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# NEW YORK STATE DIPLOMA OPTIONS

ABJA MIDHA  
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# Agenda



- Overview of Diploma Options
- Credit Requirements
- Exit Exam Requirements
- High School Equivalency Diploma
- Non-Diploma Options

# Quiz- True or False?



- 1) A student who is 20 years old has a right to attend high school until she receives a diploma.
- 2) An IEP Diploma is the only diploma option available to students with disabilities.
- 3) A high school student with an IEP must earn a 65 on every required Regents exam to be eligible for a diploma.
- 4) English Language Learners must pass the English Regents exam in order to graduate.
- 5) A student who started high school in September 2013 is eligible to earn a diploma by passing the Regents Competency Tests (RCTs).

# Types of Diplomas



- “Real” Diplomas
  - Advanced Regents Diploma
  - Regents Diploma
  - Local Diploma
  - High School Equivalency Diploma
- Non-Diploma Credentials
  - (formerly) IEP Diploma
  - SACC
  - CDOS Commencement Credential



# Credit Requirements



- 22 credits, including:
  - 4 English
  - 4 Social Studies (1 US History, 1/2 Government, 1/2 Economics, 2 Other)
  - 3 Math
  - 3 Science (1 Life Science, 1 Physical Science, 1 Life Science or Physical Science)
  - 1 Second Language
  - 1 Visual Art, Music, Dance and/or Theater
  - 2 Physical Education
  - .5 Health
  - 3.5 electives

# Regents Exams Quiz



- 1) How many Regents exams must a student pass in order to earn a local or Regents diploma?
- 2) What is the passing score for a Regents exam?
- 3) How many chances does a student have to take and pass each Regents exam?
- 4) Do students who move to NYS in 11<sup>th</sup> grade have to pass the Global History Regents exam in order to graduate?

# Regents Exam Requirements



- 5 Regents exams: English, Math, Global History, U.S. History and Science
- Regents exams are offered in June, August and January
- No limit on the number of times a student can take each exam
- Some math, history, and science Regents exams are translated into Spanish, Chinese, Haitian-Creole, Russian and Korean
- Students who move to NYS in the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade may be exempted from the Global History Regents exam requirement.
- Students who move to NYS in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade may also be exempted from the Science Regents exam requirement.

# 4 + 1 Pathway



- 4 Regents exams (ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies) plus 1 State-approved assessment of the student's choice
- The 5<sup>th</sup> assessment may include any one of the following:
  - Additional social studies Regents exam or State-approved alternative (Humanities Pathway)
  - Additional English assessment from State-approved list (Humanities pathway)
  - Additional math or science Regents exam or State-approved alternative (STEM Pathway)
  - A State-approved foreign language assessment (Biliteracy pathway)
  - A State-approved career and technical education (CTE) assessment, following successful completion of an approved CTE program (CTE Pathway)
  - A State-approved arts assessment (Arts Pathway)
  - Career Development and Occupational Studies Commencement Credential



# Regents Diploma



- Regents Diploma
  - Score 65+ on all 5 Regents Exams
  - Score 65+ on 4 Regents Exams and:
    - ✦ achieve satisfactory score on 1 State-approved exam or
    - ✦ complete CDOS Commencement Credential requirements
- Advanced Regents Diploma
  - Score 65+ on 8 Regents Exams/assessments

# Regents Diploma: Appealing 1 Exam



Successfully appeal one Regents exam → Regents diploma

## Requirements

- Pass 4 Regents exams
- Remaining exam
  - Take and fail it twice
  - Score 60-64
- Passing course grade
- Academic help
- Teacher/department recommendation



# Local Diploma Quiz



Which of the following statements about a Local Diploma is correct?

- A) Students who graduate with a Local Diploma are eligible for college admission.
- B) Only students with a disability may earn a Local Diploma.
- C) Students must earn a 65+ on every Regents Exam to qualify for a Local Diploma.
- D) All of the above

# *Local Diploma Requirements*



- Criteria:
  - Same course credit requirements as Regents diploma
  - Different Regents exam score requirements
- Eligibility:
  - Students with disabilities
  - Students who successfully appeal 2 Regents exams
  - ELLs who successfully appeal ELA Regents exam

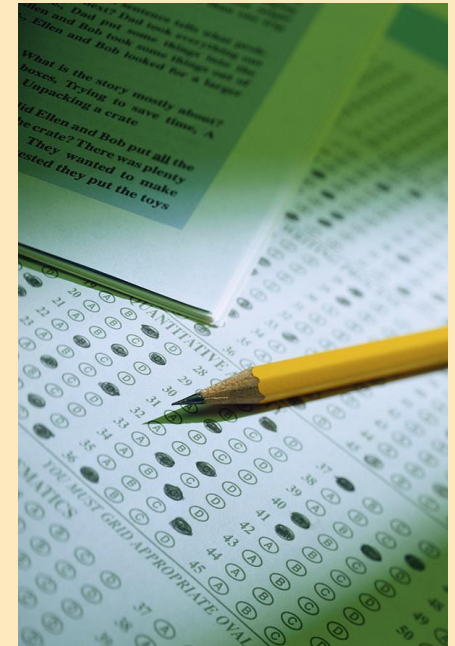
# Local Diploma: Appealing 2 Exams



Successfully appeal two Regents exams → local diploma

## Requirements:

- Pass 3 Regents exams
- Remaining 2 exams
  - Take and fail twice
  - Score 60-64
- Passing course grade
- Academic help
- Teacher/department recommendation



# *Local Diploma: ELL Appeal*

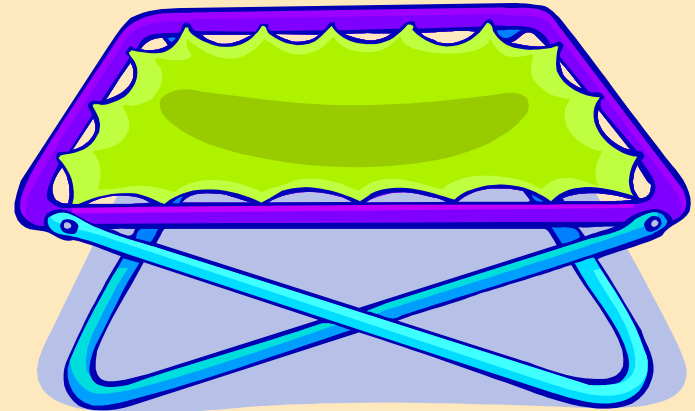


- Available to ELLs who enter the U.S. in 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades
- Allows ELLs to appeal ELA Regents score and receive a Local diploma
- Requirements:
  - Take the ELA Regents twice
  - Score 55-59 on the ELA Regents
  - Passing course grade
  - Academic help
  - Teacher/department recommendation

# Local Diploma: Students with Disabilities



- All students with IEPs
- Section 504 plans must recommend the safety net



# *Local Diploma: Students with Disabilities Safety Net Options*

- Low Pass
- Compensatory
- Regents Competency Tests (RCTs)





# *Low Pass Requirements*



- Score 55+ on 5 Regents exams – OR –
- Score 55+ on 4 Regents exams and pass 1 state-approved assessment
- Low pass appeal
  - Score 52-54 on one or 2 Regents exams
  - Take and fail it twice
  - Passing course grade
  - Academic help
  - Teacher/department recommendation

# Compensatory Option



- How it works:
  - Score 65+ on 1 Regents
  - Score 45-54 on another Regents (excl. ELA or Math)
  - Must score 55+ on ELA and Math
  - Passing score in course that leads to the Regents exam on which student scored 45-54
  - Satisfactory attendance rate
- May be used in conjunction with the 4+1 pathway
  - High scores on the +1 test cannot be used to compensate for lower Regents exam score
  - High scores on the Regents exam cannot be used to compensate for lower score on +1 test

# Compensatory Option Example



Student scores the following on the Regents exams:

- ✦ English: 55
- ✦ Algebra: 60
- ✦ US History: 59
- ✦ Chemistry: 65
- ✦ Global History: 45

Does the student qualify for the compensatory safety net?

# Compensatory Option Example



Student scores the following on the Regents exams:

- ✦ English: 65
- ✦ Algebra: 55
- ✦ US History: 57
- ✦ Chemistry: 46
- ✦ Global History: 49

Does the student qualify for the compensatory safety net?

# Compensatory Option Example



Student scores the following on the Regents exams:

- ✦ English: 55
- ✦ Algebra I: 55
- ✦ US History: 60
- ✦ Chemistry: 65
- ✦ Geometry: 48

Does the student qualify for the compensatory safety net?

# Regents Competency Tests (RCTs)



- Only available to students who started high school before September 2011
- Can only be used if student is unable to pass a Regents exam
- Students cannot use both the RCTs and compensatory option
- RCTs can be combined with the 55 low pass option
- RCTs can be combined with 4+1 Pathway in some instances
  - CTE, Arts, Humanities, biliteracy pathways

# *Filing an Appeal*



- Who can file an appeal?
  - Parent/guardian
  - Student
  - Teacher
- Who reviews the appeal?
  - Appeal committee: principal, 3 teachers, and 1 additional administrator
  - Appeal committee may interview the student or teacher/department chairperson recommending the appeal
  - Recommendation of appeal committee reviewed by the superintendent who grants or denies appeal

# *Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC)*

- Leads to High School Equivalency (HSE) diploma
- Free
- Eventually will only be computer-based
- Aligned to the Common Core standards
- Accommodations are available
- Offered in English and Spanish



# *Non-Diploma Options*



- IEP Diploma
- Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential (SACC)
- Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential

# *IEP Diploma*



- Certifies that a student with a disability has completed his or her IEP goals
- NOT a diploma and NOT accepted by colleges or the military
- **No longer offered**

# SACC



- Eligibility: Students with severe disabilities who take New York State Alternate Assessments (NYSAA)
- Receive SACC after attending school for 12 years, not including Kindergarten
- SACC is awarded with a Student Exit Summary and documents:
  - Academic achievement as measured by NYSAA
  - Level of achievement of NYS CDOS standards; and
  - Skills, strengths, and interests
- Must be awarded with notice that student has right to attend school until the year in which he or she turns 21
- NOT accepted for college admission or by the military

# CDOS Commencement Credential



- Eligibility: ALL students
- Intended to document a student's entry-level work skills
- Requirements:
  - Complete and annually review a career plan
  - Complete an employability profile detailing mastery of CDOS standards
  - Complete 4 credits (216 hours) of CTE courses and/or work-based learning experiences – OR –
  - Earn a national work readiness credential
- May be used as a “+I” pathway
- NOT accepted for college admission or by the military

# Case Examples



- 1) Gina is a student with an IEP who started high school in 2010. Which pathways to a local diploma are available to her?
- 2) Jorge is a 17-year old student who recently arrived in the United States and was placed in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade. He is a native Spanish speaker and speaks limited English. Which exams must he take in order to graduate with a diploma? Which appeals options are available to him?
- 3) Ana is an 18-year old high school senior with test anxiety. She has passed 4 of the 5 Regents exams with scores of 65 or higher and has passed all of her courses. She has failed the Global History exam 3 times. The last time she took the exam she scored a 59. What are her options for graduating with a diploma?
- 4) Frank is a high school senior. He had an IEP from elementary school until the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, when he was declassified. He has completed an approved CTE program and has passed the corresponding CTE test. Frank's Regents exam scores are as follows: Math- 67, Earth Science- 80, English- 60, Global Studies- 48, US History- 55. What are his options for graduating with a high school diploma?

# SED Resources



- Diploma Requirements: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/gradreq/CurrentDiplomaRequirements.pdf>
- Information about the Appeal (including forms): <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/gradreq/CurrentAppealForm.pdf>
- 4+1 Pathway FAQ: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/multiple-pathways/docs/multiple-pathways-pathways-qa-2015-04-08.pdf>
- SED Compensatory Option Safety Net Q&A: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/safetynet-qa.htm>