Mathematics Tools for Regents Exams in Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II (Common Core)

Why Mathematics Tools?

These provisions are necessary for students to meet the Standards for Mathematical Practice in the New York State P-12 Common Core Learning Standards for Mathematics. For example:

Use appropriate tools strategically
Mathematically proficient students consider the available tools when solving a mathematical problem. Proficient students are sufficiently familiar with tools appropriate for their grade or course to make sound decisions about when each of these tools might be helpful, recognizing both the insight to be gained and their limitations. Mathematically proficient students at various grade levels are able to identify relevant external mathematical resources, such as digital content located on a website, and use them to pose or solve problems. They are able to use technological tools to explore and deepen their understanding of concepts.

Attend to precision
Mathematically proficient students try to communicate precisely to others. They try to use clear definitions in discussion with others and in their own reasoning. They state the meaning of the symbols they choose, including using the equal sign consistently and appropriately. They are careful about specifying units of measure and labeling axes to clarify the correspondence with quantities in a problem. They calculate accurately and efficiently, expressing numerical answers with a degree of precision appropriate for the problem context. In the elementary grades, students give carefully formulated explanations to each other. By the time they reach high school, they have learned to examine claims and make explicit use of definitions.

Calculators and Rulers (straight edge)
A graphing calculator and ruler (straight edge) must be available to all students taking the Regents Exams in Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II (Common Core).

Compasses

A compass must be available to all students taking the Regents Exam in Geometry (Common Core).

Note: Schools are responsible for supplying the appropriate tools for use with the Regents Exams in Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II (Common Core). NYSED does not provide them.

Value of Pi

Students should use the π symbol and its corresponding value when applicable on the Regents Exams in Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II (Common Core). The approximate values of π, such as 3.1416, 3.14 or $\frac{22}{7}$, are unacceptable unless otherwise specified.