March 2017 SED Update

TIMLINES FOR TRANSITION OF STATE ASSESSMENTS TO UNIFIED ENGLISH BRAILLE

http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/2017-memos/timelines-for-transition-of-state-assessments-to-unified-english-braille.html

This memorandum includes information on how to order instructional materials in UEB. Schools must order instructional materials and provide instruction in UEB to ensure students who are blind and visually impaired receive instruction in reading UEB and can practice and refine this skill prior to their participation in State assessments in the UEB format.

Questions may be directed to the Office of Special Education at (518) 473-2878 or <u>speced@nysed.gov</u> and to the Office of State Assessment at (518) 474-5900 or <u>EMSCASSESSINFO@nysed.gov</u>.

REVISED PROCEDURES FOR ADMINISTERING STATE ASSESSMENTS OVER MULTIPLE DAYS TO STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES <u>Revised Procedures for Administering State Assessments over</u> Multiple Days to Students with Disabilities

Effective immediately, schools are no longer required to submit written narratives signed by a school official, copies of a student's IEP or 504 plan, and evaluation materials for each student recommended for multiple day administration of State assessments. Instead, schools must submit an Assurance of Multiple Day Administration of State Assessments (Attachment A).

Previously-issued authorizations for a school to administer State assessments over multiple days to individual students will continue to apply to the administration of future State assessments for such students in accordance with their IEPs/504 plans.

Questions on these procedures may be directed to the Office of Special Education at <u>(518) 473-</u> <u>2878</u> or <u>speced@nysed.gov</u>.

SUPERINTENDENTDETERMINATIONOFGRADUATIONWITHALOCALDIPLOMASuperintendent Determination of Graduation with a Local Diploma-UPDATED

Updated information: Effective immediately, a superintendent may only make a determination whether an eligible student has met the requirements for graduation through the superintendent determination pathway option upon receipt of a written request from an eligible student's parent or guardian. This guidance includes the **revised prescribed form**, model forms and an updated Questions and Answers.

Questions on these procedures may be directed to the Office of Special Education at <u>(518) 473-</u> <u>2878</u> or <u>speced@nysed.gov</u>.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR JULY/AUGUST EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS PURSUANT TO SECTION 4408 OF EDUCATION LAW Application Procedures for July/August Extended School Year Special Education Programs Pursuant to Section 4408 of the Education Law

This memorandum includes the application to operate an ESY program, information regarding the application process and frequently asked questions and answers.

Applications to operate a new ESY program or to modify a currently approved program are due no later than **Thursday**, **June 1, 2017**.

Questions may be directed to Linda Keech from the Office of Special Education at <u>(518) 473-</u> 0170 or <u>speced@nysed.gov</u>.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING CHANGES TO THE NEW YORK STATE ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT (NYSAA) IN SOCIAL STUDIES AND SCIENCE

http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/nysaa/2016-17/nysaa-socialstudies-science.pdf

The changes to the 2017-18 NYSAA include the elimination of the Social Studies component, as well as the change to the Science component being assessed with the Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) computer-adaptive testing program. Science will be aligned with the administration window for ELA and Mathematics, which will be from March 14, 2018 to June 8, 2018. The purpose of these changes is to require the least amount of testing necessary to provide accurate information about student achievement.

Questions may be directed to the Office of State Assessment by calling <u>(518) 474-5900</u> or emailing <u>EMSCASSESSINFO@nysed.gov</u>.

ACCESSIBILITY SUPPORTS FOR STUDENTS WITH SEVERE COGNITIVE DISABILITIES TESTED ON THE NEW YORK STATE ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT (NYSAA) IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE

ARTS AND IN MATHEMATICS <u>http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/nysaa/2016-17/accessibility-sscd.pdf</u> A student's individualized education program (IEP) must clearly document all testing accommodations, including accessibility supports that will be provided to a student when participating in the NYSAA. This memorandum also includes a list of accessibility supports available to students participating in the NYSAA.

Questions may be directed to the Office of State Assessment by calling (518) 474-5902 or emailing EMSCASSESSINFO@nysed.gov.

CHANGE IN ALLOWABLE TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS ON THE NEW YORK STATE ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE ACHIEVEMENT TEST (NYSESLAT)

http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/nyseslat/2017/allowable-testing-accommodations.pdf

The testing accommodation of "tests read" for students with disabilities on the NYSESLAT Reading Session for Kindergarten and Reading sections of the Listening/Reading/Writing Sessions 1, 2, and 3 for Grades 1 – 12 is permissable. The NYSESLAT is used to annually assess the English language proficiency of English Language Learners (ELL's). This memorandum supersedes guidance on testing accommodations for students with disabilities provided in the 2016 NYSESLAT School Administrator's Manual.

Questions may be directed to the Office of State Assessment at <u>518-474-5900</u> or <u>emscassessinfo@nysed.gov</u> and to the Office of Special Education at <u>518-473-2878</u> or <u>speced@nysed.gov</u>.

General Information

Updated Information on an Appeal to Graduate with a Lower Score on a Regents Examination (February 2017) <u>http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/gradreg/CurrentAppealForm.pdf</u>

Updated graduation requirement charts (February 2017)

http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/gradreq/Documents/CurrentDiplomaCredentialSummary.pdf http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/gradreq/Documents/CurrentDiplomaRequirements.pdf

> NYS Education Department Office of Special Education Special Education Quality Assurance 333 East Washington Street, Suite 210, Syracuse, New York 13202 (315) 428-4556 Office (315) 428-4555 Fax Special Education web site – <u>http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/</u>