

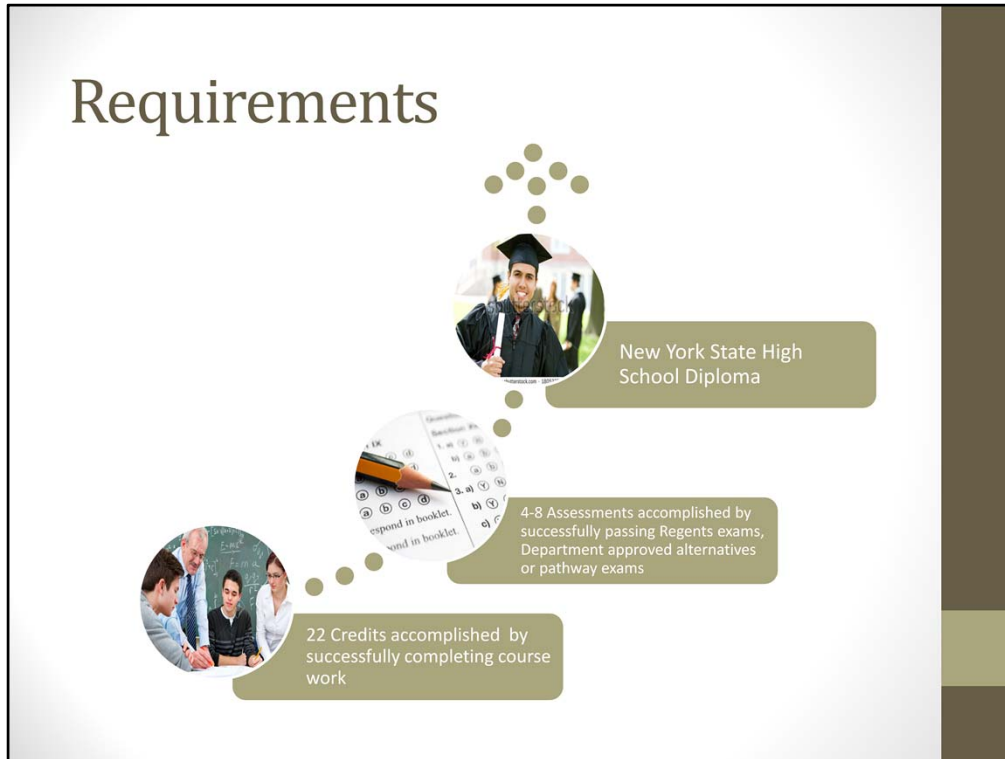
Overview and Update High School Diploma Requirements

June 2017

Overview of Topics

- Credit Requirements and Earning Credits
- Pathways and the Dual Role of CDOS Requirements
- Assessment Requirements
 - Regents
 - Local
 - Superintendent's Determination
- Appeals

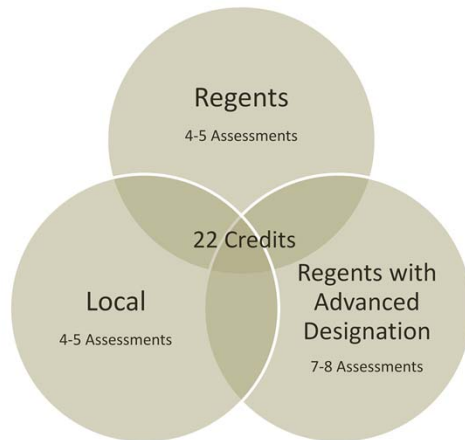
Requirements



NYS requirements are separate and distinct and do not have to happen simultaneously.

- Students may earn diploma credit for successfully completing a course but fail to meet the corresponding Regents assessment requirement; or
- Students can fail a course and receive no academic credit but fulfill an assessment requirement if they pass a Regents examination in that course.
- As long as students earn the 22 credits in the required disciplines and pass the required assessments in the discipline they meet the diploma requirements

Diploma Types



- All students have access to the 3 Basic diploma types
- Meeting the requirements for the Regents Diploma and the Advanced Regents Diploma are standard across all student populations
- Local diploma requirements vary by subgroup; general education, students with disabilities, and English language learners
- The following slides outline the requirements for each subgroup to earn the various diploma types

Earning Credit

- **Unit of credit is earned by:** the mastery of the learning outcomes set forth in a New York State-developed or locally developed syllabus for a given high school subject, after a student has had the opportunity to complete a unit of study in the given subject matter area; or
- **Credit by Exam:** A student earns a passing score of at least 85 on a Regents exam without the completion of a unit of study, completes either an oral examination or a special project.

Credit by exam

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#examCredit>

Mastering the learning outcomes in a given high school course is locally determined. Districts set the course expectations for the weighting of various course requirements: tests, quizzes, class participation, projects etc.

Opportunities for credit by exam are decided by the superintendent and should be made by applying the expectations spelled out in the regulation. Credit by exam is only available for courses that culminate in a Regents exam and is intended for students who do NOT complete courses.

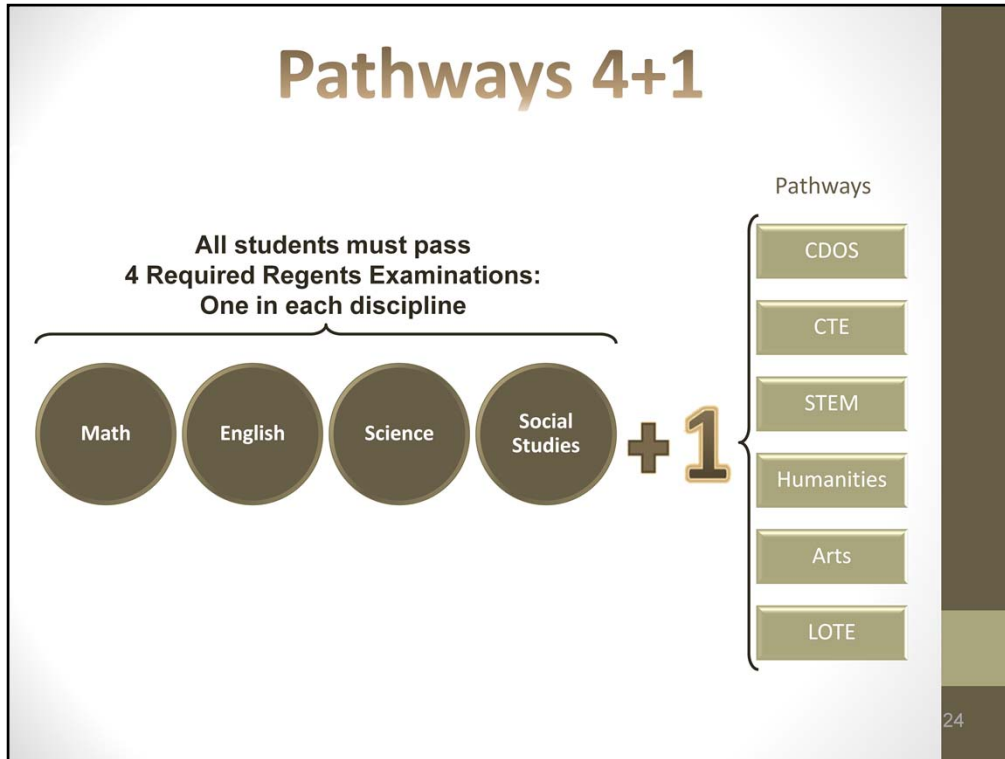
Distribution of Credits

	Local Diploma, Regents Diploma, Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation
Content Area	Minimum Number of Credits
English	4
Social Studies	
Distributed as Follows:	
U.S. History (1)	
Participation in Government (1/2)	
Economics (1/2)	4
Other (2)	
(students entering grade 9 in 2016 must earn 2 credits in Global History and Geography)	
Science	
Distributed as Follows:	
Life Science (1)	
Physical Science (1)	
Life Science or Physical Science (1)	3
Mathematics	3
Languages Other than English (LOTE)	1*
Visual Art, Music, Dance, and/or Theater	1
Physical Education	2
Health	0.5
Electives	3.5
Total	22

*Students with disabilities may be exempt from the LOTE required credit if so indicated on their IEP

- Every diploma requires 22 units of credits distributed as outlined in the slide
- The coursework selected in the various disciplines is locally determined and will depend upon which diploma the student is seeking

Assessment Requirements



In March 2016 the Board of approved another option to expand the current 4+1 pathway option to include a 4 + CDOS Pathway. This is now available to students otherwise eligible to graduate beginning June 2016 and thereafter.

First: the regulatory change allows **all students** to earn the CDOS credential. Previously only students with disabilities had access to this credential.

Second: The regulation allows the +1 pathway option to be fulfilled by the CDOS credential rather than a 5th assessment. Students have to pass one test in each discipline and then meet all the requirements described to earn the CDOS credential.

How do students meet the Pathway Requirements toward a Regents or Local Diploma?

23

The Board has approved 6 pathway options for students.

CTE: Approximately 34 Available Exams.

STEM: 18 Total Exams: 5 available Regents exams plus 13 Department Approved Alternatives in Math and Science

Humanities: 9 Total Exams: 1 additional Regents exam in Social Studies plus 8 Department Approved Alternatives in ELA and Social Studies

Arts: 9 Total Exams

Biliteracy: Exams in the review process

CDOS: In lieu of a 5th assessment a student can complete the requirements for the CDOS Commencement Credential.

Meeting the assessment requirements for a STEM Pathway

STEM

- Any additional Math or Science Regents exam or any Math or Science exam from the list of Department Approved Alternatives, after a student has completed a course in the subject.

Meeting the assessment requirements for a Humanities Pathway

Humanities

- Any additional Social Studies Regents Exam or any Social Studies or English exam from the list of Department Approved Alternatives after a student has completed a course in the subject.

Meeting the Assessment Requirements for an Arts Pathway

Arts

- Any assessment from the list of Department Approved Arts Pathway Assessments after a student has been prepared in the associated content

Meeting the assessment requirements for a LOTE Pathway

Biliteracy
(LOTE)

- This pathway is not currently available. Examinations are under review and will be posted on the Multiple Pathway page once approved.

Multiple Pathways Resources
<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/multiple-pathways/>

23

Meeting the Program and Assessment Requirements for a CTE Pathway

CTE

- After a student has successfully completed a Department approved CTE Program s/he passes an approved CTE Pathway Assessment found at the link below. The student must successfully complete **BOTH** the program and the assessment. Not all CTE technical assessments are approved as CTE Pathway Assessments

Multiple Pathways Resources

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/multiple-pathways/>

23

Meeting the Program or Assessment Requirements for a CDOS Pathway

CDOS

- Students who complete all the components of the CDOS commencement credential option 1 (program) or option 2 (assessment) may use that credential to meet the +1 pathway requirement toward a local or Regents diploma.
- Note: CDOS may also be earned as a standalone credential for those students unable to meet the other requirements for a Regents or local diploma


Multiple Pathways Resources

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/multiple-pathways/>

23

Dual Role of CDOS

CDOS as a Pathway to Local or Regents Diploma

- Passing Regents Examinations in
 - ELA
 - Math
 - Science
 - Social Studies
- All the CDOS Credential Requirements

CDOS as a Standalone Credential

- Students are unable to successfully complete all the Regents or local diploma requirements but do complete all the CDOS credential requirements

CDOS Commencement Credential Requirements – 2 Options

CDOS Commencement Credential – Option 1

- Available to all students except students assessed using the New York State Alternate Assessment seeking the Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential. Available as a stand alone credential or added to a Local or Regents diploma.
- Criteria:
 - Career Plan
 - Employability Profile
 - Demonstrated achievement of CDOS Standards
 - 216 hours of CTE coursework and/or work-based learning experiences (of which at least 54 hours must be in work-based learning experiences)

CDOS Commencement Credential – Option 2

- Available to all students except students assessed using the New York State Alternate Assessment seeking the Skills and Achievement Commencement Credential. Available as a stand alone credential or added to a Local or Regents diploma.
- Criteria - meeting the requirements for one of the nationally recognized work readiness credentials
 - National Work Readiness Credential;
 - SkillsUSA Work Force Ready Employability Assessment;
 - National Career Readiness Certificate WorkKeys - (ACT);
 - Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems Workforce Skills Certification System.

- Two available options to meet the requirements for the credential

What is the Difference Between a Regents and Local Diploma?

The answer depends on two factors:

- To which subgroup does a student belong
 - Student with a Disability
 - English Language Learner
 - General Education
- What scores did the student attain on the required examinations for graduation.

Assessment Requirements – Regents Diploma

Regents Exam or passing score on a Department Approved Alternative	Regents Diploma for all students		Regents Diploma via Appeal for all students	
	# of Exams	Passing Score	# of Exams	Passing Score
English Language Arts (ELA)	1	65	1	1 exam with a score of 60-64 for which an appeal has been granted by the district and all other required exams with a 65 or greater
Math	1	65	1	
Science	1	65	1	
Social Studies	1	65	1	
Pathway	1 (or CDOS)	65 if Regents Exam	1 (or CDOS)	
Compensatory Safety Net	Non Applicable		Non Applicable	

Department Approved Alternatives to Regents Exams can be found at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/hsgen/archive/list.pdf>

- The various diploma types are differentiated by 2 factors
 1. The passing score on the examinations used to meet the diploma requirements
 2. The number of assessments a student successfully passes
- All diplomas call for students to pass a minimum of 1 examination in each discipline; ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, plus 1 pathway assessment (or CDOS)
- Pathway assessments consist of the following:
 1. An additional math or science Regents exam in a different course from that which was used in the 4 required exams
 2. An additional social studies Regents exam in a different course
 3. Any exam from the list of Department approved alternative examinations in a different course
 4. Any exam from the list of Department approved technical assessments after successfully completing a Department approved CTE program
 5. A Department approved arts pathway or LOTE pathway examination.

In lieu of a Pathway assessment (1-5 above) a student can meet the requirements for a CDOS commencement credential and graduate with 4 exams + CDOS
- The Regents diploma requires each student to pass 5 examinations with a 65 or better (or 4 exams +CDOS) or 4 examinations (or 3+CDOS) with a 65 and 1 examination with a 60-64 for which an appeal has been granted by a local district.
- If students are eligible for waivers of certain Regents Examinations because of their transfer status from outside NY State, they are still eligible to appeal scores on the remaining required Regents Examinations

Local Diploma – 4 Ways

(1) All Students - Appeal

Local Diploma via Appeal for All Students		
Regents Exam or passing score on a Dept. App. Alt	# of Exams	Passing Score
English Language Arts (ELA)	1	2 exams with a score of 60-64 for which an appeal has been granted by the district and all other required exams with a 65 or greater
Math	1	
Science	1	
Social Studies	1	
Pathway	1 or CDOS	
Compensatory Safety Net	Non Applicable	

All students can meet the local diploma requirements by:

- Passing 3 required examinations with a 65 or better; and
- Passing 2 required examinations with a 60-64 for which an appeal is granted by the local district
- Students with disabilities can use this option but would not need to because they have access to the low pass safety nets
- If students are eligible for waivers of certain Regents Examinations because of their transfer status from outside NY State, they are still eligible to appeal scores on up to two of the remaining required Regents Examinations

This is the only avenue that provides for a general education student to earn a local diploma

(2) English Language Learner - Appeal

Local Diploma via Appeal for English Language Learners		
Regents Exam or passing score on a Dept. App. Alt	# of Exams	Passing Score
English Language Arts (ELA)	1	ELA with a score of 55-59 for which an appeal has been granted and all other required exams with a score of 65 or greater OR 1 exam with a score of 60-64 and ELA with a score of 55-64 for which appeals have been granted by the district and all other required exams with a score of 65 or greater
Math	1	
Science	1	
Social Studies	1	
Pathway	1 or CDOS	
Compensatory Safety Net	Non Applicable	

English Language Learners

English Language Learners can appeal a score as low as **55 on their ELA exam**. If the student uses this flexibility, the most they can earn is a local diploma. The student can however appeal a second exam within the score range of 60-64 and still qualify for a local diploma.

- Passing 4 exams with a minimum score of 65 and ELA with a score of 55-59 for which an appeal is granted by the local district – Local Diploma
- Passing 3 exams with a minimum score of 65, and 1 exam with a score of 60-64 and ELA with a score of 55-64 for which appeals has been granted by the district – Local Diploma

Note: If the student uses a CDOS pathway they are still eligible to appeal up to two examinations

(3) Students with a Disability Low Pass Safety Nets

Local Diploma for Students with a Disability via low pass safety nets		
Regents Exam or passing score on a Dept. App. Alt	# of Exams	Passing Score
English Language Arts (ELA)	1	55*
Math	1	55*
Science	1	55* ^
Social Studies	1	55* ^
Pathway	1 or CDOS	55* ^ (if Regents exam)
Compensatory Safety Net	Scores of 45-54 on any required Regents exam (except ELA and Mathematics) can be compensated by a score of 65 or above on another required Regents exam including ELA and Mathematics.	

*Students with a disability seeking the local diploma through the low pass safety-net may appeal scores of 52-54 on up to two Regents Examinations.

^ Students with a disability who are unable to obtain a passing score on these examinations may seek a local diploma by Superintendent's Determination. See <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/2017-memos/superintendent-determination-of-graduation-with-a-local-diploma-updated.htm>

Students with disabilities can meet the local diploma requirements by:

- **Low Pass Safety Net:** Passing 5 exams with a 55-64
- **Compensatory Safety Net:** Scoring 45-54 on any required Regents exam (except ELA and Mathematics) by compensating with scores of 65 or above on other required Regents exam including ELA and Mathematics.
- **Appeal:** Passing 3 required examinations with a 55 or better and 2 examinations with a 52-54 for which an appeal is granted by the local district.
- **Superintendent Determination : See**
<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/2017-memos/superintendent-determination-of-graduation-with-a-local-diploma-updated.htm>

(4) Superintendents Determination of a Local Diploma

Added as an option at the June 2016 BOR meeting amended October 2016

- Eligibility:
 - Student with a current IEP
 - Passed ELA and Math Regent exams with a score of 55 or has successfully appealed a score of 52-54
 - has participated in the other Regents exams (science and social studies), but has not passed one or more of these as required for graduation
 - demonstrated competency in the subject area where the student was not able to demonstrate his/her proficiency of the State's learning standards through the Regents exam
 - Earned all required credits and passed, in accordance with district policy, all courses required for graduation
- Applicable to June 2016 grads and thereafter

Info. and forms: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/2017-memos/superintendent-determination-of-graduation-with-a-local-diploma-updated.htm>

- The Superintendent of the public school district or the principal of a registered non-public or Charter school may make this determination
- Not applicable to students with a 504 plan regardless of access to the other safety nets.

Superintendent Determination

- The Superintendent may only conduct review after receipt of a written request from an eligible student's parent or guardian.
- The definition of superintendent for purposes for this regulation only shall include the principal or head of school of charter schools and non-public schools, as applicable.
- The student and the parent of the student must receive written notice of the superintendent's determination with the copy of the completed form.

Superintendent Determination

- Where the superintendent determines the student :
 - has met the requirements for graduation, the district must provide prior written notice that the student is not eligible to receive a free appropriate public education after graduation with a local diploma
 - has not met the requirements for graduation, the written notice shall inform the student and parents that the student has the right to attend school until receipt of a local or Regents diploma or until the end of the school year in which the student turns age 21, whichever shall occur first;

Superintendent Determination

- For students of transition age, the development of transition goals and services at a CSE meeting must include a discussion, with the student and parents, of:
 - the graduation requirements that apply to the student;
 - the student's progress toward receiving a diploma;
 - the courses the student has passed and the number of credits the student has earned as required for graduation;
 - the assessments required for graduation that the student has taken and passed; and
 - the appeal, safety net and superintendent determination pathway options that may be available to the student to meet the graduation assessment requirements.

(26)

In addition there are also Proposed Revisions of section 200.4(d)(2)(ix):

This requires that, for students of transition age, the development of transition goals and services at a CSE meeting must include a discussion, with the student and parents, of

- the graduation requirements that apply to the student
 - depending upon the year in which he or she first enters grade nine
- of the student's progress toward receiving a diploma and
- the courses the student has passed and the number of credits the student has earned as required for graduation;
- the assessments required for graduation that the student has taken and passed; and
- the appeal, safety net and superintendent determination pathway options that may be available to the student to meet the graduation assessment requirements.

- that parents be provided with information explaining graduation requirements, including eligibility criteria and process for requesting the superintendent determination.

Appeal Process

Appeal Criteria

Students seeking an appeal must meet the following criteria:

- Have taken the Regents examination under appeal at least two times;
- Have at least one score on the Regents examination under appeal within the point range appropriate for the appeal.
 - All student appeal score band (60-64) Students with disabilities seeking the local diploma - score band 52-54
 - English language learner seeking an appeal on ELA only - score band 55-59
- Have taken advantage of academic help provided by the school in the subject tested by the Regents examination under appeal;
- Have passed the course for which the appeal is being sought
- Be recommended for an exemption to the graduation requirement by the student's teacher or Department chairperson in the subject of the Regents examination under appeal.

Note:

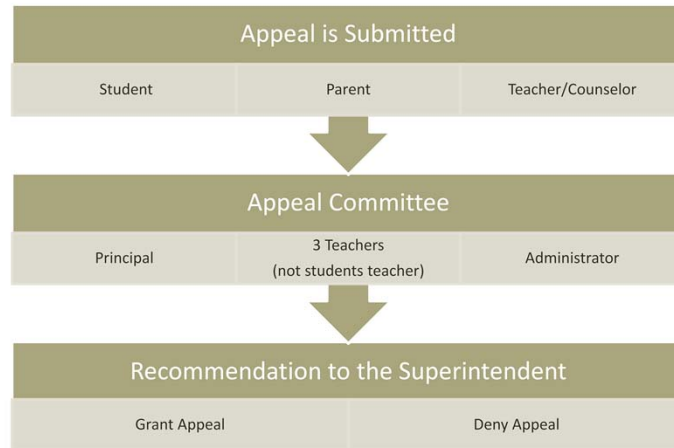
English Language Learners seeking an appeal for a score of 55-59 on the ELA Regents Exam are only eligible for an appeal in this area if they entered the United States in grade 9 or after and were classified as an ELL when they took the test the second time.

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/gradreq/CurrentAppealForm.pdf>

This slide illustrates the criteria **all students** need to meet in order to appeal to graduate with a lower score on a Regents Examination.

- Appeal criteria for students seeking the local diploma through the low pass safety net option and other students seeking the Regents or local diploma are the same
- English language learners seeking an appeal of a 55-59 on the ELA Regents in order to earn a local diploma must meet the additional criteria of;
 - having entered the US in grade 9 or after
 - classified as an ELL at the time they took the ELA Regents exam for the second time.
- **Note:** At the March 2016 Board of Regents meeting the minimum 95% attendance requirement was repealed and is no longer a criteria for a student seeking an appeal
- **Note:** At the March 2016 Board of Regents meeting the score band on the appeal was extended to 60-64 from the previous 62-64 for the all student appeal.

Appeal Committee and Review



- An Appeal can be submitted by the student, a teacher/guidance counselor or a parent
- Once an appeal is filed, the committee shall convene and make a recommendation to the Superintendent, or in the case of New York City, the Chancellor or his/her designee within 10 days of when the appeal is submitted.
- If an appeal is filed the process must begin. It is not the judgement of any one person in the school not to allow an appeal to be submitted.
- The committee makes a determination based upon the eligibility criteria whether or not to recommend to the Superintendent that the student's appeal be granted or denied
- The committee should base the recommendation upon the criteria.

Transfer Students

Students who transfer to a NY State School for the first time in:

- Grade 11 – May be exempt from the Global History and Geography exam. Must pass ELA, Math, Science, US History = 4 Exams These students may also be exempt from the required 2 units of Global instruction and substitute other social studies courses to meet the 4 required credits in Social Studies
- Grade 12 – May be exempt from Global History and Geography and Science. Must pass ELA, Math, US History = 3 Exams

- The principal of the receiving school may examine the transcript of a student who enters the high school in any grade, and award credit for work done in another school.
- The principal must accept any credits awarded at a Registered Public School in NY
- Students who have completed coursework that is aligned to a Regents examination in a school outside of NY, may be admitted to a Regents examination if the coursework is aligned to the exam and reasonably has prepared the student for the content assessed.
- Documentation or a letter attesting to the required laboratory minutes is necessary for admission to a science Regents exam.
- The principal may accept a substitution for the required Social Studies coursework in Global Studies, Economics and Participation in Gov't but all students must have a one credit course in US History and must graduate with a total of 4 Social Studies credits.

<h2>Helpful Links</h2>	
Diploma Requirements Chart	http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/gradreq/CurrentDiplomaRequirements.pdf
Diploma Requirements Page	http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/gradreq/intro.html
Multiple Pathways Page	http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/multiple-pathways/
Multiple Pathways Q&A	http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/multiple-pathways/docs/multiple-pathways-pathways-ga-2015-04-08.pdf
Superintendent Determination	http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/2017-memos/superintendent-determination-of-graduation-with-a-local-diploma-updated.htm
Transfer Credit	http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#transCredit
Appeal To Graduate with a Lower Score	http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/gradreq/appeal-form.pdf
Department Approved Alternative Exams	http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/hsgen/archive/list.pdf
LOTE Guidance	http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/lotte/documents/lotte-ga.pdf

Where to Get Additional Information

General Ed and Diploma Requirements Web Page:

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/gradreq/intro.html>

NYSED Office of Curriculum and Instruction

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/>

Information Email Box: emscurric@nysed.gov

Graduation Requirements Information E-mail Box

emscgradreq@nysed.gov

Curriculum and Instruction Content Area Associates

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/aboutus.html>

Special Education Information E-mail

speced@nysed.gov

Requests to join the Counselors LISTSERV go to Elizabeth.Whipple@nysed.gov