resources
- Questions





UPDATES

MLE Resources

- Memo
- Sample Form
- Frequently Asked Questions



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
SAMPLE FORM

EXEMPTION FROM DIPLOMA ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR A MAJOR LIFE EVENT

The original completed form, signed by the superintendent¹, must be retained in the student's permanent record. One copy of the completed form must be provided to the student's parent or person in parental relation, or if the student is over age 18 or an emancipated minor, to the student. Forms and documentation should NOT be sent to the New York State Education Department.

Student Information

| | |
|--|--|
| Student Name: | NYSSIS (NYS Student Identification System) #: |
| School District/Charter School/Registered Nonpublic High School: | BEDS Code: |
| Individual Seeking Exemption for the Student: | Contact Number/Email for Individual Seeking Exemption for the Student: |
| Date Form Completed: | Anticipated Diploma Conferral Date: |

Impacted Diploma Assessment Requirement(s)

List the diploma assessment requirement^(s) impacted by the major life event below:
Diploma Assessment(s)

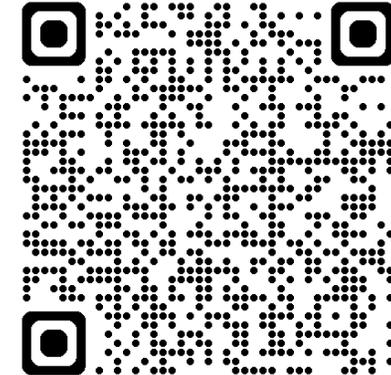
| |
|--|
| |
|--|

Eligibility Conditions

I hereby certify that the student was enro required diploma assessment (i.e., Regge Alternative, or NYSED-Approved Pathwa

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| A. | The student met or exceeded the |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| B. | A major life event has significantl required diploma assessment. At support the superintendent's ¹ dex |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

¹ Superintendent of schools (or, as applicabl school or registered non-public school)



Superintendent Determination Form

- Revised form
- Clarifies:
 - Completion of the form
 - Additional documentation is not required



The image features a light blue background with silhouettes of graduates. In the foreground, several graduates are shown from the chest up, their arms raised in celebration. Some are holding rolled-up diplomas. Above them, several graduation caps (mortarboards) are shown in mid-air, having been tossed. The overall scene conveys a sense of achievement and joy.

REMINDERS

Current Diploma Requirements

Credit Requirements



Assessment Requirements



Credit Distribution

Student Choice in Course Selection

In most disciplines, students choose the courses they take to fulfill credit requirements.



| | Minimum Number of Credits |
|--|---------------------------|
| English | 4 |
| Social Studies <i>Distributed as follows:</i> <i>U.S. History (1)</i> <i>Global History and Geography (2)</i> <i>Participation in Government (½)</i> <i>Economics (½)</i> | 4 |
| Science <i>Distributed as follows:</i> <i>Life Science (1)</i> <i>Physical Science (1)</i> <i>Life Science or Physical Science (1)</i> | 3 |
| Mathematics | 3 |
| World Languages | 1 |
| Dance, Media Arts, Music, Theater, and/or Visual Arts | 1 |
| Physical Education <i>(participation each semester)</i> | 2 |
| Health | ½ |
| Electives | 3 ½ |
| Total | 22 |

Physical Education Credits

Students must:

- earn $\frac{1}{4}$ credit of PE for every semester they are enrolled in a NY high school; AND
- enroll in PE every semester they are in a NY high school through their senior year or 8th semester.

| # Semesters Spent in a NYS School | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|---|
| Minimum number of PE credits required for graduation | $\frac{1}{4}$ | $\frac{1}{2}$ | $\frac{3}{4}$ | 1 | $1\frac{1}{4}$ | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | $1\frac{3}{4}$ | 2 |



Earning Credit

Completing a Unit of Study

[8 NYCRR 100.1](#) (a) and (b)(1)

- ≥ 180 minutes of instruction per week (or the equivalent); and
- mastery of learning outcomes

Credit by Examination

[8 NYCRR 100.5](#) (d)(1)

- ≥ 85 on a Regents exam without the opportunity to complete a unit of study
- oral exam or special project

Grade 8 Acceleration

[8 NYCRR 100.4](#)(d)

Independent Study
(Elective Credit)

[8 NYCRR 100.5](#)(d)(9)

Participation in
Performance Arts

[8 NYCRR 100.5](#)(d)(2)

Transfer Credit

[8 NYCRR 100.5](#)(d)(5)

Summer School

[8 NYCRR 110](#)

Make-Up Course Credit

[8 NYCRR 100.5](#)(d)(8)

Question from You Credit Requirements



Where do classes like "Natural Disasters," "Robotics," and "Personal Finance" fit into the required classes? They are not titled "Biology" or "Geometry" so it's more interpretive which requirement they tick the box for. "Food and Human Relations" Where does that fit - elective?

A course's designation is locally determined based on the certification of the teacher and the learning standards to which the course is aligned.

For example, if the "Natural Disasters" course is primarily aligned to the physical science learning standards and taught by a teacher with an Earth Science certification, students could use the course to satisfy the physical science credit requirement.

Question from You Credit Requirements

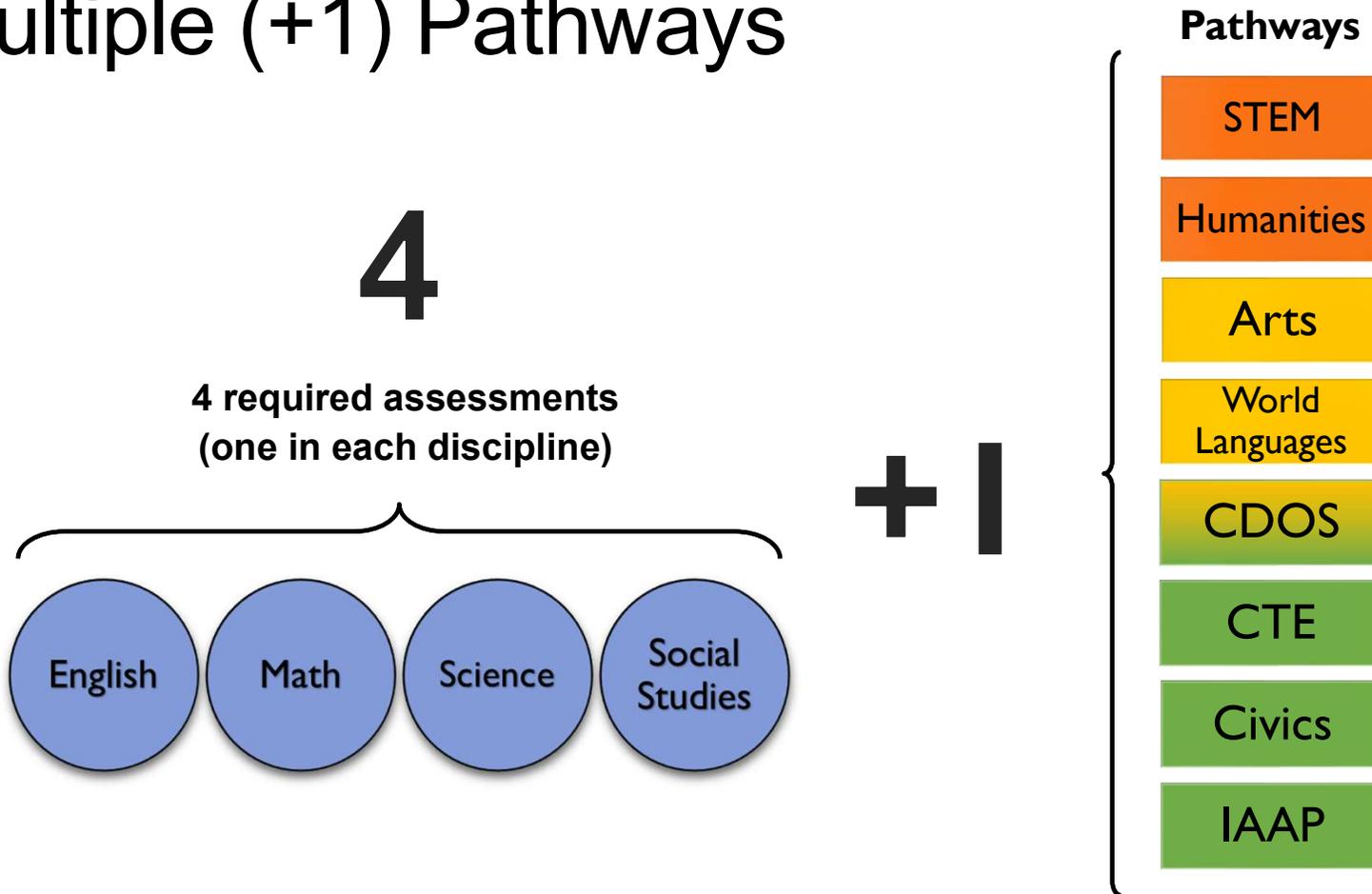


Is there a document that lists classes offered in NYS and what they fall under?

The NYS Comprehensive Course Catalog contains the school codes for the exchange of data (SCED).

While it is used for reporting purposes, schools do not need to adopt these statewide codes for local use. A course's designation should be confirmed with the school or district directly.

Multiple (+1) Pathways

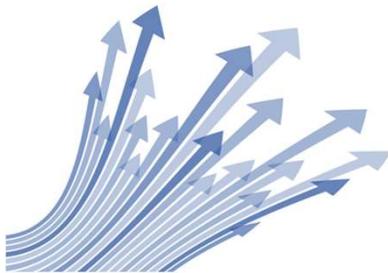


Multiple Pathways

Passing one additional Regents Exam or NYSED-approved alternative

Humanities

STEM



Passing a NYSED-approved pathway assessment

Arts

World Languages

CDOS

Completing a NYSED-approved CTE program

CTE

Earning the CDOS Commencement Credential

CDOS

Earning the Seal of Civic Readiness

Civics

Completing the Individual Arts Assessment Pathway

IAAP

Multiple Roles of CDOS

CDOS as a Pathway to a Diploma

Student:

- earns 22 units of credit
- passes four required assessments (one in each discipline)
- successfully completes all the CDOS Commencement Credential requirements

CDOS in Addition to a Diploma

Student:

- earns 22 units of credit
- passes four required assessments (one in each discipline)
- completes a pathway other than CDOS
- successfully completes all the CDOS Commencement Credential requirements

CDOS as a Stand-alone Exiting Credential

Student:

- attempts, but does not successfully complete all the Regents or local diploma requirements
- completes all the CDOS Commencement Credential requirements

CDOS Commencement Credential: Option 1



Career Plan



Employability Profile

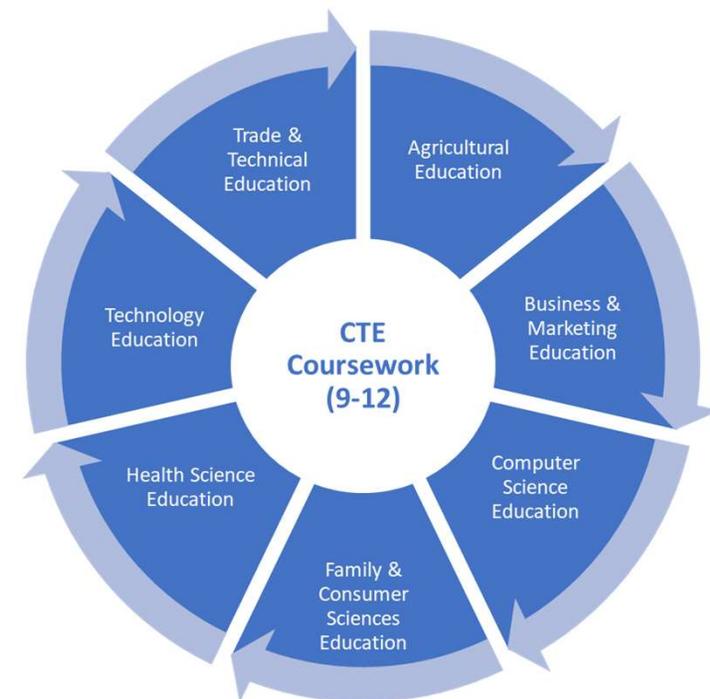


Demonstrated Achievement of CDOS Learning Standards

216 hours of CTE coursework and/or work-based learning experiences*



* at least 54 hours must be work-based learning experiences



CDOS Commencement Credential: Option 2

Meets requirements for one of the
NYSED-Approved Pathway
Assessments in CDOS



Including:

- ACT Work Keys, ACT NCRC
- CASAS eWORKs
- National Work Readiness Credential (NWRC) / NWRC Assessments
- NOCTI
 - 21st Century Skills for Workplace Success
 - Employability Skills
 - JROTC Leadership and Employability Skills
- SkillsUSA Career Essentials: Career-Ready Assessment
- You Science/Precision Exams 21st Century Success Skills

Diploma Types

| Local | Regents | Regents with Advanced Designation |
|---|---|---|
| <p>22 units of credit</p> <p>Used appeals, safety nets to meet assessment requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">OR Superintendent Determination of a Local Diploma | <p>22 units of credit</p> <p>Earned passing scores (65+ for Regents Exams)* on all required assessments (4 + 1)</p> | <p>22 units of credit</p> <p>Earned passing score on all required assessments (7 + 1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Additional exams required<ul style="list-style-type: none">+2 math+1 science<ul style="list-style-type: none">1 life, 1 physical <p>Completed a sequence</p> |

* A student can appeal one Regents exam score within 5 points of passing and still receive a Regents Diploma. Special appeals and exemptions can be applied to any diploma type.

Sequence Requirement (Advanced Designation)

World Languages

2 additional credits (for a total of 3 credits) and passing a Checkpoint B Exam



The Arts

5-unit sequence in the arts



CTE

5-unit sequence in career and technical education



Special Appeals

Any student who met the following eligibility conditions may appeal to earn a diploma with a lower score on a Regents Exam.

- Regents Exam taken:
 - June/August 2022, or
 - January/June/August 2023;
- Earned a score of 50-64 on the Regents Exam that is the subject of the appeal and was taken during one of the above administrations; and
- Passed the course for which the appeal is being sought (excluding earned Regents Exam score).



Traditional Appeals

To be eligible for a traditional appeal, students must have:

- taken the Regents Exam under appeal at least two times;
- earned at least one score within the point range appropriate for the appeal:
 - All student appeal → 60-64
 - Students with disabilities seeking the local diploma → 52-54
 - Eligible English language learners seeking appeals in ELA only → 55-59;
- taken advantage of academic help provided by the school in the subject tested by the Regents Exam under appeal; and
- passed the course for which the appeal is being sought.



Diplomas via Traditional Appeal for All Students

Regents Diploma via Appeal for All Students

- ✓ Meets credit requirements
- ✓ Meets assessment requirements using **one** successfully appealed Regents Exam score no more than 5 points below passing (60-64)

Local Diploma via Appeal for All Students

- ✓ Meets credit requirements
- ✓ Meets assessment requirements using **two** successfully appealed Regents Exam scores no more than 5 points below passing (60-64)





Local Diploma via Traditional Appeal for ELLs

- ✓ Meets credit requirements
- ✓ Meets assessment requirements using one successfully appealed English Language Arts Regents Exam score of 55-59
- ✓ May also use one successfully appealed Regents Exam score no more than 5 points below passing (60-64)

Safety Net Options for Students with Disabilities

Low Pass Safety Net

- ✓ Allows a student with a disability to meet the testing requirements for a local diploma by achieving a score between 55 and 64 on one or more of the required Regents Exams

Compensatory Safety Net

- ✓ Allows eligible students to meet assessment requirements by compensating Regents Exam scores between 45-54 (on any required Regents Exam except for ELA and math) with a score of 65 or higher on another required Regents Exam



Superintendent Determination for Graduation with a Local Diploma



Student's parent/guardian submitted a written request that their child be considered for a Superintendent Determination; and



- the student has a current individualized education program (IEP) and is receiving special education services; and



- the student has earned the required course credits and has passed, in accordance with district policy, all courses required for graduation, and the student has demonstrated competency in the subject area(s) where the student was not able to demonstrate proficiency of the State's learning standards through a required Regents Examination*.

*If the student was unable to achieve a minimum score of 55 or did not initiate an appeal of a score of 52-54 on the Regents Examinations in ELA and/or mathematics, then they must have completed the requirements for the NYS Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential.



Awarding Transfer Credit

Registered NYS High Schools

The principal shall grant transfer credit for all credit awarded by any New York State registered public or nonpublic high schools.

State Agencies

The principal shall award transfer credit to any student for credit awarded while the student attended an educational program administered or supervised by a State agency pursuant to Education Law sections [112](#) and [3202\(7\)](#) and Parts [116](#) or [118](#) of this Title, upon the attestation of the chief administrator of such program.

Other Educational/ Cultural Institutions

The principal, after consultation with relevant faculty, may award transfer credit for work done at other educational and cultural institutions and for work done through independent study. The decision as to whether or not to award transfer credit for work done at educational institutions other than New York State registered high schools shall be based on whether the record indicates that the work is consistent with New York State commencement learning standards and is of comparable scope and quality to that which would have been done in the school awarding the credit.

Out-of-State Transfer Student Exemptions

Students who enter a registered NYS high school for the first time in **grade 11** or who re-enter after having been enrolled for 3 or fewer semesters in a NYS high school, may be exempt from the Global History and Geography Regents* and may meet the assessment requirements for a Regents diploma by passing the Regents exams in:

ELA

1 Math

1 Science

US History

Students who enter a registered NYS high school for the first time in **grade 12** or who re-enter after having been enrolled for 3 or fewer semesters in a NYS high school, may be exempt from the Global History and Geography Regents* and the science Regents and may meet the assessment requirements for a Regents diploma by passing the Regents exams in:

ELA

1 Math

US History

* The Principal may also exempt these students from the two units of credit requirement in global history and geography by substituting two units of credit in social studies.

Question from You Assessment Requirements

If a student receives course credit in another state, can they sit/take the Algebra I Regents Exam in NY?

If the NYS school awarding transfer credit deems the course prepared the student for the Algebra I Regents Exam, the student can be admitted into the Regents Exam.

Students could also be admitted into Regents Exams in an attempt to earn credit by exam.

Question from You Transfer Students



Is there any timeline for reviewing transcripts from other districts / countries? We find that this process can take a long time and then kids are misplaced in classes in the meantime.

Commissioner's Regulation §100.2(y)(3) states "[w]hen a child's parent(s), the person(s) in parental relation to the child or the child, as appropriate, requests enrollment of the child in the school district, such child shall be enrolled and shall begin attendance on the next school day, or as soon as practicable..."

Once enrollment is requested, the expectation is that the student be in school on the next school day (or as soon as practicable), although perhaps not seated in a particular classroom. There may be certain classes that the student would be in regardless of their academic achievement (e.g., physical education, art, health, etc.), and the school may use other time in the day to assess the student for appropriate placement.

The image features a light blue background with silhouettes of graduates. Several graduation caps are shown in mid-air, having been tossed. Below them, the silhouettes of graduates are visible, with their arms raised in celebration. Some are holding diplomas. A semi-transparent white horizontal band is positioned across the middle of the image, containing the word 'RESOURCES' in bold black text.

RESOURCES



Graduation Requirements FAQ

Includes FAQs related to:

- Acceleration
- Appeals
- Assessment Exemptions
- Assessment Requirements
- Diplomas
- Endorsements and Seals
- Grading Policies
- Safety Nets for Students with Disabilities
- Superintendent Determination
- Transcripts
- Transfer Students

SIRS 340 & 341, Graduation Exam Requirements: Summary and Detail Reports

New York State Education Department



Graduation Exam Requirements Summary Report
Data Contained in the Student Information Repository System

District Name: Imaginary - 000000000 School Year: 2017-18 Grade Level: 12
 School Location: All Locations Cohort Year: All Cohorts NYS Grad Req Met/Not: All Students
 Data Refresh Date: Jan 27, 2018 Guidance Counselor: All Guidance Counselors

| Status | Student Name | Location | Student ID | NYSSIS ID | Grade | Cohort Year | Disability | ELL | Diploma Exam Requirements Met | | | | | | | | | | Projected Diploma Type |
|--------|-----------------|----------------------------------|------------|------------|-------|-------------|------------|-----|-------------------------------|------|-----|-----|-----|----------|------|-----|------|------|------------------------|
| | | | | | | | | | Four | | | | + | Pathways | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | ELA | Math | SS | Sci | HUM | STEM | LOTE | CTE | Arts | CDOS | |
| ✓ | Allen, Joe | CANDOR JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL | XXXXXXXXXX | XXXXXXXXXX | 12 | 2014 | N | N | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | Regents |
| ✓ | Boyd, Mike | CANDOR JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL | XXXXXXXXXX | XXXXXXXXXX | 12 | 2014 | N | N | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | Regents |
| ✓ | Brink, Sadie | CANDOR JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL | XXXXXXXXXX | XXXXXXXXXX | 12 | 2014 | N | N | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | Regents with Honors |
| | Bell, JW | CANDOR JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL | XXXXXXXXXX | XXXXXXXXXX | 12 | 2014 | N | N | ✓ | ✓ | App | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| | Cane, Jennifer | CANDOR JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL | XXXXXXXXXX | XXXXXXXXXX | 12 | 2014 | N | N | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | | | | | |
| | Coolley, Kevin | CANDOR JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL | XXXXXXXXXX | XXXXXXXXXX | 12 | 2014 | Y | N | ✗ | LPSN | ✗ | ✗ | | | | | | | |
| ✓ | Mackenzie, Doug | CANDOR JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL | XXXXXXXXXX | XXXXXXXXXX | 12 | 2014 | N | N | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | Regents |
| ✓ | Frazer, James | CANDOR JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL | XXXXXXXXXX | XXXXXXXXXX | 12 | 2014 | N | N | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | Regents |
| | Hunter, Denzel | CANDOR JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL | XXXXXXXXXX | XXXXXXXXXX | 12 | 2014 | N | N | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | App | ✗ | ✗ | | | | | |

This report is to be used for informational purposes only and is not intended to be prescriptive. This report displays all exam requirements met and those that may qualify for an appeal. It does not take course credits into account, nor does it ensure that a student has met all criteria for an appeal. For more information on diploma requirements, see: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ctai/gradreq/Documents/CurrentDiplomaCredentialSummary.pdf>. Exam data on this report only reflect the highest score for each exam. This is not a comprehensive exam score history for each student.

Key: ✓-exam requirement met or, if in Status column, overall exam requirements met; ✓-overall exam requirements may be met; further review necessary; APP-exam requirement may be met through appeal; LPSN-Low Pass Safety Net requirement met; RCT-Regents Competency Test; LP App-Low Pass Safety Net requirement may be met through appeal; CSN-Compensatory Safety Net exam requirement may be met; ELL App-exam requirement may be met through ELL appeal; ✗-exam attempted, requirement not met; NULL-no exam attempted.

Question from You Graduation Measures



Can you provide any information about what the “project-based pathway” will look like in 2026-2027?

While NY Inspires represents the plan for implementing the four transformations, and in turn, the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission, specific details about future diploma requirements have not yet been released.

One of those transformations is the sunsetting of diploma assessment requirements (Regents Exams would not be required for graduation purposes). According to the implementation plan, this would begin with the January 2028 Regents Exam administration period.

Question from You Graduation Measures



Will Portrait of a Graduate Need-to-Know Documents for parents be translated?

This suggestion has been shared with senior leadership. If the documents are translated, they will be made available on the Portrait of a Graduate webpage.

The image features a blue-tinted background with silhouettes of graduates. Several graduation caps are shown in mid-air, having been tossed. Below them, the silhouettes of people are visible, with their arms raised in celebration. Some individuals are holding diplomas. The overall scene conveys a sense of achievement and joy.

QUESTIONS

Contact NYSED

- Bilingual Education & World Languages, obewl@nysed.gov
- Career & Technical Education, emsccte@nysed.gov
- Educational Design & Technology, edtech@nysed.gov
- Graduation Measures Initiative, GradMeasures@nysed.gov
- High School Equivalency, HSE@nysed.gov
- Special Education, speced@nysed.gov
- Standards & Instruction, P12StandardsInstruction@nysed.gov
- State Assessment, emscassessinfo@nysed.gov
- Teaching Initiatives, [OTI Contact Form](#)



Contact Us!

Office of Standards & Instruction



(518) 474-5922



nysed.gov/standards-instruction



p12StandardsInstruction@nysed.gov



Thank you!