

Office of Standards & Instruction Newsletter

Vol.
1

Fall
2022

A quarterly newsletter from the NYS Education Department's Office of Standards & Instruction



Seal of Civic Readiness

The Seal of Civic Readiness is a formal recognition that a student has attained a high level of proficiency in terms of civic knowledge, civic skills, civic mindset, and civic experiences. The Seal may also be used as a graduation pathway. This school year is the first year the Seal of Civic Readiness is available to all schools and districts. The application to offer the Seal is available in the [SED Monitoring and Vendor Performance System](#) located within the [Application Business Portal](#). Congratulations to the over 320 schools that have been approved to grant the Seal of Civic Readiness + 1 Civics Pathway! For more information, please visit [The Office of Standards and Instruction's Civic Readiness webpage](#).

Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Education

The New York State Education Department's [Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Education Framework](#) is designed to support education stakeholders in developing and implementing policies that educate all students effectively and equitably, as well as provide appropriate supports and services to promote positive student outcomes. To support educators in implementing the key principles grounded in culturally responsive education, the Department is hosting a webinar series this fall titled "Promising Practices from Schools Across New York State." Upcoming topics are [Cultivating Collaborative Communities](#), [Nourishing Student Voice and Growth](#), and [Sustaining Healthy Growing Conditions for Learning](#). Follow links for dates, times, and registration.

Diploma Requirements Reminders

As a new school year begins and schools and counselors prepare students for graduation, now is a good time to revisit current diploma requirements. The [Special Appeals](#) process on scores earned during the June/August 2022 and January/June/August 2023 Regents Examination administration periods will still be available for eligible students. The [Special Appeals FAQ](#) (revised in August 2022) provides guidance regarding student eligibility. Additionally, eligible students will continue to be exempt from the January 2022 Regents Examination in US History & Government (exemption conditions are noted in question 2a of the [FAQ on Cancellation of Regents examination in United States History & Government](#)). The Board of Regents and the Department are strongly encouraging schools and school districts to allow those [students who will age out of school the opportunity to attend school in the 2022-2023 school year](#) to complete their education and earn a diploma, credential, or endorsement.



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Physical Education Revised Standards

Full implementation of the revised New York State Physical Education Learning Standards begins in Fall 2023. In collaboration with various local school districts and stakeholders, the Department developed an [Implementation Roadmap](#) to assist educators with the standards transition, which—along with other resources—can be found on the [Physical Education Learning Standards webpage](#).

NY Youth Senate Award

Each year the [William Randolph Hearst Foundation](#), in cooperation with the United States Senate and the education departments of all fifty states, sponsors the [United States Senate Youth Program](#). Two student leaders from each state and the District of Columbia are selected to participate in an all-expenses paid, week-long government leadership program in Washington, D.C. Chosen students engage in a series of seminars and briefings with Senators and members of the House of Representatives and meet with officials of the executive and judicial branches of government. Each student delegate will also receive a one-time \$10,000 college scholarship. Candidacy is limited to upper-classmen, and students are nominated by their local principal. The deadline for nominations is October 21, 2022. Please refer to the [USSYP brochure](#) and [the Department website](#) for more information.

Learning Opportunity: The Expanded Math Access Program

[The Expanded Math Access Program](#) is a state initiative to support math fluency and the love of math for elementary students (grades K-5) across New York. This program provides students with access to online, standards-based math games and activities (via the First In Math program) at no cost to districts or students through **June 30th, 2025**. This learning opportunity provides support to students who may need assistance meeting grade-level fluency expectations. The First In Math program is accessible at school and at home, allowing families to support math education. Suggestions for use include enrichment/extension, fun summer learning, and supplementing and complementing classroom work. For additional information, or to sign up for this resource, please visit the [First In Math information webpage](#).

Applications Now Available for The Presidential Awards for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching

The Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) are the highest honors bestowed by the United States government for K-12 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics teaching. The National Science Foundation administers PAEMST on behalf of The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy.

The new application cycle is now under way! Nominations will close on **January 9th, 2023** and applications must be completed by **February 6th, 2023**. Recipients of the PAEMST award receive a certificate signed by the President of the United States, a paid trip to Washington, D.C. to attend a series of recognition events and professional development opportunities, a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation (NSF), and an opportunity to build lasting partnerships with colleagues across the nation. For more information, please visit [PAEMST](#) or the Department's [Awards and Scholarships](#) webpage.



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Science Standards Update

Schools are currently in the process of adopting [The New York State P12 Science Learning Standards \(NYSP12SLS\)](#). Educators are encouraged to transition their curriculum and instruction to the standards ahead of the administration of the newly aligned assessments. Available to districts on the NYSED website are professional learning turnkey guides for science. [These guides](#) provide educators, administrators, and science stakeholder groups with guidance and resources to assist in the implementation of the New York State P-12 Science Learning Standards. Each of the three guides provides an optional presentation, instructional steps, and guidance so educators and administrators may facilitate training on various aspects of the New York State P-12 Science Learning Standards within their own professional communities. As a reminder, there will be no 4th grade Elementary level science test administered in Spring 2023, as that cohort will take the first administration of the NYSP12SLS aligned Elementary Level Science test as 5th graders in Spring 2024. Here are important dates for the science exams:

Spring 2023: Last administration of the 8th grade Intermediate Level Science test aligned to the 1996 MST standards

Spring 2024: First administration of the 5th grade Elementary Level Science test and 8th grade Intermediate Level Science test aligned to the 2016 NYSP12SLS

June 2025: First administration of the Regents Exams for Physical Science: Earth and Space Sciences and Life Science: Biology aligned to the 2016 NYSP12SLS

June 2026: First administration of the Regents Exam for Physical Science: Chemistry and Physical Science: Physics aligned to the 2016 NYSP12SLS

Parent Guides to Learning Standards

The Office of Standards and Instruction has designed [A Parent's Guide to the New York State Next Generation ELA & Math Learning Standards](#), [A Parent's Guide to the New York State P12 Science Learning Standards](#), and [A Parent's Guide to the New York State Physical Education Learning Standards](#). Each guide includes a description of the role of learning standards in the instructional cycle, a standards-specific FAQ, and linked resources to support classroom learning at home. These are free and shareable resources available as PDFs that can be printed and distributed as a brochure or flyer, circulated through email, or posted on a local webpage. As the parent guides facilitate dialogue between parents and educators, the resources are recommended for any situation in which parents and educators interact, including parent/teacher conferences and open houses.

Next Generation Mathematics and English Language Arts Learning Standards Instruction and Assessment Timelines

Implementation of [The Next Generation Mathematics and ELA Learning Standards](#) begins this fall for many grade levels. The Instruction and Assessment Implementation Timelines for the [math](#) and [ELA](#) standards offer detailed guidance regarding the full implementation of the Next Generation Learning Standards and assessment alignment for all grade levels, including high school. The New York State Grades 3-8 ELA and Mathematics Tests will be aligned to the new standards in the Spring 2023 administration. [Updated test manuals are available.](#)

