

## 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
- Recording / Reporting Exemptions

### Eligibility

#### 1. Are all students intending to take a January 2021 Regents Examination exempted from the associated diploma requirement?

In order to qualify for an exemption from a January 2021 Regents Examination, a student

- Be in grade 7 and enrolled in a course of study that would ordinarily culminate in the taking of a January 2021 Regents Examination and meet the learning standards for such course of study; or
- Between September 1, 2020 and the end of the first semester of the 2020-21 school year, successfully complete a make-up program for the purpose of earning course credit; or
- Be preparing to take a required Regents Examination in order to graduate at the end of the first semester of the 2020-21 school year; or
- Be preparing to take a required Regents Examination in a course for which transfer credit was awarded during the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year.

Students granted an exemption from any examination are not required to pass such specific Regents Examination. A student who is granted an exemption from a January 2021 Regents Examination must master the learning outcomes of the associated course of study. The learning outcomes must be aligned to the full complement of NYS Learning standards for the course.

#### 3. In order for a student to be exempted from a January 2021 Regents Examination, must the student have earned credit in the course?

Yes. In order to qualify for an exemption from a January 2021 Regents Examination, students must have earned credit in the associated course by the end of the first semester of the 2020-21 school year.



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**13. Can an English Language Learner (ELL) earn associated points towards the NYSSB if the student is granted exemptions from two Regents Examinations from January 2021 to fulfill the requirements for criterion 1A of the NYSSB of earning a score of 75% or better on two Regents Examinations other than English without translation?**

Yes. ELLs who, due to COVID-19-related school closures, have received exemptions from two Regents Examination in subjects other than English without translation can apply those exemptions towards criterion 1A of the NYSSB’s “Criteria for Demonstrating Proficiency in English” so long as the student has demonstrated proficiency in the course learning standards assessed through the provided coursework and earned credit for such courses that culminate in the associated Regents Examinations at the end of the first semester of the 2020-21 school year.

exemptions. Additional information can be referenced in the memo, [Reporting of Student](#)

19.

Any questions about the exemptions from examination requirements or the effect of such exemptions on student qualification for a diploma should be directed to [emscgradreq@nysed.gov](mailto:emscgradreq@nysed.gov)