



# NYSED Office of State Assessment Updates



SCDN

SEPTEMBER 2024



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# Introductions

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# Agenda

- NYSED/OSA Updates and Reminders
  - Grades 3-8 CBT Program Updates
  - Science Regents and Investigations
  - New Algebra I Regents



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# CBT Updates

## NYS Grades 3–8 Testing Program



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# Updates on Implementation

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- In 2024, Grades 5 and 8 were required to administer the ELA, Math, and Science Tests by CBT.
- In 2025, Grades 4 and 6 will also be required to administer the ELA and Math Tests by CBT.
  - Schools have the option to administer to Grades 3 and 7 by CBT but paper-based tests will still be available for these grades.
- In 2026, all grades (3-8) will be required to administer CBT.
- Last year, schools administered over 2,750,000 test sessions by computer to over 700,000 students across all grades/content areas.
- There were no major issues during administration.
  - When minor issues came up (e.g., localized internet outages) there was excellent collaboration between schools and districts, the RICs, NYSED, and our partners at NWEA.
  - Other minor issues were related to procedures for administration. We will focus on these for our trainings in the fall.
  - Many schools said they wish they had fully transitioned to CBT administration.



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# 2024–25 CBT Administration Window

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- For the 2024–25 school year, we will again have a singular multiple-week window to administer the Grades 3–8 ELA and Math Computer-based Tests and the Grades 5 & 8 Science Computer-based Tests.

Operational Test		Administration Window	Make-up Dates	Scoring Dates	Submit Answer Sheets to Scanning Centers
Computer-based testing	Grades 3–8 ELA	Monday, April 7 – Friday, May 16	Make-ups must be given within the testing window	Must be completed by Friday, May 23	N/A
	Grades 3–8 Math				
	Grades 5 & 8 Science				
Paper-based testing	Grades 3 & 7 ELA	Tuesday, April 29 – Thursday, May 1	Friday, May 2 – Tuesday, May 6	Must be completed by Monday, May 19	Monday, May 19
	Grades 3 & 7 Math	Wednesday, May 7 – Friday, May 9	Monday, May 12 – Wednesday, May 14	Must be completed by Thursday, May 29	Thursday, May 29

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# 2024–25 CBT Fall Milestones

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- The online request system will open early October (<https://portal.nysed.gov/abp>).
  - At the same time, we will send the customary memorandum and instructions for placing online request to principals and the alternate contacts they designated in the online request system, and we will also post the information on our website.
- Like last year, schools will again have approximately 6 weeks to place requests.
  - Anticipated that we will close mid-November
- Nextera Admin and the technology readiness checklist will open in early October, too.

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# 2024–25 Events: the Roadshow

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- We will be travelling around the State throughout October for this year's roadshow
- We have an article on CBT Support that provides the schedule and registration links.
  - <https://cbtsupport.nysed.gov/hc/en-us/articles/29624894642957-Save-the-Date-Upcoming-Regional-Computer-Based-Testing-CBT-Training-Session-Fall-2024>
- We will cover information preparing for CBT Administration and CBT milestones, lessons learned from 2024 administration, and will hear from schools experienced in CBT administrations



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# 2024–25 Events: the Simulation

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- All operational CBT schools will be required to participate in the CBT Statewide Simulation
- The CBT Simulation Period will be held for two weeks in mid to late January.
- Offers the opportunity for school staff to evaluate the readiness of their school's internal systems, hardware, and school testing procedures for CBT
- The simulations provide an excellent opportunity for schools to test how the Questar Secure Browser functions within their school networks.

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# CBT Resources

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## Student practice

### Question Sampler

- Four samplers per Grades 3-8 ELA and Math, Grades 5 and 8 Science (New Sampler 3 coming this winter)
- Empty CR Box for ELA, Equation Editor for Math, Item Type Samplers for Science

### Questar Secure Browser

- Test Delivery System students will use to take the tests
- Secure browser practice tests simulate the environment used for testing

## Resources for CBT Administration/Nextera Administration System

- Articles, video tutorials, Quick Reference Guides are available on [CBT Support](#)

# Science Update

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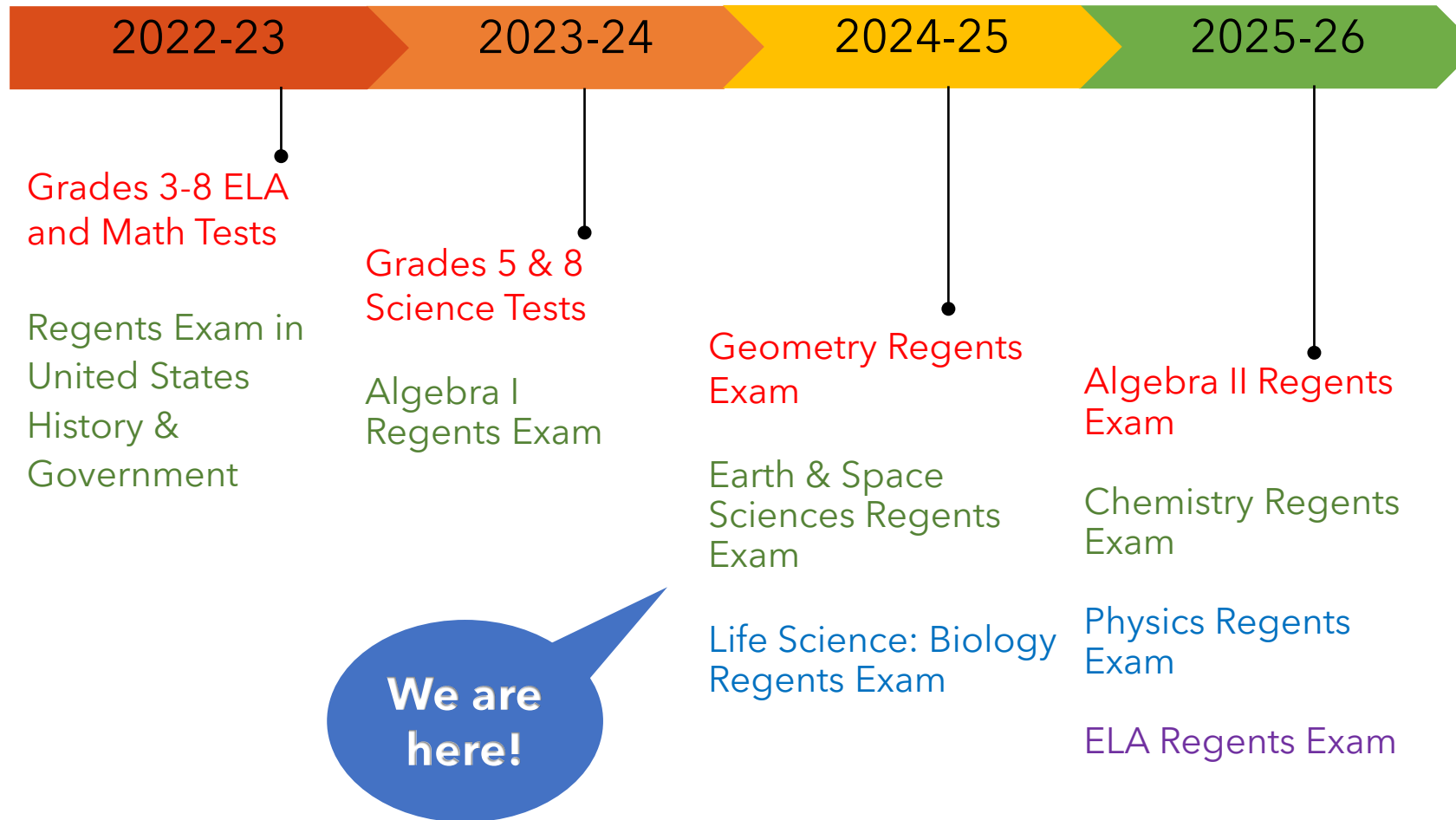
Everything about the Science Tests are new.

- New 3D learning standards
- New style of questions - clusters and storylines
- New item types
- New reference materials

When something is new, it takes time to get comfortable.

- "I remain optimistic. The standards are in place, resources to support them have and continue to be built, and now, naturally, the assessments are changing to reflect the shifts in learning. These resources, coupled with the skilled educators our state is blessed to have, will grow scientists."

# Implementation of Assessments Measuring New/Revised Learning Standards



# Implementation Schedule for New Regents Examinations in Science

- Details regarding the implementation schedule
- Period of overlap of the old and new exams
- Course codes

**First and Last Administration of New Regents Examinations**

Exam Title	First Administration of New Exam	Last Administration of Current Exam
Algebra I	June 2024	January 2024
Geometry	June 2025	January 2025
Earth & Space Sciences*	June 2025	June 2026
Life Science: Biology*	June 2025	June 2026
Algebra II	June 2026	January 2026
Chemistry*	June 2026	June 2027
Physics*	June 2026	June 2027
English Language Arts	June 2026	January 2026

\* For science, the new learning standards are not as strongly aligned to the prior standards. As a result, there will be an overlap period of the old and new exams for four administrations. This will ensure that students can complete the exam that matches the instruction they received.

# Newly Released Sample Clusters – ESS & LS: Biology

- The Sample Clusters were written, reviewed multiple times, and selected by NYS-certified teachers
- Teachers may notice:
  - Rigor has increased due to the instructional shifts when compared to items aligned to the 1996 Learning Standards
  - Clusters require students to analyze and synthesize information from more than one stimuli
- New set of clusters coming Fall of 2024 (ESS will use the ESSRT)





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# Educator Guide To The ESS and LS: Biology Regents Exams & ESS Reference Tables

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## Educator Guide

- Includes pertinent information about the test development process, the learning standards that the tests are designed to measure, the test specifications used to create the tests, and the test design
- Including...
  - 3-hour written tests
  - Link between the Investigations and the exams (no Performance Test for ESS)

## ESS Reference Tables (ESSRT)

- Released this passed June, including Front Matter; Updated September 2024
- Developed in conjunction with NYS Museum Staff

# ESSRT

- Shifts in instruction and assessment necessitates a functionality change
- Should be used in the classroom beginning in the 2024-2025 school year
- Updates include new table/infographics that can be used to support conceptual understanding
- Revision Log/Specific Updates

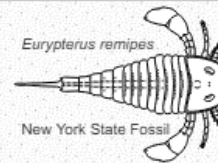
## Reference Tables for EARTH & SPACE SCIENCES

### Table of Contents

Page	Title	Primary PE
2	Solar System Objects Data Table	(HS-ESS 1-4)
2	Generalized Nucleosynthesis in a Massive Star	(HS-ESS 1-3)
3	Portion of Electromagnetic Spectrum Related to Earth and Space Sciences	(HS-ESS 1-2)
3	Emission Spectra of Some Elements from Stars	(HS-ESS 1-2)
4	H-R Diagram	(HS-ESS 1-3)
5	Life Cycles of Stars Model	(HS-ESS 1-3)
6-7	Geologic History of New York State	(HS-ESS 2-7)
8	Generalized Surface Bedrock Geology of New York State	(HS-ESS 2-1)
9	Energy and Mineral Resources of New York State	(HS-ESS 3-1)
10	Geographic Province and Landscape Regions of New York State	(HS-ESS 2-1)
11	Model of Earth's Interior Structure	(HS-ESS 2-3)
11	Cross Section Model of Earth's Surface and Interior	(HS-ESS 2-3)
12	Global Tectonic Activity of the Last One Million Years	(HS-ESS 1-5)
13	Model of Bowen's Reaction Series	(HS-ESS 2-3)
13	Mineral Composition of Igneous Rocks	(HS-ESS 2-3)
14	Rock Cycle Infographic	(HS-ESS 2-5)
15	Geologically Important Radioactive Elements Used for Radiometric Dating	(HS-ESS 1-6)
16-17	Mineral Identification Flowchart	(HS-ESS 2-3)
18	Key to Weather Map Symbols	(HS-ESS 2-8)
19	Model of Generalized Planetary Wind Belts in the Troposphere	(HS-ESS 2-8)
19	Cross Section Model of Earth's Lower Atmosphere	(HS-ESS 2-8)
20	Surface Ocean Currents Model	(HS-ESS 2-4)

#### 2024 EDITION

This edition of the Earth and Space Sciences Reference Tables should be used in the classroom beginning in the 2024-25 school year. The first examination for which these tables will be used is the June 2025 Regents Examination in Earth and Space Sciences.



## ESSRT



## Revision Log ESSRT



# Grade Level/Domain Status Update with TENTATIVE Release of Guidance Materials (updated August 2024)

## Elementary and Intermediate Science:

- PLDs released Fall 2020
- Performance Investigations released Fall 2022
- Educator Guide released Summer 2023

## Life Science: Biology, Earth and Space Sciences:

- PLDs released Fall 2023
- Sample Clusters released Spring 2024
- Performance Investigations released Spring 2024
- Educator Guide and Reference Table (ESS only) released Summer 2024
- Additional Sample Clusters coming Fall 2024

## Chemistry, Physics:

- PLDs to be released Fall 2024
- Sample Clusters coming Spring 2025
- Performance Investigations coming Spring 2025
- Educator Guide and Reference Tables coming Summer 2025

# Regents Investigations



Performance-based tasks that are a component of the State's strategy for assessing science.



Emphasize PEs that will not be measured at the level of proficiency on the written assessment and ensure these PEs are incorporated into instruction.



The level of understanding of the aligned PEs (SEPs, DCIs, and CCCs) required for the Investigations does not make them well suited to functioning as initial instructional tools.



There will be 3 Required Investigations per Regents Level Science Course. All Investigation memos can be found on OSA website.



Time will count towards the 1,200-lab minute requirement AND are Entry Tickets to be eligible to sit for Regents Exams



Revision Log/Specific Updates

Revision Log  
Investigations



# Resources & Useful Tools

## Science Item Review Criteria (SIRC) Checklist

- Ensures that assessment questions are truly 3-dimensional and aligned to the PLD they are intended to assess

## Performance Level Descriptions (PLDs)

- Exemplify the knowledge and skills students at each performance level demonstrate and describe the progression of learning within a subject area
- Play a central role in the test development process, specifically question writing and standard setting

## Sample Clusters

- Offers an opportunity for teachers and students to become familiar with 3-dimensional question clusters

## Educator Guides

- Provides logistical information about the assessments

## Reference Tables

- Tool to enrich item stimuli

# New Regents Examination in Algebra I



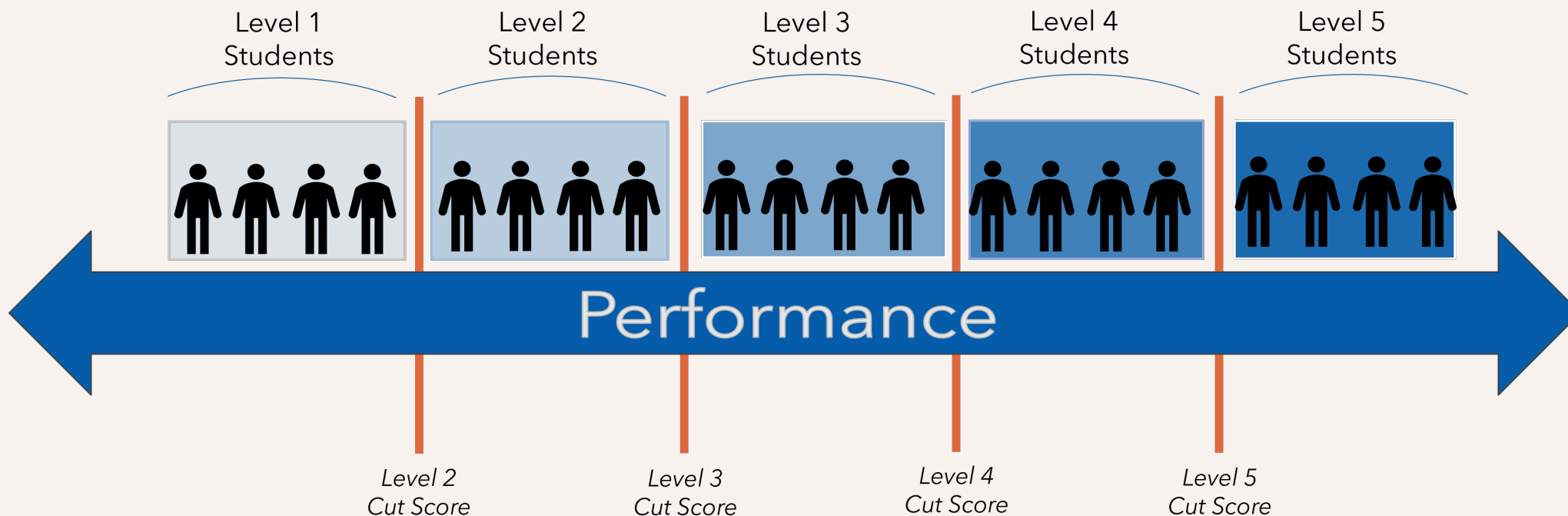
- The new *Regents Examination in Algebra I*, aligned to the *New York State Next Generation Mathematics Learning Standards*, was administered for the first time in June 2024.
- Whenever there are new academic learning standards, a revision to the learning standards, or a change in test design, ***a standard setting meeting must be held*** to determine the levels of expectation for classification into each performance level.
- During the Algebra I standard setting meeting, ***a representative group of NYS educators from across the state*** were tasked with recommending cut scores that operationally define five performance levels: Level 1, Level 2, Level 3, Level 4, and Level 5.



# Standard Setting Process



- Teachers *reviewed the content* of the June 2024 Regents Examination in Algebra I and were asked to consider the difficulty of items.
- Teachers *reviewed the Performance Level Descriptions (PLDs)* that describe the range of knowledge and skills students should demonstrate at each performance level.
  - Special consideration was given to the threshold PLDs which define the minimum knowledge and skills a student must demonstrate to attain just barely a Level 2, Level 3, Level 4, or Level 5 on the assessment.
- Teachers *provided content-based judgements* to establish *cut scores* with discussion and feedback with other teachers.
  - Teachers identified the point where the knowledge and skills required to answer each item correctly shifts from one performance level to another.



## What are cut scores?

- A cut score is the minimum score needed to be classified into each performance level. It indicates a student's level of achievement in terms of the learning standards being assessed.
  - Student scores below a cut are classified into one level, and student scores at or above a cut into the next, higher level. The area between the cuts is often referred to the "threshold".

# Standard Setting Process



- The *NYS Commissioner of Education selected the final cut scores* based on the recommendations from the NYS educators and technical advisors.
- These cuts represent student performance in terms of the new learning standards and *differences in performance can be expected*.
  - Student performance on the new test *is not directly comparable* to performance on the test measuring the old standards.
- These cut scores will remain in place until there is a change in standards or test design.



**Thank  
you!**

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