



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER
Office of Assessment Policy, Development and Administration

November 9, 2010

To: District Superintendents
Superintendents of Public and Nonpublic Schools
Principals of Public, Charter, and Nonpublic Schools

From: David Abrams 

Subject: Scheduling of the January 2011 Regents Comprehensive Examination in English

I would like to provide additional information regarding the scheduling of the Regents Comprehensive Examination in English on January 11, 2011.

This date was selected to enable the Department to respond to school district requests to post the conversion chart on Friday, January 28, the last day of the regular Regents testing period. The January testing period is only four days long. The changed format of the test requires us to re-visit the performance standards that are in place to ensure consistency from prior administrations. It is not possible to administer the exam during the regular January testing period, re-visit performance standards, and provide the conversion chart by the end of the testing period for this inaugural administration.

School districts have indicated that they expect the Department to post the conversion chart by noon on January 28 to ensure that: 1) course grades and promotion decisions can be determined; 2) second semester scheduling can occur; and 3) graduating seniors have the opportunity to enroll in postsecondary education institutions. We are doing all that we can to ensure that we meet this goal.

January 11, 2011 will be counted for the purpose of meeting the 180-day requirement for calculation of State aid allocations. If the excusal of students is necessary to provide adequate staff and space for the administration of this Exam, schools are permitted to excuse students located in the same building who are not taking the Exam.

We appreciate your cooperation as we implement this new Exam. If you have any questions or require additional information please contact the Office of Assessment Policy, Development and Administration at emscassessinfo@mail.nysed.gov.