



## New York State Diploma/Credential Requirements

Revised May 2025

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 [Graduation Requirements](#) webpage. Reference the [Graduation Requirements Guidance and Resources](#) webpage to access three flyers and a tracking tool translated into eleven different languages.

Additional questions pertaining to diploma or credential requirements may be directed to the Office of Standards and Instruction at [P12StandardsInstruction@nysed.gov](mailto:P12StandardsInstruction@nysed.gov) or (518) 474-5922.

### New York State High School Diplomas

Diploma Type	Available to	Requirements
Regents Diploma	All student populations	<p><b>Credit:</b> 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languages<sup>i</sup>, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives</p> <p><b>Assessment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 required Regents Exams<sup>ii</sup> (one in each discipline: English, mathematics, science, social studies);</li> <li>successful completion of 1 Pathway<sup>iii</sup>; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>each Regents Exam with a score of <b>65 or better</b><sup>iv</sup></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Reference:</b> <a href="#">Graduation Requirements</a></p>
Regents Diploma (through traditional appeal)	All student populations	<p><b>Credit:</b> 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languages<sup>i</sup>, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives</p> <p><b>Assessment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 required Regents Exams<sup>ii</sup> (one in each discipline: English, mathematics, science, social studies);</li> <li>successful completion of 1 Pathway<sup>iii,v</sup>; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 of the above <b>Regents Exams</b> (including the pathway, if a Regents Exam) with a score of <b>60-64</b> for which an appeal<sup>vi</sup> is granted by the local district per Commissioner's Regulation 100.5(d)(7); and</li> <li>remaining required Regents Exams with a score of <b>65 or better</b><sup>iv</sup></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Reference:</b> <a href="#">Appeals, Safety Nets, and Superintendent Determination</a></p>

Diploma Type	Available to	Requirements
Regents Diploma with Honors	All student populations	<p><b>Credit:</b> 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languages<sup>i</sup>, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives</p> <p><b>Assessment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 required Regents Exams<sup>ii</sup> (one in each discipline: English, mathematics, science, social studies);</li> <li>• successful completion of 1 Pathway<sup>iii</sup>; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a computed average score of <b>90 or better</b> on all required Regents Exams (including the pathway, if a Regents Exam)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> 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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Students with a minimum of three scored Regents Examinations applicable to the diploma</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In instances where students have at least three scored Regents Examinations to be included in the assessments required for the diploma type, exemptions 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.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Students with fewer than three scored Regents Examinations applicable to the diploma</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 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.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Reference:</b> <a href="#">Endorsements and Seals</a></p>
Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation	All student populations	<p><b>Credit:</b> 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languages<sup>i</sup>, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives</p> <p><b>Assessment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 required Regents Exams<sup>ii</sup> distributed as follows: 3 mathematics, 2 science (one physical, one life), 1 English, 1 social studies;</li> <li>• successful completion of 1 Pathway<sup>iii</sup>; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• each Regents Exam with a score of <b>65 or better</b><sup>iv</sup></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Sequence<sup>vii</sup>:</b> successful completion of <b>one</b> of the three sequence options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• earning an additional 2 units of credit in world languages and passing a locally developed Checkpoint B examination in world languages; or</li> <li>• completing a 5 unit sequence in the Arts; or</li> <li>• completing a 5 unit sequence in CTE</li> </ul> <p><b>Reference:</b> <a href="#">Graduation Requirements</a></p>

Diploma Type	Available to	Requirements
Regents with <b>Advanced Designation</b> with an annotation that denotes <b>Mastery in Mathematics</b>	All student populations	<p><b>Credit:</b> 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languages<sup>i</sup>, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives</p> <p><b>Assessment and Sequence<sup>vii</sup>:</b> Meets all assessment and sequence requirements for the Regents diploma with advanced designation (see above) <b>and</b> scores 85 or better on each of 3 Regents Examinations in mathematics</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Students who were exempted<sup>iv</sup> from a Regents Examination in mathematics may earn the mastery in mathematics endorsement using one of the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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</li> <li>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.</li> </ul> <p><b>Reference:</b> <a href="#">Endorsements and Seals</a></p>
Regents with <b>Advanced Designation</b> with an annotation that denotes <b>Mastery in Science</b>	All student populations	<p><b>Credit:</b> 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languages<sup>i</sup>, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives</p> <p><b>Assessment and Sequence<sup>vii</sup>:</b> Meets all assessment and sequence requirements for the Regents diploma with advanced designation (see above) <b>and</b> scores 85 or better on each of 3 Regents Examinations in science</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Students who were exempted<sup>iv</sup> from a Regents Examination in science may earn the mastery in science endorsement using one of the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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</li> <li>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.</li> </ul> <p><b>Reference:</b> <a href="#">Endorsements and Seals</a></p>

Diploma Type	Available to	Requirements
Regents with <b>Advanced Designation with Honors</b>	All student populations	<p><b>Credit:</b> 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languages<sup>i</sup>, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives</p> <p><b>Assessment and Sequence<sup>vii</sup>:</b> Meets all assessment and sequence requirements for the Regents diploma with advanced designation (see above) with a computed average score of <b>90 or better</b> on all Regents Exams required for the diploma</p> <p><b>Note:</b> 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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Students with a minimum of three scored Regents Examinations applicable to the diploma</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In instances where students have at least three scored Regents Examinations to be included in the assessments required for the diploma type, exemptions 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.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Students with fewer than three scored Regents Examinations applicable to the diploma</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 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.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Reference:</b> <a href="#">Endorsements and Seals</a></p>
Local Diploma (through Traditional Appeal)	All student populations	<p><b>Credit:</b> 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languages<sup>i</sup>, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ electives</p> <p><b>Assessment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 required Regents Exams<sup>ii</sup> (one in each discipline: English, mathematics, science, social studies);</li> <li>• Successful completion of 1 Pathway<sup>iii,v</sup>; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 of the above required <b>Regents Exams</b> (including the Pathway, if a Regents Exam) with a score of <b>60-64</b> for which an appeal<sup>vi</sup> is granted by the local district per Commissioner's Regulation 100.5(d)(7); and</li> <li>• remaining required Regents Exams with a score of <b>65 or better<sup>iv</sup></b>.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Reference:</b> <a href="#">Appeals, Safety Nets, and Superintendent Determination</a></p>

Diploma Type	Available to	Requirements
Local Diploma	English Language Learners Only	<p><b>Credit:</b> 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languages<sup>i</sup>, 2 physical education, 3 ½ electives</p> <p><b>Assessment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 required Regents Exams<sup>ii</sup> (one in each discipline: English, mathematics, science, social studies)</li> <li>Successful completion of 1 Pathway<sup>iii,v</sup>; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the <b>ELA Regents Exam</b> with a score of <b>55-59</b> for which an appeal is granted by the local district per Commissioner's Regulation 100.5(d)(7);</li> <li>up to 1 of the above required <b>Regents Exam</b> with a score of <b>60-64</b> for which an appeal<sup>vi</sup> is granted by the local district per Commissioner's Regulation 100.5(d)(7);</li> <li>remaining required Regents Exams with a score of <b>65 or better</b><sup>iv</sup></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Reference:</b> <a href="#">Appeals, Safety Nets, and Superintendent Determination</a></p>
Local Diploma	Students with disabilities with an individualized education program (IEP) or if included on the student's Section 504 Accommodation Plan	<p><b>Credit:</b> 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 world languages<sup>i</sup>, 2 physical education, and 3 ½ elective</p> <p><b>Assessment:</b></p> <p><b>a) Low Pass Safety Net Option:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 required Regents Exams<sup>ii</sup> (one in each discipline: English, mathematics, science, social studies);</li> <li>Successful completion of 1 Pathway<sup>iii</sup>; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>each Regents Exam with a score of <b>55 or better</b><sup>iv</sup></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>b) Low Pass Safety Net and Appeal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 required Regents Exams<sup>ii</sup> (one in each discipline: English, mathematics, science, social studies);</li> <li>Successful completion of 1 Pathway<sup>iii,v</sup>; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>up to 2 Regents Exams with a score of 52-54 for which an appeal<sup>vi</sup> is granted by the local district per Commissioner's Regulation 100.5(d)(7)</li> <li>each remaining Regents Exam with a score of <b>55 or better</b><sup>iv</sup></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>c) Compensatory Safety Net Option:</b> 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. <b>Note:</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Reference:</b> <a href="#">Appeals, Safety Nets, and Superintendent Determination</a> and <a href="#">Information Related to Graduation Requirements for Students with Disabilities</a></p>

Diploma Type	Available to	Requirements
<p>Local Diploma (through Superintendent Determination)</p> <p><b>Reference:</b>  <a href="#">Appeals, Safety Nets, and Superintendent Determination and Information Related to Graduation Requirements for Students with Disabilities</a></p>	<p>Students with disabilities with an IEP</p> <p>Does <b>NOT INCLUDE</b> students with a Section 504 Accommodation Plan</p>	<p><b>Credit:</b> 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</p> <p><b>Assessment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 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.</li> </ul> <p>To be eligible for the Superintendent Determination Option, a student with a disability must meet all conditions as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the parent/guardian submitted a written request that their child be considered for a Superintendent Determination; and</li> <li>2. the student has a current individualized education program (IEP) and is receiving special education services; and</li> <li>3. the student has earned the required course credits and has passed, in accordance with district policy, all courses required for graduation, and the student has demonstrated competency in the subject area(s) where the student was not able to demonstrate proficiency of the State's learning standards through a required Regents Examination*.</li> </ol> <p>*If the student was unable to achieve a minimum score of 55 or did not initiate an appeal of a score of 52-54 on the Regents Examinations in ELA and/or mathematics, then they must have completed the requirements for the NYS Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential.</p>
<p>Local Diploma (through Special Determination)</p> <p><b>Reference:</b>  <a href="#">Special Determination to Graduate with a Local Diploma in June 2022</a></p>	<p>All student populations (only applies to June 2022 graduates)</p>	<p><b>Credit:</b> 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</p> <p><b>Assessment:</b></p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>

<b>Diploma Type</b>	<b>Available to</b>	<b>Requirements</b>
Local Diploma, Regents Diploma, Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation (with or without Honors), with a <b>Career and Technical Education Endorsement</b>	All student populations	<p><b>Credit:</b> Completes all credit requirements as listed above for specific diploma types and successfully completes an approved career and technical education program</p> <p><b>Assessment:</b> 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</p> <p><b>Reference:</b> <a href="#">Endorsements and Seals</a></p>
Regents Diploma, Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation (with or without Honors), with a <b>Seal of Biliteracy</b>	All student populations	<p><b>Credit:</b> 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</p> <p><b>Assessment:</b> Meets the criteria for <a href="#">Earning the New York State Seal of Biliteracy</a>.</p> <p><b>Reference:</b> <a href="#">The New York State Seal of Biliteracy</a> (NYSSB)</p>
Local Diploma, Regents Diploma, Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation (with or without Honors), with a <b>Seal of Civic Readiness</b>	All student populations	<p><b>Credit:</b> 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</p> <p><b>Assessment:</b> Meets the criteria for earning the New York State Seal of Civic Readiness.</p> <p><b>Reference:</b> New York State <a href="#">Seal of Civic Readiness</a></p>



## Non-diploma High School Exiting Credentials

Credential Type	Available to	Requirements
Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential	All students <b>other than</b> those who are assessed using the NYS Alternate Assessment (NYSSA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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; <b>or</b></li> <li>Student meets criteria for a national work readiness credential</li> </ul> <p>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.</p> <p>Reference: <a href="#">Exiting Credentials</a> and Commissioner's Regulations 8 CRR-NY 100.6, <a href="#">High school exiting credentials</a></p>
Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential	Students with severe disabilities that are assessed using the NYS Alternate Assessment (NYSAA)	<p>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.</p> <p>Reference: <a href="#">Exiting Credentials</a>, Special Education Field Advisory: <a href="#">Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential for Students with Severe Disabilities</a>, and Commissioner's Regulations 8 CRR-NY 100.6, <a href="#">High school exiting credentials</a></p>



## Endnotes

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- i. Students with a disability may be excused from the world languages credit requirement if so indicated on the IEP but must still earn 22 units of credit to graduate.
  - ii. In all cases students may substitute an assessment from the list of NYSED-Approved Regents Examination Alternatives.
  - iii. In **addition** to passing the following 4 required Regents Exams or the corresponding [NYSED-Approved Regents Examination Alternative](#), all students must complete **1** of the following pathway options:
    - earn the New York State [Seal of Civic Readiness](#); or
    - pass an additional mathematics Regents Exam in a different course or Department approved alternative; or
    - pass an additional science Regents Exam in a different course or Department approved alternative; or
    - pass an additional social studies Regents Exam in a different course or Department approved alternative; or
    - pass an additional English assessment in a different course selected from the Department approved alternative list; or
    - pass a [NYSED-Approved Pathway Assessment in the Arts](#); or
    - pass a [NYSED-Approved Pathway Assessment in World Languages](#); or
    - successfully complete all the requirements for the [CDOS Commencement Credential](#); or
    - successfully complete an [approved CTE program](#), including the associated 3-part technical assessment; or
    - successfully complete the [Individual Arts Assessment Pathway \(IAAP\)](#).
- The additional assessment must measure a different course than that which was measured by one of the four required exams above, or an approved pathway assessment in the Arts, CDOS, or world languages. Additional information can be referenced on the NYSED's [Multiple Pathways](#) webpage.
- iv. An assessment **exemption** may be accepted in lieu of a Regents Examination, pathway assessment, or Department approved alternative exam. Additional information can be referenced in the [Exemptions for Major Life Events memo](#) and in the following FAQs: [June/August 2020](#), [January 2021](#), [June/August 2021](#), and [January 2022](#), and [FAQ on Cancellation of Regents Exam in US History and Government \(Framework\)](#). Additionally, if a school grants a **special appeal**, the student is deemed to have met the assessment requirement. Additional information can be referenced in the [Special Appeals Memo](#) and [FAQ](#).
  - v. Regents Exams used to meet the pathway requirement may be appealed.
  - vi. Non-Regents pathway assessments and Department approved alternative exams are not subject to the Appeal Process.
  - vii. Students with a disability who are excused from the world languages requirement per their IEP need not complete a sequence in world languages nor a 5 unit sequence in the Arts or CTE in order to meet the requirements for the Regents diploma with advanced designation.