

New York State Graduation Requirements

Understanding Current New York State Diploma Requirements

To earn a NYS diploma, students must meet credit and exam requirements. These requirements are separate and distinct and do not have to happen simultaneously.

Note: School districts may create diploma requirements in addition to those required by the NYS Education Department (NYSED).

Credit Requirements

This table shows the number of credits required for each subject. It's important to note in most subjects, students choose the courses they want to take to meet the minimum requirements.

	Minimum number of credits
English	4
Social Studies	4
<i>Distributed as follows:</i>	
<i>Global History and Geography (2)</i>	
<i>U.S. History (1)</i>	
<i>Participation in Government (½)</i>	
<i>Economics (½)</i>	
Science	3
<i>Distributed as follows:</i>	
<i>Life Science (1)</i>	
<i>Physical Science (1)</i>	
<i>Life Science or Physical Science (1)</i>	
Mathematics	3
World Languages	1*
Visual Art, Music, Dance, and/or Theater	1
Physical Education	2
<i>(participation each semester)</i>	
Health	0.5
Electives	3.5
Total	22

* Students with disabilities may be excused from the requirement for 1 unit of credit in World Languages if indicated on their IEP, but they must still earn 22 units of credit to graduate.



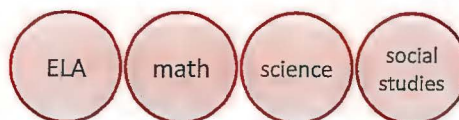
Exam Requirements

In addition to the 22 units of credit, students must also meet the NYS exam requirements to earn a diploma.

To meet the exam requirements, students must pass 4 exams + 1 pathway. All students must pass one exam (Regents exam or Department-approved alternative) in each of the four subject areas (English, mathematics, science, social studies) plus one pathway.

4

One Regents exam or Department-approved alternative in each of the subject areas:



+ 1

Pathway

Note: If students are not able to earn a passing score of 65 on Regents exams, they may be eligible for Appeals, Safety Nets, and/or Superintendent Determination. Additional information can be referenced in The New York State Graduation Requirements: Additional Options flyer.



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Pathway Requirements

Multiple pathways allow students choice in the exams they pass to earn a diploma. To complete a pathway, students must:

Arts Pathway	Earn a passing score on a Department-approved pathway exam in the Arts to earn the Arts pathway
CDOS (Career Development and Occupation Studies) Pathway	Complete 216 hours of CTE coursework that includes a minimum of 54 hours of Work Based Learning and complete a career plan and an Employability profile, <u>or</u> pass a Department-approved CDOS pathway exam
CTE (Career and Technical Education) Pathway	Successfully complete a Department-approved CTE program, including 3-5 CTE courses and earn a passing score on the 3-part technical exam
Humanities Pathway	Earn a passing score on one additional Regents exam or Department-approved alternative in English or social studies
World Languages Pathway	Earn a passing score on a Department-approved pathway exam in a world language
STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Pathway	Earn a passing score on one additional Regents exam or Department-approved alternative in mathematics or science



Diploma Types

There are currently three types of high school diplomas: local, Regents, and Regents with Advanced Designation.

Local

All diploma types require students to earn 22 units of credit as outlined in the credit table. Students who meet the credit requirements and use appeals, safety nets, or Superintendent Determination to meet the exam requirements typically earn a local diploma.

Regents

Students who meet the credit requirements and earn passing scores on all required exams earn a Regents diploma. Students can appeal one Regents exam no more than 5 points below passing (60-64) and still earn a Regents diploma.

Regents with Advanced Designation

Students who meet the credit requirements, earn passing scores on all required exams including 2 additional math and 1 additional science, and complete a sequence in LOTE, the Arts, or CTE, earn a Regents diploma with Advanced Designation.

Resources

- [General Education and Diploma Requirements](#)
- [New York State Diploma Requirements](#)
- [New York State Diploma/Credential Requirements](#)
- [Commissioner's Regulations \(8 CRR-NY §100.5, Diploma Requirements\)](#)

Questions?

Contact the Office of Curriculum and Instruction at emscgradreq@nysed.gov or (518)474-5922



New York State Diploma/Credential Requirements

Revised June 2022

The following chart outlines the diploma and credential requirements currently in effect. The chart provides an overview of the requirements and identifies 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. Reference the [Understanding NYS Diploma Requirements ~ Family Resources](#) webpage to access three flyers and a tracking tool translated into eleven different languages.

Beginning in fall 2022, a select number of schools will pilot the Individual Arts Assessment Pathway. More information may be referenced on the [Individual Arts Assessment Pathway](#) 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) 474-5922.

New York State High School Diplomas

Diploma Type	Available to	Requirements
Regents Diploma	All student populations	Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languagesⁱ, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives Assessment: 4 required Regents Examsⁱⁱ (one in each discipline: English, mathematics, science, social studies); - successful completion of 1 Pathwayⁱⁱⁱ; and - each Regents Exam with a score of 65 or better^{iv} Reference: Diploma Types
Regents Diploma (through traditional appeal)	All student populations	Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languagesⁱ, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives Assessment: 4 required Regents Examsⁱⁱ (one in each discipline: English, mathematics, science, social studies); - successful completion of 1 Pathway^{iii,v}; 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} Reference: Appeals, Safety Nets, and Superintendent Determination

Diploma Type	Available to	Requirements
Regents Diploma with Honors	All student populations	Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languages, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives Assessment: 4 required Regents Examsⁱⁱⁱ (one in each discipline: English, mathematics, science, social studies); - successful completion of 1 Pathwayⁱⁱⁱ; and - a computed average score of 90 or better on all required Regents Exams (including the pathway, if a Regents Exam) Note: No more than 2 Department approved alternatives may be substituted and will not count in the computed average. The locally developed Checkpoint B examination in world languages 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. Students with a minimum of three scored Regents Examinations applicable to the diploma - 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 - 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. Reference: Regents Diploma with Honors
Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation	All student populations	Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languages, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives Assessment: 7 required Regents Examsⁱⁱⁱ distributed as follows: 3 mathematics, 2 science (one physical, one life), 1 English, 1 social studies; - successful completion of 1 Pathwayⁱⁱⁱ; and - each Regents Exam with a score of 65 or better^{iv} Sequence^{vi}: successful completion of one of the three sequence options: - earning an additional 2 units of credit in world languages and passing a locally developed Checkpoint B examination in world languages; or - completing a 5 unit sequence in the Arts; or - completing a 5 unit sequence in CTE Reference: Diploma Types

Diploma Type	Available to	Requirements
Regents with Advanced Designation with an annotation that denotes Mastery in Mathematics	All student populations	Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languages, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives Assessment and Sequence^{vi}: 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 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: • 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. Reference: Endorsements and Seals
Regents with Advanced Designation with an annotation that denotes Mastery in Science	All student populations	Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languages, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives Assessment and Sequence^{vi}: 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 Note: Students who were exempted^{iv} from a Regents Examination in science (due to COVID-19) may earn the mastery in science endorsement using one of the following conditions: • 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. Reference: Endorsements and Seals

Diploma Type	Available to	Requirements
Regents with Advanced Designation with Honors	All student populations	Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languagesⁱ, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives Assessment and Sequenceⁱⁱ: 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 Note: No more than 2 Department approved alternatives may be substituted and will not count in the computed average. The locally developed Checkpoint B examination in world languages 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. • Students with a minimum of three scored Regents Examinations applicable to the diploma ○ 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 ○ 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. Reference: Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation with Honors
Local Diploma (through Traditional Appeal)	All student populations	Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languagesⁱ, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives Assessment: • 4 required Regents Examsⁱⁱⁱ (one in each discipline: English, mathematics, science, social studies); • Successful completion of 1 Pathway^{iv}; and • 2 of the above required Regents Exams (including the Pathway, if a Regents Exam) with a score of 60-64 for which an appeal^v 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}. Reference: Appeals, Safety Nets, and Superintendent Determination

Diploma Type	Available to	Requirements
Local Diploma	English Language Learners Only	Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languages, 2 physical education, 3 ½ electives Assessment: 4 required Regents Exams^{II} (one in each discipline: English, mathematics, science, social studies) - Successful completion of 1 Pathway^{III}; and - 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^{IV} 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} 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. Reference: Appeals, Safety Nets, and Superintendent Determination
Local Diploma	Students with disabilities with an individualized education program (IEP) or if included on the student's Section 504 Accommodation Plan	Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languages, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ elective Assessment: a) Low Pass Safety Net Option: 4 required Regents Exams^{II} (one in each discipline: English, mathematics, science, social studies); - Successful completion of 1 Pathway^{III}; and - each Regents Exam with a score of 55 or better^{IV} b) Low Pass Safety Net and Appeal: 4 required Regents Exams^{II} (one in each discipline: English, mathematics, science, social studies); - Successful completion of 1 Pathway^{III}; and - up to 2 Regents Exams with a score of 52-54 for which an appeal^{IV} 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} 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. Reference: Appeals, Safety Nets, and Superintendent Determination and Information Related to Graduation Requirements for Students with Disabilities

Diploma Type	Available to	Requirements
Local Diploma (through Superintendent Determination)	Students with disabilities with an IEP Does NOT INCLUDE students with a Section 504 Accommodation Plan	Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languages, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives Assessment: - o 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. To be eligible for the superintendent determination: 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). Reference: Appeals, Safety Nets, and Superintendent Determination and Information Related to Graduation Requirements for Students with Disabilities

Diploma Type	Available to	Requirements
Local Diploma (through Special Determination)	All student populations (only applies to June 2022 graduates)	Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languages, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives Assessment: To be eligible for the Special Determination, the student must otherwise meet all requirements for graduation in June of 2022 and meet one of the following criteria: • The student was enrolled in a course of study or make up program during the 2021-2022 school year leading to a June 2022 Regents Examination, earned credit in such course of study by the scheduled date of the Regents Examination, participated in such examination but did not achieve a passing score or qualify for a Special Appeal; or • The student was enrolled in a course of study or make up program during the 2021-2022 school year that was intended to culminate in the student's participation in a June 2022 Regents Examination and the student earned credit in such course of study by the date of such examination but was unable to participate in such examination due to illness, including isolation restrictions due to COVID. Such illness must be documented by the student's physician, or in the case of COVID, in accordance with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and or local guidelines for quarantine. A student absent due to COVID should follow the locally developed school or district procedures for reporting such absence. Reference: Special Determination to Graduate with a Local Diploma in June 2022
Local Diploma, Regents Diploma, Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation (with or without Honors), with a Career and Technical Education Endorsement	All student populations	Credit: Completes all credit requirements as listed above for specific diploma types and successfully completes an approved career and technical education program 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 Reference: Endorsements and Seals
Regents Diploma, Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation (with or without Honors), with a Seal of Biliteracy	All student populations	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 Assessment: Meets the criteria for Earning the New York State Seal of Biliteracy. Reference: The New York State Seal of Biliteracy (NYSSB)
Local Diploma, Regents Diploma, Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation (with or without Honors), with a Seal of Civic Readiness	All student populations	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 Civic Readiness Assessment: Meets the criteria for earning the New York State Seal of Civic Readiness. Reference: New York State Seal of Civic Readiness

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)	- 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 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. Reference: Exiting Credentials and Commissioner's Regulations 8 CRR-NY 100.6, High school exiting credentials
Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential	Students with severe disabilities that are assessed using the NYS Alternate Assessment (NYSSA)	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. 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