

SECTION SIX

AWARDING OF CREDIT AND ISSUANCE OF REGENTS DIPLOMAS

Awarding of Credit for Courses of Study

A course of study involves class attendance, homework assignments, quizzes, tests, and other instructional activities. In many instances it also involves the taking of a State exam at the end of the course. When deciding whether a student who is enrolled in a course of study has satisfactorily completed the course and is entitled to credit for such course, the teacher should evaluate the student's performance on all these activities. In accordance with Section 100.5(a)(5)(v) of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education (<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#a>), passing the Regents Exam in a subject shall not be construed as having earned a unit of credit in that subject unless the student also passes the course as offered in a registered high school or meets the requirements for credit by exam. (See section below, *Students Not Enrolled in Courses of Study*.)

Students Not Enrolled in Courses of Study

In accordance with Section 100.5(d)(1) of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, a student may earn up to a maximum of 6½ units of credit without completing the units of study requirement (<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#d>). In order to earn credit by exam, the student must satisfy each of the criteria listed below:

1. Based on the student's academic performance, the superintendent of a school district or the chief administrative officer of a nonpublic school, or his or her designee, must determine that the student will benefit academically by exercising this alternative.
2. The student must pass an oral exam or successfully complete a special project to demonstrate proficiency, as determined by the principal, in the subject area.
3. The student must achieve a score of at least 85 on the applicable Regents Exam.
4. The student must attend school, or have received substantially equivalent instruction elsewhere, in accordance with section 3204(2) of the Education Law, until the age of sixteen, pursuant to sections 3204 and 3205 of the Education Law.

Issuance by Schools of Regents Diplomas

A Regents diploma may be awarded in recognition of a student's passing with a score of 65 or higher each of the five Regents Exams specified in Section 100.5(a)(5) of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education (<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#a>). Eligibility for the Regents diploma endorsement will be determined by the principal on the basis of the student's record. The school may apply this Board of Regents endorsement at the time of graduation without awaiting the results of Department review of Regents Exam papers. The following is a sample Regents endorsement:

Diploma issued with the endorsement of the BOARD OF REGENTS on the basis of successful completion of Regents Examinations
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Most companies that print high school diplomas provide seals indicating Regents endorsement that may be affixed to the diplomas of eligible students. Schools may issue, if they prefer, a separate Regents-endorsed diploma. Regents diploma blanks are furnished by the Department to registered high schools that request them as part of their online request for January or June secondary-level exams.