

SED Update November 2013

Assessment

The Board of Regents has decided that **New York State will not implement PARCC in 2014-2015**. Whether or not PARCC is adopted at all will be determined in the future. This [presentation](#) explains PARCC and the rationale for the decision to delay. The reasons cited for this delay are inadequate technology, longer administration times, and higher costs. Field testing will continue and New York will remain part of the PARCC consortium. No matter what, districts should continue to prepare for eventual computer-based testing, whether PARCC or NYS assessments are administered.

Another Board of Regents [presentation](#) explains the **status of New York's assessment system**. Information about which assessments are required, which are "optional," administration duration, and myths about testing are included.

The Board of Regents has directed SED to [apply for permission](#) to no longer require students taking **Algebra 1 in 8th grade** to also have to take the 8th grade exam. These students would, however, be required to take and pass an additional Math Regents exam while in high school.

A review of the implementation timeline of the new **Common Core-aligned Regents Examinations**:

- The Common Core ELA Regents Exam (Grade 11) is required for those students first entering grade 9 in 2013-14 or later
- The Common Core Algebra I Regents Exam is required for those students first beginning commencement-level math in 2013-14 or later
- For the first year, students enrolled in Common Core classes may take the old ELA or math exam in addition to the new exam and have the higher score count

Additional resources to help with the [ELA](#) and [Algebra 1](#) Regents transition have been posted. For the Common Core Regents Exams, SED (and the Board of Regents) will consider maintaining the current distinction between passing for graduation purposes (65 for the existing Regents exams) and meeting an aspirational level of performance (75/80 are aspirational cut scores on the existing Regents exams).

No matter what **scale scores are used on the new Common Core-aligned Regents exams**, the department will provide a [chart to convert](#) it to a 0-100 range. Although the 0-100 conversion will be provided, these should not be interpreted as percentages.

SED has prepared a [draft of a regulation](#) about mandatory reporting of test misconduct including some whistleblowing provisions.

Curriculum

No automatic notification system of additions or changes to the curriculum modules has been announced; SED says to keep checking [here](#) at engageny.org for the latest information. They have continued to publish modules since the school year commenced.