




DIRECTOR
Office of State Assessment

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TO: District Superintendents
Superintendents of Public and Nonpublic Schools
Principals of Public, Charter, and Nonpublic Schools

FROM: Steven E. Katz 

SUBJECT: Summary of the Transition to the Common Core Regents Examinations

This memorandum summarizes the recent transition of the Regents Examinations in mathematics and English language arts.

The Department began the rollout of new Regents Examinations measuring the NYS P-12 Common Core Learning Standards (CCLS) in mathematics and English language arts (ELA) beginning in June 2014. Since that time, new examinations were introduced in English Language Arts, Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II. As each examination has been introduced, the Department offered an overlap of the corresponding outgoing (2005 Standards) Regents Examination. This allowed students who were instructed in the previous learning standards (2005 Standards), to have opportunities to complete their sequential course of study aligned to these standards and take the appropriate culminating examination, or to retake examinations to better their scores.

The chart on the next page summarizes the year that each new Regents Examination was introduced, the Regents Examination that it replaced and a description of the overlap period. Additionally, Attachments A and B provide specific information on the administration periods where each Regents Examination was offered.

| New Regents Examination | First Administration | Replaced Regents Examination | Overlap Period |
|-------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|---|
| English Language Arts | June 2014 | Comprehensive English | June 2014 - June 2016 (Students entering Grade 9 in the 2013-14 school year were the first required to pass the new exam to meet graduation requirements)* |
| Algebra I | June 2014 | Integrated Algebra | June 2014 ± June 2015, February 2016, June 2016 (Students who first began instruction in commencement-level mathematics courses culminating in a Regents Examination, regardless of grade of enrollment, in September 2013 and thereafter, were required to take the new exam to meet graduation requirements)** |
| Geometry | June 2015 | Geometry (2005 Standards) | June 2015 ± January 2016 |
| Algebra II | June 2016 | Algebra 2/ Trigonometry | June 2016 ± January 2017 |

*Any student entering Grade nine prior to the 2013-14 school year, who completed English courses aligned to the CCLS, was able to, at local discretion, continue take the Regents Comprehensive Examination in English (2005 Standards) while available, in addition to the Regents Examination in ELA (Common Core), and the higher of the two scores could be used for transcript purposes and were used for accountability purposes.

**Any student beginning a commencement-level math course in the 2013-14 school year or thereafter, who completed mathematics courses aligned to the Common Core, was able to, at local discretion, take the Regents Examinations in mathematics aligned to the Mathematics Core Curriculum (Revised 2005) while available, in addition to the Regents examinations in mathematics aligned to the (Common Core). The higher of the two scores could be used for transcript purposes and were used for accountability purposes. The Special Administrations of the Regents Examination in Integrated Algebra (February and June 2016) were subject to the separate provisions stated above.

Attachment A: Regents Examination in English Language Arts Implementation Transition Timeline to Common Core Courses and Exams

