



New York State Diploma/Credential Requirements Revised March 2021

The following chart outlines the diploma and credential requirements currently in effect. The chart is intended to provide an overview of the requirements and identify the student populations that have access to each type of diploma and non-diploma high school exiting credential. Websites are provided to offer more detailed information regarding the requirements for each diploma or credential.

For the full text of the New York State High School Diploma Requirements, reference the Commissioner's Regulations 8 CRR-NY 100.5, [Diploma Requirements](#) as well as the NYSED's [General Education and Diploma Requirements](#) webpage.

Additional questions pertaining to diploma or credential requirements may be directed to the Office of Curriculum and Instruction at emscgradreq@nysed.gov or (518) 477-5922.

New York State High School Diplomas

| Diploma Type | Available to | Requirements |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Regents Diploma | All student populations | <p>Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 language other than English (LOTE)ⁱ, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 required Regents examsⁱⁱ (one in each discipline: English, math, science, social studies); • successful completion of 1 Pathwayⁱⁱⁱ; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ each Regents exam with a score of 65 or better^{iv} <p>Reference: Diploma Types</p> |
| Regents Diploma (through appeal) | All student populations | <p>Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 language other than English (LOTE)ⁱ, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 required Regents examsⁱⁱ (one in each discipline: English, math, science, social studies); • successful completion of 1 Pathway^{iii.v}; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 of the above Regents exams (including the pathway, if a Regents exam) with a score of 60-64 for which an appeal^{vi} is granted by the local district per Commissioner's Regulation 100.5(d)(7); and ○ remaining required Regents exams with a score of 65 or better^{iv} <p>Reference: Appeals, Safety Nets, and Superintendent Determination</p> |

| Diploma Type | Available to | Requirements |
|---|-------------------------|--|
| Regents Diploma with Honors | All student populations | <p>Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 language other than English (LOTE)ⁱ, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 required Regents examsⁱⁱ (one in each discipline: English, math, science, social studies); • successful completion of 1 Pathwayⁱⁱⁱ; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a computed average score of 90 or better on all required Regents exams (including the pathway, if a Regents exam) <p>Note: No more than 2 Department approved alternatives may be substituted and will not count in the computed average. The locally developed Checkpoint B LOTE examination is not included in the computed average. In instances where students received exemptions from Regents Examinations, the calculation for the honors endorsement will be dependent upon the number of scored Regents Examinations the student has.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students with a minimum of three scored Regents Examinations applicable to the diploma <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In instances where students have at least three scored Regents Examinations to be included in the assessments required for the diploma type, exemptions due to COVID-19 would be removed from the calculation. If the computed average of the Regents Examination scores required for the diploma (not including exemptions) equals 90 or above, the student earned the honors endorsement. • Students with fewer than three scored Regents Examinations applicable to the diploma <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The student’s final course grade for each exempted Regents Examination will be substituted in the calculation for honors. If the computed average of the scored Regents Examinations and the final course grades for courses for which exemptions were granted equals 90 or above, the student earned the honors endorsement. <p>Reference: Regents Diploma with Honors</p> |
| Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation | All student populations | <p>Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 language other than English (LOTE)ⁱ, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives.</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 required Regents examsⁱⁱ distributed as follows: 3 math, 2 science (one physical, one life), 1 English, 1 social studies; • successful completion of 1 Pathwayⁱⁱⁱ<small>Error! Bookmark not defined.</small>; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ each Regents exam with a score of 65 or better^{iv} <p>Sequence^{vii}: successful completion of one of the three sequence options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ earning an additional 2 units of credit in LOTE and passing a locally developed Checkpoint B LOTE examination; or ○ completing a 5 unit sequence in the Arts; or ○ completing a 5 unit sequence in CTE. <p>Reference: Diploma Types</p> |

| Diploma Type | Available to | Requirements |
|---|--------------------------------|--|
| <p>Regents with Advanced Designation with an annotation that denotes Mastery in Math</p> | <p>All student populations</p> | <p>Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 language other than English (LOTE)ⁱ, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives.</p> <p>Assessment and Sequence^{vii}: Meets all assessment and sequence requirements for the Regents diploma with advanced designation (see above) and scores 85 or better on each of 3 Regents examinations in mathematics.</p> <p>Note: Students who were exempted^{iv} from a Regents examination in mathematics (due to COVID-19 cancellations) may earn the mastery in mathematics endorsement using one of the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • passed 2 Regents Examinations in mathematics with a score of 85 or higher and was granted an exemption on a third Regents Examination in mathematics; or • passed 1 Regents Examination in mathematics with an 85 or higher and earned a final course grade of 85 or higher in 2 additional mathematics courses culminating in a Regents Examination for which an exemption was granted. <p>Reference: Endorsements and Seals</p> |
| <p>Regents with Advanced Designation with an annotation that denotes Mastery in Science</p> | <p>All student populations</p> | <p>Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 language other than English (LOTE)ⁱ, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives.</p> <p>Assessment and Sequence^{vii}: Meets all assessment and sequence requirements for the Regents diploma with advanced designation (see above) and scores 85 or better on each of 3 Regents examinations in science.</p> <p>Note: Students who were exempted^{iv} from a Regents examination in science (due to COVID-19 cancellations) may earn the mastery in science endorsement using one of the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • passed 2 Regents Examinations in science with a score of 85 or higher and was granted an exemption on a third Regents Examination in science; or • passed 1 Regents Examination in science with an 85 or higher and earned a final course grade of 85 or higher in 2 additional science courses culminating in a Regents Examination for which an exemption was granted. <p>Reference: Endorsements and Seals</p> |

| Diploma Type | Available to | Requirements |
|--|-------------------------|---|
| Regents with Advanced Designation with Honors | All student populations | <p>Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 language other than English (LOTE)ⁱ, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives.</p> <p>Assessment and Sequence^{vi}: Meets all assessment and sequence requirements for the Regents diploma with advanced designation (see above) with a computed average score of 90 or better on all Regents exams required for the diploma.</p> <p>Note: No more than 2 Department approved alternatives may be substituted and will not count in the computed average. The locally developed Checkpoint B LOTE examination is not included in the computed average. In instances where students received exemptions from Regents Examinations, the calculation for the honors endorsement will be dependent upon the number of scored Regents Examinations the student has.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students with a minimum of three scored Regents Examinations applicable to the diploma <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In instances where students have at least three scored Regents Examinations to be included in the assessments required for the diploma type, exemptions due to COVID-19 would be removed from the calculation. If the computed average of the Regents Examination scores required for the diploma (not including exemptions) equals 90 or above, the student earned the honors endorsement. • Students with fewer than three scored Regents Examinations applicable to the diploma <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The student’s final course grade for each exempted Regents Examination will be substituted in the calculation for honors. If the computed average of the scored Regents Examinations and the final course grades for courses for which exemptions were granted equals 90 or above, the student earned the honors endorsement. <p>Reference: Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation with Honors</p> |
| Local Diploma (through Appeal) | All student populations | <p>Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 language other than English (LOTE)ⁱ, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives.</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 4 required Regents examsⁱⁱ (one in each discipline: English, math, science, social studies); • Successful completion of 1 Pathway^{iii,v}; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2 of the above required Regents exams (including the Pathway, if a Regents exam) with a score of 60-64 for which an appeal^{vi} is granted by the local district per Commissioner’s Regulation 100.5(d)(7); and ○ remaining required Regents exams with a score of 65 or better^{iv}<small>Error!</small> <p>Reference: Appeals, Safety Nets, and Superintendent Determination</p> |

| Diploma Type | Available to | Requirements |
|---------------|--|--|
| Local Diploma | English Language Learners Only | <p>Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 language other than English (LOTE)ⁱ, 2 physical education, 3 ½ electives.</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 required Regents examsⁱⁱ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ one in each discipline: English, math, science, social studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the ELA Regents exam with a score of 55-59 for which an appeal is granted by the local district per Commissioner’s Regulation 100.5(d)(7), ▪ up to 1 of the above required Regents exam with a score of 60-64 for which an appeal^{vi} is granted by the local district per Commissioner’s Regulation 100.5(d)(7), ▪ remaining required Regents exams with a score of 65 or better^{iv}; and • Successful completion of 1 Pathway^{iii.v} <p>Note: English Language Learners (ELL) seeking an appeal for a score of 55-59 on the ELA Regents Exam are only eligible for an appeal in this area if they entered the United States in grade 9 or after and were classified as an ELL when they took the test the second time.</p> <p>Reference: Appeals, Safety Nets, and Superintendent Determination</p> |
| Local Diploma | Students with disabilities with an individualized education program (IEP) or if included on the student’s Section 504 Accommodation Plan | <p>Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 language other than English (LOTE)ⁱ, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives.</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <p>a) Low Pass Safety Net Option:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 required Regents examsⁱⁱ (one in each discipline: English, math, science, social studies); • Successful completion of 1 Pathwayⁱⁱⁱ; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ each Regents exam with a score of 55 or better^{iv}<small>Error! Bookmark not defined.</small> <p>b) Low Pass Safety Net and Appeal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 required Regents examsⁱⁱ (one in each discipline: English, math, science, social studies); • Successful completion of 1 Pathway^{iii.v}; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ up to 2 Regents exams with a score of 52-54 for which an appeal^{vi} is granted by the local district per Commissioner’s Regulation 100.5(d)(7) ○ each remaining Regents exam with a score of 55 or better^{iv} <p>c) Compensatory Safety Net Option: scores between 45-54 on one or more of the required science, social studies, or mathematics (as a pathway) Regents exams, but compensates the low score with a score of 65 or higher on another required Regents exam. Note: a score of at least 55 (or an approved appeal of 52-54) must be earned on both the ELA and 1 mathematics exam. A score of 65 or higher on a single examination may not be used to compensate for more than one examination for which a score of 45-54 is earned.</p> <p>Reference: Appeals, Safety Nets, and Superintendent Determination and Information Related to Graduation Requirements for Students with Disabilities</p> |

| Diploma Type | Available to | Requirements |
|--|---|---|
| Local Diploma (through Superintendent Determination) | <p>Students with disabilities with an IEP</p> <p>Does NOT INCLUDE students with a Section 504 Accommodation Plan</p> | <p>Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 language other than English (LOTE), 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives.</p> <p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A superintendent’s determination made upon a parent’s written request, based on review of documentation, as to graduation-level proficiency in the subject area in which the student was not able to demonstrate proficiency of the State’s learning standards through the assessment required for graduation. <p>To be eligible for the superintendent determination:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The student must have a current individualized education program (IEP) and be receiving special education programs and/or related services. 2. The student did not meet the graduation requirements through the low pass (55-64) safety net option or the compensatory option. 3. The student must have earned the required course credits and have passed, in accordance with district policy, all courses required for graduation, including the Regents courses to prepare for the corresponding required Regents examination areas (English Language Arts (ELA), mathematics, social studies and science). 4. The student must have taken and received a minimum score of 55 on both the ELA and Mathematics Regents examinations or successfully appealed a score between 52 and 54, except that on or after December 12, 2017, a student who was unable to achieve a minimum score of 55 or did not initiate an appeal of a score of between 52 and 54 on the English and/or Mathematics Regents examinations may be considered an eligible student for the Superintendent Determination option, provided that the student has completed the requirements for the New York State (NYS) Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential. 5. There must be evidence that the student participated in all Regents examinations required for graduation but has not passed one or more of these examinations. 6. In a subject area where the student was not able to demonstrate his/her proficiency of the State’s learning standards through the Regents examinations required for graduation (including ELA and/or mathematics if using the CDOS Commencement Credential to meet the eligibility condition(s) in #4), there must be evidence that the student has otherwise demonstrated graduation level proficiency in the subject area(s). <p>Reference: Appeals, Safety Nets, and Superintendent Determination and Information Related to Graduation Requirements for Students with Disabilities</p> |
| Local Diploma, Regents Diploma, Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation (with or without Honors), with a Career and Technical Education Endorsement | All student populations | <p>Credit: Completes all credit requirements as listed above for specific diploma types and successfully completes an approved career and technical education program.</p> <p>Assessment: Achieves a passing score on State assessments as listed above for specific diploma types and successfully completes the 3 part technical assessment designated for the particular approved career and technical education program which the student has completed.</p> <p>Reference: Endorsements and Seals</p> |

| Diploma Type | Available to | Requirements |
|---|-------------------------|--|
| Regents Diploma, Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation (with or without Honors), with a Seal of Biliteracy | All student populations | <p>Credit: Completes all credit requirements as listed above for specific diploma types (Regents or Regents with Advanced Designation) and meets the criteria for earning the New York State Seal of Biliteracy.</p> <p>Assessment: Meets the criteria for Earning the New York State Seal of Biliteracy.</p> <p>Reference: The New York State Seal of Biliteracy (NYSSB)</p> |

Non-diploma High School Exiting Credentials

| Credential Type | Available to | Requirements |
|--|--|--|
| Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential | All students other than those who are assessed using the NYS Alternate Assessment (NYSSA) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completes a career plan; demonstrates attainment of the commencement level Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) learning standards in the areas of career exploration and development, integrated learning and universal foundation skills; satisfactorily completes the equivalent of 2 units of study (216 hours) in Career and Technical Education coursework and work-based learning (including at least 54 hours of work-based learning); and has at least 1 completed employability profile; or • Student meets criteria for a national work readiness credential <p>Note: Credential may be a supplement to a Local or Regents diploma, or, if the student is unable to meet diploma standards, the credential may be awarded as the student's exiting credential provided the student has attended school for not less than 12 years, excluding Kindergarten.</p> <p>Reference: Exiting Credentials and Commissioner's Regulations 8 CRR-NY 100.6, High school exiting credentials</p> |
| Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential | Students with severe disabilities that are assessed using the NYS Alternate Assessment (NYSSA) | <p>All students with severe disabilities who attend school for not less than 12 years, excluding Kindergarten exit with this credential which must be accompanied by documentation of the student's skills and strengths and levels of independence in academic, career development and foundation skills needed for post-school living, learning and working.</p> <p>Reference: Exiting Credentials, Special Education Field Advisory: Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential for Students with Severe Disabilities, and Commissioner's Regulations 8 CRR-NY 100.6, High school exiting credentials</p> |

Endnotes

- i. Students with a disability may be excused from the LOTE requirement if so indicated on the IEP but must still earn 22 units of credit to graduate.
- ii. In all cases students may substitute an assessment from the list of Department Approved Alternative Examinations Acceptable for Meeting Requirements for a Local or Regents Diploma.
- iii. In **addition** to passing the following 4 required Regents exams or the corresponding [Department approved alternative examination](#), all students must complete 1 of the following pathway options:
 - pass an additional math Regents exam in a different course or Department approved alternative; or
 - pass an additional science Regents exam in a different course or Department approved alternative; or
 - pass an additional social studies Regents exam in a different course or Department approved alternative; or
 - pass an additional English assessment in a different course selected from the Department approved alternative list; or
 - pass a [Department Approved Pathway Assessment in the Arts](#); or
 - pass a [Department Approved Pathway Assessment in a Language other than English \(LOTE\)](#); or
 - successfully complete all the requirements for the [CDOS Commencement Credential](#); or
 - successfully complete an [approved CTE program](#), including the associated 3-part technical assessment.

The additional assessment must measure a different course than that which was measured by one of the four required exams above, or an approved pathway assessment in the Arts, CTE, or LOTE. Additional information can be referenced on the NYSED's [Multiple Pathways](#) webpage.

- iv. An assessment exemption granted due to COVID-19 closures and cancellations may be accepted in lieu of a Regents examination, pathway assessment, or Department approved alternative exam. Additional information can be referenced in the following FAQs: [June/August 2020](#), [January 2021](#), and [June/August 2021](#).
- v. Regents exams used to meet the pathway requirement may be appealed.
- vi. Non-Regents Pathway exams and Department approved alternative exams are not subject to the Appeal Process.
- vii. Students with a disability who are excused from the LOTE requirement per their IEP need not complete a sequence in LOTE nor a 5 unit sequence in the Arts or CTE in order to meet the requirements for the Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation.