



# Advocates for Children of New York

Protecting every child's right to learn

## New York City High School Promotion and Graduation Requirements

Parents and students should begin thinking about high school graduation requirements well before a student's fourth year of high school. If you have any questions about whether a student will be ready for graduation, ask to meet with the student's guidance counselor.

### PROMOTION CRITERIA FOR EACH GRADE

**Grade 9:** Earn a minimum of 8 credits

**Grade 10:** Have a minimum of 20 credits, including 4 in English/ESL and 4 in Social Studies

**Grade 11:** Have a minimum of 30 credits

For more information about promotion policies, see Chancellor's Regulation A-501, available at: [www.schools.nyc.gov/docs/default-source/default-document-library/a-501-english](http://www.schools.nyc.gov/docs/default-source/default-document-library/a-501-english)

### CREDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION: 44 credits required

- 8 in English
- 8 in Social Studies  
(4 in Global History, 2 in American History, 1 in Economics, 1 in Government)
- 6 in Science  
(2 in Life Science, 2 in Physical Sciences, 2 additional in Life Science or Physical Science)
- 6 in Math
- 2 in Second Language
- 2 in Visual Art, Music, Dance, and/or Theater
- 5 in Health and Physical Education  
(4 in Physical Education, 1 in Health Education)
- 7 in Elective Areas

### EXAM REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION: 5 exams required

#### Four required Regents exams:

English Language Arts, one Math, one History (U.S. History OR Global History), and one Science

- Passing score of 65 required.
- However, if a student scores a 60, 61, 62, 63, or 64 on one or two exams, they may be able to appeal the exam(s) and still graduate. Please see AFC's fact sheet *Appeal Options for Regents Exams*: [www.advocatesforchildren.org/sites/default/files/library/regents\\_exam\\_appeal\\_options.pdf](http://www.advocatesforchildren.org/sites/default/files/library/regents_exam_appeal_options.pdf).
- Regents exams are offered in January, June, and August.

#### AND one more State-approved exam chosen by the student, including:

- Additional Regents exams
- SAT II exams
- Advanced Placement (AP) exams
- International Baccalaureate (IB) exams
- Language Other Than English (LOTE) exam
- State-approved CTE exams
- Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Credential

## **NOTE:**

If you a planned to take or re-take a Regents exam, work toward CDOS hours, or take a Language Other Than English (LOTE) exam in **June and/or August 2020**, you may be eligible to graduate without taking the exam. To learn more about this COVID-19 exemption, go to:

[www.advocatesforchildren.org/sites/default/files/library/Grad\\_Requirement\\_Changes\\_COVID\\_19.pdf](http://www.advocatesforchildren.org/sites/default/files/library/Grad_Requirement_Changes_COVID_19.pdf)

Special scoring and appeals options are available for students with disabilities and English Language Learners (ELLs). For more information, go to [www.advocatesforchildren.org/get\\_help/guides\\_and\\_resources](http://www.advocatesforchildren.org/get_help/guides_and_resources) and see AFC's fact sheets *High School Graduation Options for Students with Disabilities* and *High School Promotion and Graduation Requirements for ELLs*.

### ***Still have more questions? Call the Jill Chaifetz Education Helpline:***

Monday through Thursday • 10 am to 4 pm • 1-866-427-6033 (toll free)

[www.advocatesforchildren.org](http://www.advocatesforchildren.org)

*This tip sheet does not constitute legal advice. If you have a legal problem, please contact an attorney or advocate.*

Copyright © June 2020 by Advocates for Children of New York, Inc.