



## ELMIRA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

### Frequently Asked Questions Related to the June 2021 Regents Examinations

The following questions and answers were selected from a larger document provided to School Districts by the New York State Department of Education. The full document can be accessed with this link [Frequently Asked Questions Related to the June 2021 and August 2021 Assessment Waivers \(nysed.gov\)](https://www.nysed.gov/frequently-asked-questions-related-to-the-june-2021-and-august-2021-assessment-waivers). Please consider the information provided regarding the exemptions and Regents exams. If your student is still planning on taking one of the 4 Regents exams please contact your school counselor or the main office to inform them. It will allow us to adequately plan for administration and scoring of the exams.

**1. Which Regents Exams will be administered in June 2021?** Due to Every Student Succeeds Act requirements, the Department of Education plans to administer the following Regents exams in June 2021: Algebra I, Earth Science (written test only), English Language Arts (ELA), and Living Environment

**2. Are students that are enrolled in one of the four courses culminating in an administered Regents Examination (Algebra I, Earth Science, ELA, Living Environment) required to take the associated Regents Examination?** These examinations shall be administered only in instances where schools and districts can ensure the health and safety of students and teachers. Students receiving remote instruction should not be made to come to school for the sole purpose of taking a Regents Examination.

**3. Are all students intending to take a June 2021 or August 2021 Regents Examination exempted from the associated diploma requirement?** Students who meet one of the following eligibility requirements are exempt from the associated diploma requirement:

- be currently enrolled in a course of study culminating in a Regents Examination and earn credit in such course of study by June 2021 or August 2021;
- be in grade 7 or grade 8, enrolled in a course of study leading to a Regents Examination, and meet the learning outcomes for such course of study by June 2021 or August 2021;
- successfully complete a make-up program by August 2021 in a course of study culminating in a Regents Examination; or
- previously achieved course credit in a course of study leading to a Regents Examination, has not yet passed the associated Regents, but intended to take the test in June or August 2021 to achieve a passing score.

**4. Do students need to complete 1,200 minutes of satisfactory laboratory experiences in order to be permitted into the Earth Science or Living Environment Regents Examination?** No. In December 2020, the NYSED issued Flexibility in the 1,200 Minute Science Laboratory Requirement. Students are not required to complete 1,200 minutes of March 19, 2021 2 satisfactory laboratory experiences for either admission into a Regents Exam in science or exemption from the assessment requirement.

**5. If a student with an exempted exam decides to take the exam during future administration dates, would the exemption or the scored exam be reported?** While all scored exams will be reported to the NYSED and included on students' permanent records, for the purpose of diploma type and endorsements, students can use the exam scores that most benefit them

**6. Can parents decline an exemption from an assessment requirement?** The parents or persons in parental relation of students who are eligible to graduate in the 2020-21 school year and beyond as a result of having met an assessment requirement through an exemption at any time may decline such exemptions. Specifically, if the parent or person in parental relation explicitly declines the exemption of a Regents Examination, a NYSED Approved Alternative examination, a Pathway examination or an exemption to the unfinished Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential requirements applied to his/her child as a result of COVID, a diploma will not be conferred on such student this school year.

**7. Do Regents Examination exemptions apply to students earning diploma credit through accelerated coursework in grade 8?** Yes. Any student in grade 8 enrolled in a course culminating in a Regents Examination who has met the standards assessed in course (passed the course) shall be granted an exemption from the examination and shall be granted the applicable diploma credit.

**8. Can students with assessment exemptions still earn a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation?** Yes. Any students granted exemption(s) from assessment requirements due to COVID-19 are not required to pass such exam(s) necessary for any diploma type. This includes the Regents with Advanced Designation. Example: A student is scheduled to take the Algebra II Regents Examination and the ELA Regents Examination in June 2021. The student passed all other examinations necessary for the Regents with Advanced Designation. Such student will not be required to pass the Regents Examinations in ELA and Algebra II but will still earn the Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation if all other requirements are met

**9. Can students earn the honors endorsement if they are granted examination exemptions?** Yes. The calculation for the honors endorsement will be dependent upon the number of scored Regents Examinations the student has. (see additional information on pages 11-13 of full document)