

Academic Policy Updates and Graduation Certification

Office of Academic Policy and Systems

May 2015

UFT Guidance Chapter

- See the [NYCDOE Academic Policy intranet page](#) maintained by the Office of Academic Policy and Systems and consult the [HS](#), [MS](#), and [ES](#) academic policy guides for the most current information.
- Contact your [academic policy point](#) with any questions related to this content.

Policy Updates Pertaining to Graduation

List of Diploma and Commencement Credential Options

Diplomas:

- Advanced Regents diploma
- Regents diploma
- Local diploma
 - Safety Net for students with disabilities
 - Through Appeals

Commencement Credentials:

- Career Development and Occupation Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential
- Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential

No longer available:

- Local diploma for students who do not qualify for the Safety Net
- The IEP diploma

Diploma Options

Diploma	Eligible Students	Course Requirements	Exam Requirements
Regents Diploma	All students	44 credits	5 Regents exams with scores of 65+
Advanced Regents Diploma	All students	44 credits, including 6 credits in a language other than English	8 Regents exams and the NYC LOTE exam with scores of 65+
Local Diploma	Safety Net eligible students & select students through appeals*	44 credits	5 Regents exam passes**, passed RCTs

* The local diploma safety net option is available to students with disabilities, students with 504 plans specifying safety net eligibility, and students declassified while in grades 8-12 whose last IEPs specified Safety Net eligibility

** Pass rates are dependent on students' eligibility category for the Local Diploma

Regents & Advanced Regents Diploma: Required Course Credits

Subject Area	Regents Diploma	Advanced Regents Diploma
English	8 credits	8 credits
Social Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ 4 Global, 2 US History, 1 Participation in Government, 1 Economics 	8 credits	8 credits
Mathematics	6 credits	6 credits
Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Minimum 2 in Life Science and 2 in Physical Science 	6 credits	6 credits
Languages Other Than English	2 credits	6 credits
The Arts	2 credits	2 credits
Health	1 credit	1 credit
Physical Education (every year)	4 credits	4 credits
Electives	7 credits	3 credits
TOTAL:	44 credits	44 credits

Regents Examinations

Subject Area	Safety Net	Regents	Advanced Regents
English	55+	65+	65+
Social Studies	55+ on <u>one</u> SS exam: Global OR US History	65+ on <u>one</u> SS exam: Global OR US History	65+ on <u>one</u> SS exam: Global OR US History
Mathematics	55+ on <u>one</u> math exam: Algebra I OR Geometry OR Algebra II	65+ on <u>one</u> math exam: Algebra I OR Geometry OR Algebra II	65+ on <u>three</u> math exams: Algebra I AND Geometry AND Algebra II
Science	55+ on <u>one</u> science exam: Living Environment OR Earth Science OR Chemistry OR Physics	65+ on <u>one</u> science exam: Living Environment OR Earth Science OR Chemistry OR Physics	65+ on <u>two</u> science exams: Living Environment AND Earth Science OR Chemistry OR Physics
+1 Option	55+ on <u>one</u> additional exam:**	65+ on <u>one</u> additional exam:**	65+ on <u>one</u> additional exam:**
LOTE	N/A**	N/A**	65+ on <u>one</u> NYC LOTE exam
TOTAL:	5 passing scores	5 passing scores	9 passing scores

** LOTE exams cannot currently be counted towards regular Regents Diploma

Students may also substitute state approved exams from [this list](#), or use any of these [technical exams](#) (CTE schools only) as a +1 option.

4+1 Graduation Option

- Recent amendments to NYSED Commissioner’s Regulations [§100.2](#) and [§100.5](#), changing the exams students must pass to graduate from high school in NYS.
- The “[4+1 Pathways to Graduation](#)” option will be available to any students eligible to receive a high school diploma in June 2015 and thereafter.*
- This does not change existing graduation course or credit requirements. Students must continue to meet all current course and 44 units of [credit requirements](#).

4+1 Graduation Option- Guidelines

- Students must still pass these four Regents exams:
 - ELA;
 - any mathematics;
 - any science; AND
 - any social studies Regents exam.
- With the 4+1 option, students may now choose to use any **one of the following exams as their fifth assessment, or “+1” option:**
 1. One additional Regents examination in a different course in **social studies**, or Department-approved alternative;
 2. One additional Regents examination in a different course in **mathematics**, or Department-approved alternative; OR
 3. One additional Regents examination in a different course in **science**, or a Department-approved alternative.
 4. One additional state approved exam in **CTE** (CTE schools only) from [this list](#).

4+1 Graduation Option - Additional Assessment Options

- For June 2015, schools should assume that the **only** approved pathway assessments are the math, science, and social studies, and CTE (only for CTE schools) exams.
- Guidance will be forthcoming from NYSED on the following additional assessment options, which have not yet been approved:
 1. A biliteracy (“LOTE”) assessment;
 2. An arts assessment.
- To graduate students in ATS, use exam override code “S” for “SED Approved Alternative”

Local Diplomas

- Same course credit requirements as the Regents diploma (44 credits)
- Eligible students with may earn a local diploma through lower exam scores or alternative exams
- Available **only** in the following cases:
 - Safety Net Eligible Students
 - Students with IEPs
 - Students with disabilities who were declassified in grades 8–12, whose last IEP specified Safety Net eligibility
 - Students with 504 plans specifying Safety Net eligibility
 - Through Appeals
 - Appeal to graduate with a low score (62-64)
 - ELL Appeal Process

Safety Net: Exam Requirements

- Students may pass the 5 required Regents exams with scores of **55 or higher**
- Students who entered grade 9 prior to September 2011 may also pass **Regents Competency Tests (RCTs)** in place of any failed Regents exams
 - Students must attempt each of the 5 required exams at least once
- **Compensatory score option:** students may graduate with up to 2 low scores of 45–54 if they meet certain criteria*

Safety Net Expansion: Compensatory Score Option

- The student must score 55 or higher on the English Regents and any math Regents.
- The student may graduate with a score of 45-54 on the Global History, U.S. History, or science Regents exams, provided that each score of 45-54 is compensated by a score of 65+ on any of the other five required exams.
- The student must have passed the course associated with the Regents.
- The student must have satisfactory attendance during the school year in which (s)he received the 45-54 score, as defined by the school.
- The student may not combine RCTs with the compensatory option.

Safety Net Expansion: Compensatory Score Option Example #1

A student has received the following exam scores:

English Regents	55
Integrated Algebra Regents	55
Global History Regents	45
U.S. History Regents	55
Living Environment Regents	65

English and math must
be 55 or higher

Student qualifies for the local diploma:

- The 45 in Global History is compensated by the 65 in Living Environment.
- All other exams have scores of 55 or higher.

Safety Net Expansion: Compensatory Score Option Example #2

A student has received the following exam scores:

English Regents	55
Integrated Algebra Regents	70
Global History Regents	45
U.S. History Regents	52
Living Environment Regents	65

English and math must be 55 or higher

Student qualifies for the local diploma:

- The 45 in Global History is compensated by the 65 in Living Environment.
- The 52 in U.S. History is compensated by the 70 in Integrated Algebra.
- All other exams have scores of 55 or higher.

Local Diplomas Through Appeals

	Appeal to Graduate with a Score of 62–64 on Regents Examinations	Appeal to Graduate with a Score of 55–61 on ELA Regents Examination
Eligible Students	All students that meet the criteria listed.	First time ELL students that arrived in the US at grades 9–12 in the year 2010–11 and beyond that meet the additional criteria listed.
Type of Diploma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One successful appeal – Regents diploma Two successful appeals – local diploma 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ELL appeal only – local diploma ELL appeal and score of 62–64 appeal – local diploma
Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online process– Request should be made in ATS using the RQSA screen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offline manual process – Request form and all supporting documents must be submitted to superintendent.
Test Score Requirements	62 –64 on up to two of the required Regents exams	55–61 on an ELA Regents

Note – Students who appeal to graduate with **one successful appeal can still receive a Regents diploma.**

Local Diplomas Through Appeals: Low Score

- **NYSED allows a student who has met very specific eligibility requirements to appeal one or two low Regents scores (62-64) to earn a diploma. More than one successful appeal leads to a local diploma. Students can appeal low scores on up to two exams.**
- The student must have:
 - Taken the exam(s) under appeal at least two times
 - Scored within three points of a 65 on the exam(s) under appeal and 65 or above on the other Regents exams required for graduation
 - Attained at least a 65 course average in the subject area of the exam under appeal
 - Maintained an attendance rate of at least 95 percent for the school year during which the student last took the required Regents Exam under appeal
 - Provided evidence of academic intervention services in the subject area under appeal
 - Been recommended by his or her teacher or department chairperson for the appeal

See [Appeals to Graduate with a Score of 55-64 on a Regents Examination](#).

RQSA / RGT

```
PROFILE 07-X-000      New York City Public Schools      04-04-14 17:52:09
RQST0260             Regents Exam Appeal Request (RQSA)    01229-FBURGOS2
==>
```

```
FERRARI, JOSHUA      268-555-476  GRADE LEVEL/COHORT: 12/CLASS OF 2012
```

```
EXAM TO APPEAL:     HXRUR (13-14 Jan) 63  US HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT
ATTENDANCE % IN YEAR LAST ATTEMPTED: (13-14 Jan) 100%  AIS: _
MET SUBJECT CREDIT REQUIREMENTS: _                      DIPLOMA TYPE: ____
```

```
APPEAL RECOMMENDED BY: _____
```

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COMMITTEE APPROVAL:
```

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_____
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_____
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_____
```

```
(Enter all 5 Approval IDs)
```

```
(You can use F4/Lookup)
```

```
To submit appeal, enter data and press F6
```

```
F1/Help   F2/       F3/Quit-return  F4/Lookup   F5/       F6/Submit
F7/       F8/       F9/Refresh     F10/       F11/      F12/Exit
```

Local Diplomas Through Appeals: ELL Appeal

- **NYSED allows ELL students who has met very specific eligibility requirements to appeal a low score (55-61) on ELA Regents exam.**
- The student must have:
 - Taken the exam(s) under appeal at least two times
 - Scored within three points of a 65 on the exam(s) under appeal and 65 or above on the other Regents exams required for graduation
 - Attained at least a 65 course average in the subject area of the exam under appeal
 - Maintained an attendance rate of at least 95 percent for the school year during which the student last took the required Regents Exam under appeal
 - Provided evidence of academic intervention services in the subject area under appeal
 - Been recommended by his or her teacher or department chairperson for the appeal
 - The student must be a current ELL student or ELL student at time of ELA Regents administration; and
 - The student must have enrolled in any United States school for the first time in grade 9–12 during the school year 2010–11 or thereafter.

See [Appeals to Graduate with Scores of 55–64 on Regents Examinations](#).

Graduation Certification

End of Year Calendar

See the ATS Wiki for an [EOY Timeline](#).

RESI

```
TN3270 USS
File Edit Preferences Help
[Icons]
PROFILE 21-K-540      New York City Public Schools      05-12-15 11:39:59
RESI0100             ATS Report Selection Screen (RESI)  01886-KHANSEN5
==>

          STUDENT EVALUATION REPORT BY SCHOOL
                                SCHOOL DBN: 21 K 540
SELECTION CRITERIA:(ENTER SPECIFIC CRITERIA, LEAVE BLANK FOR ENTIRE SCHOOL)
OFFICIAL CLASS      (DEFAULT IS ALL)      : _____
GRADE LEVEL (E.G. 03) (DEFAULT IS ALL)   : 12
INDICATOR (PRESS F4, DEFAULT IS ALL)     : _
STUDENT ID          : _____
NEW STUDENTS ONLY (Y/N)                   : N
LIST NOTICE-IN STUDENTS ONLY (Y/N)       : N
DISCHARGED STUDENTS-ONLY OR INCLUDED (O/I): _
SORT OPTIONS:(ENTER Y)
SORT BY ALPHA      (DEFAULT IS ALPHA)     : Y
SORT BY GRADE LEVEL, ALPHA                 : _
SORT BY OFFICIAL CLASS, ALPHA              : _
EMAILID: [ ] @SCHOOLS.NYC.GOV  SUBJ: _____
PRINT OPTION: ( ENTER PRINTER INFORMATION )
DIST: 000 LOC: TW3 PRINTER: 5 HOLD: N      ID: EPTW0384 TYP: _
398 students to be printed. Press F6 to confirm
F1/Help      F2/          F3/Quit-return  F4/Lookup      F5/Prt layout  F6/Execut
F7/          F8/          F9/Refresh    F10/           F11/           F12/Exit
LULU          HOST WAIT
Device EPTW0384 negotiated          Session ID: 1470          18/11
```

Master List of Potential Graduates

- Student A
- Student B
- Student C

Graduation dependent on...

Coursework Only

- Student B

Coursework and Exams

- Student A
- Student C

Official Record of Students Who Have Met Graduation Requirements

Graduation Date: _____ Submitted to Pupil Accounting Secretary by: _____

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	NINE DIGIT ID#	COHORT	OFFICIAL CLASS	DIPLOMA TYPE	DISCHARGE CODE	OVERRIDE CODE	
							CREDITS	EXAMS
A	Student	123			Regents	27		
B	Student	456			Regents	27		S

