

Frequently Asked Questions Related to the Cancellation of the January 2021 New York State (NYS) High School Regents Examinations

- Eligibility
- Students with Disabilities / Multilingual (English Language) Learners
- Endorsements
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- 4. Typically, our Grade 11 students take the Regents Examination in English Language Arts in January. If this is our standard practice, would our students qualify for an exemption from the January 2021 Regents Examination in English Language Arts?**

In order to qualify for an exemption from the January 2021 Regents Examination in English Language Arts, the student must earn credit for the course of study by the end of the first semester of the 2020-21 school year. If the course of study, typically the third full NYS or sixth NYC credit in English Language Arts, continues through the end of the second semester of the 2020-21 school year, students would not qualify for an exemption from the Regents Examination requirement for English Language Arts.

- 5. If a student did not qualify for a Regents Examination exemption in June or August 2020 because they were unable to earn credit in the course, are they now eligible for an exemption from the January 2021 Regents Examination?**

As long as the student completes a make-up program to earn course credit by the end of the first semester of the 2020-21 school year, the student would qualify for a January 2021 Regents Examination exemption.

- 6. Is a transfer student who earned transfer credit for a course that would typically culminate in a Regents Examination and intended to take the associated Regents Examination in January eligible for the exemption?**

Such student would be eligible only if the student is preparing to take the associated Regents Examination in order to graduate at the end of the first semester of the 2020-21 school year.

- 7. Is a student who passed a Regents Examination with a score of 65 or higher prior to January 2021 and intended to retake the Regents in January 2021 to earn a higher score to qualify for an endorsement, eligible for a Regents Examination exemption?**

No. Any student who passed a Regents Examination with a score of 65 or higher prior to January 2021 is not eligible for the exemption.

- 8. Can a student earn credit by examination if the student intended to take the associated Regents Examination in January 2021 and the student successfully completes an oral examination or special project?**

No. Students cannot earn credit by examination when Regents Examinations are cancelled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Students with Disabilities / Multilingual (English Language) Learners

- 9. If a student with a disability or a Multilingual (English Language) Learner has access to safety nets or appeals leading to a local diploma, should schools consider exempted exams to represent a score of 55 or 65?**

All waived exams for all students should be considered scores of 65 for the purposes of making diploma type determinations, except for purposes of the compensatory safety net. No numeric score shall be reported on the student's transcript. Reference question 10 for additional information on the compensatory safety net and question 14 for information on reporting exemptions.

10. Students with a disability have access to the compensatory safety net option where a score of 65 or above on one Regents Examination can compensate for a score of 45-54 on another Regents Examination (science, social studies, or pathway only). Can