



Our Students. Their Moment.

Pathways To Graduation

Ensuring Students Graduate College, Career *and* Citizenship Ready

NYS Board of Regents

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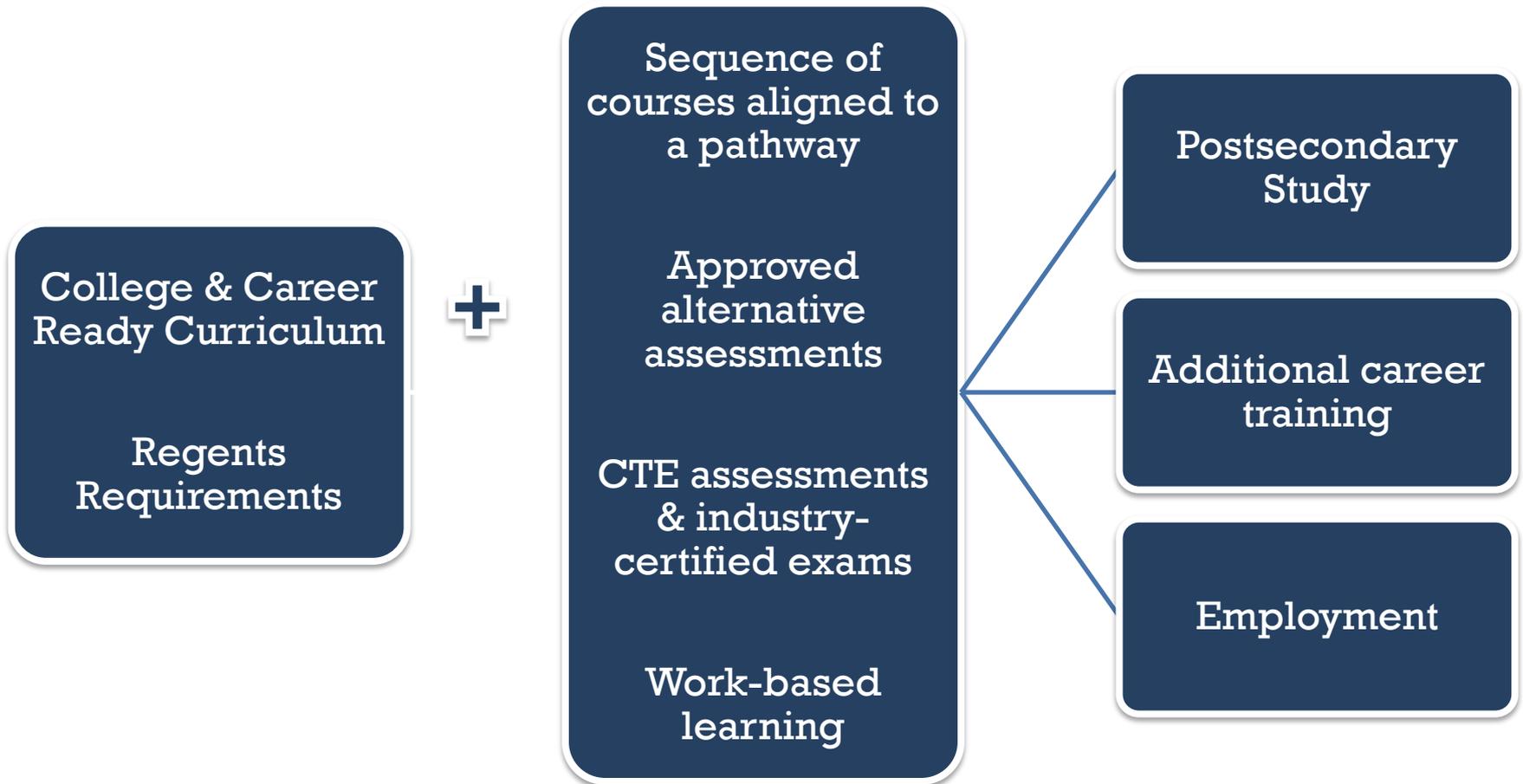


College, Career *and* Citizenship Readiness

Vision: College and Career Readiness in NYS will ensure that ***all*** students graduate high school able to succeed in postsecondary programs of study and the workforce; that they understand and demonstrate citizenship skills; and that they may meaningfully contribute to the economic and democratic well-being of our society.

Goal: By 2015, NYS will offer ***all*** students an established set of assessment pathways that are grounded in the Common Core Learning Standards, are similarly rigorous, allow for student choice and have demonstrated, effective outcomes for students.

Pathways are comparably rigorous routes to two-year and four-year colleges, additional career training, and employment.



Ensuring Rigorous Pathways

All students earning a Regents Diploma will:

- Take a balanced curriculum including: English Language Arts, Math, US History and Government, Global History and Geography, Science, a Language other than English, Art, Physical Education and Health;
- Earn a minimum of 22 High School Credits; and
- Meet required elements of their assessment pathway.

Current NYS Requirements

For a Regents Diploma

Content Area	Regents Diploma¹ Credits Required	Regents Diploma w/Advanced Designation¹ Credits Required
Mathematics	3	3
English	4	4
Science	3	3
Social Studies	4	4
Health	0.5	0.5
Arts	1	1
Languages Other Than English(LOTE)²	1	1
Physical Education	2	2
Sequence Courses/Electives	3.5	3.5
Total Credits	22	22
Regents Exams		
Score of 65 or above	5 (1 Math, 1 ELA, 1 Science, 2 SS)	8³ (3 Math, 1 ELA, 2 Sciences, 2 SS)

¹An Honors Designation is applicable for students earning an average of 90 on all required exams

²Students must earn additional credits in either the Arts CTE or LOTE to meet the Adv. Designation Requirements. If LOTE is chosen they must pass a Checkpoint B LOTE Exam in addition to the Regents Exams.

³ Students in earlier cohorts may be subject to more or fewer examinations due to the phase out of the Regents Exams in LOTE and the 2 Exam Series in Mathematics (Math A and B)

Existing Flexibility

- **Integrated Credits in Approved CTE Programs**
 - Allows up to 8 high school credits to be applied to respective core areas as determined at the local level
 - Requires review and approval of the curriculum by core academic teacher
- **Independent Study**
 - 3 elective credits
- **Credit by Exam**
 - 6.5 credits
- **Blended and Fully Online Courses**
 - No credit restrictions
 - Must follow guidelines in regulation including:
 - Instruction is delivered by or under the direction of a New York teacher, **certified or otherwise qualified to teach** the subject for which credit is awarded **in the district or school** and trained to teach in the online environment;
 - Opportunities are provided for regular and substantive interaction between the student and the teacher;
 - Course is academically rigorous and aligned to the New York State commencement level learning standards

4 + 1 Assessment Pathway

- In September 2014, the Board of Regents instructed the Department to draft regulatory amendments to implement a 4 + 1 pathway to graduation, whereby students may take four Regents exams and a comparably rigorous technical or other assessment for the fifth required examination.
- Under the proposed amendment change, the 4 + 1 pathway option would apply beginning with students who are eligible to receive a high school diploma in June 2015 and thereafter.

4 + 1 Assessment Pathway Requirements

- Students may take four Regents exams (ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies) and a comparably rigorous assessment for the fifth required examination to graduate.
- The fifth assessment required for graduation may include any one of the following assessments:
 - One additional social studies Regents examination or Department-approved alternative (Humanities Pathway); or
 - One additional Regents examination in a different course in mathematics or science or a Department-approved alternative (STEM Pathway); or
 - A pathway assessment approved by the Commissioner in accordance with § 100.2(f)(2) of the Commissioner's regulations (which could include a Biliteracy [LOTE] Pathway); or
 - A career and technical education (CTE) pathway assessment, approved by the Commissioner in accordance with proposed § 100.2(mm), following successful completion of a CTE program approved pursuant to § 100.5(d)(6) of the regulations (CTE Pathway); or
 - A CTE assessment that meets the approved alternative requirements for Science could be substituted for the required Science Regents exam (CTE Pathway); or
 - An arts pathway assessment approved by the Commissioner in accordance with proposed § 100.2(mm) (Arts Pathway).

Proposed Social Studies Credit Requirements

At the September 2014 Regents meeting, the P-12 Education Committee recommended that the Department consider changes to the social studies course requirements and the design of the Global History Regents examination.

Current	Proposed
<p>Credits Required: 4 Course Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • US History and Government (1) • Participation in Government* (.5) • Economics* (.5) 	<p>Credits Required: 4 Course Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global History and Geography I* (1) • Global History and Geography II* (1) • US History and Government (1) • Participation in Government* (.5) • Economics* (.5)
<p>Assessment Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global History and Geography • US History and Government <p>*or the equivalent</p>	<p>Assessment Requirements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global History and Geography II • US History and Government

Next Steps

1. Identify Pathway Assessments

- a) Establish a Blue Ribbon Panel for the Arts to identify pathway assessments for the arts
- b) Reconvene Blue Ribbon Technical Assessments Panel
- c) Expand the list of approved alternative assessments in other subject areas
- d) Evaluate CTE assessments that could be approved alternatives for the required Regents science exam

2. Share information about Pathways with the following groups

- a) Parents and students
- b) Teachers and guidance counselors
- c) Higher education
- d) Business and industry
- e) Big 5 and BOCES CTE directors

Next Steps (cont'd)

3. Provide opportunities for all students

- a) Enhance BOCES aid for CTE schools
- b) Modernize special services aid to Big 5 and other non-component districts
- c) Establish regional high schools
- d) Expand access to P-Tech schools

4. Expand work-based learning opportunities

- a) Add a business and industry stakeholder group focused on the 21st century workforce skills gap
- b) Help teachers identify examples of projects from business and industry
- c) Develop teacher externship opportunities in partnership with businesses

5. Increase the Number of Pathway Teachers

- a) Review routes to teacher certification in CTE
- b) Create new teacher certification areas in CTE, as needed