



New York State Education Department

Office of Curriculum and Instruction

Science Update

Fall 2013

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President of the University of the State
of New York**

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Sponsored Science Programs

- Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching
 - ❖ <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/mst/paemstaward.html>
- New York State Science Olympiad
 - ❖ <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/mst/sci/olympiad.html>
- National Youth Science Camp
 - ❖ <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/mst/sci/programs>
- Appalachian Regional Commission/Oak Ridge National Laboratory Summer Opportunity for Students and Teachers
 - ❖ <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/mst/sci/programs.html>

Communication

- Bi-monthly Conference Calls
- Bi-monthly Face-to-Face Discussions
- Science Matters (BaP)
 - ❖ <http://bap.nsta.org/>
- RSS Feed
 - ❖ <http://usny.nysed.gov/newsfeed/home.html>
- Web Postings
 - ❖ <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/mst/sci/home.html>

Funding Opportunities

- P-12 - <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/funding/home.html>
- OHE - <http://www.highered.nysed.gov/grants.html>
- RTTT - <http://usny.nysed.gov/rttt/rfp/>

Current Initiatives



- Information - <http://www.nextgenscience.org/> and <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/mst/sci/ngss.html>
- Survey
- Strategic plan

New York State Grade 4 Elementary-Level Science Test

- The written test format consists of:
 - ❖ Part A - multiple choice
 - ❖ Part B - multiple choice and constructed-response
 - ❖ Part C - constructed-response and extended constructed-response
- The performance test consists of:
 - ❖ On-demand tasks at three stations
 - Measuring Objects and Liquids, Electrical and Magnetic Testing, Ball and Ramp
- 2014 Administration dates:
 - ❖ Performance Test – Wednesday, May 21 – Friday, May 30
 - ❖ Written Test – Monday, June 2 (June 3 & 4 make-up dates)
- Information link:
 - ❖ <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/science/science-ei.html>

New York State Grade 8 Intermediate-Level Science Test

- The written test format consists of:
 - ❖ Part A - multiple choice
 - ❖ Part B - multiple choice and constructed-response
 - ❖ Part C - constructed-response and extended constructed-response
- The performance test consists of:
 - ❖ On-demand tasks at three stations
 - Sorting Creatures, Ramp and Golf Ball, Woods and Water
- 2013 Administration dates:
 - ❖ Performance Test – Wednesday, May 21 – Friday, May 30
 - ❖ Written Test – Monday, June 2 (June 3 & 4 make-up dates)
- Information link:
 - <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/science/science-ei.html>

Living Environment

- The Regents Examination consists of:
 - ❖ Part A - multiple choice
 - ❖ Part B - multiple choice and constructed-response
 - ❖ Part C - constructed-response and extended constructed-response
 - ❖ Part D - multiple choice, constructed-response, and extended constructed-response (based on the four required laboratory activities)
- The four required laboratory activities
 - ❖ **Relationships and Biodiversity**
 - ❖ **Making Connections**
 - ❖ **The Beaks of Finches**
 - ❖ **Diffusion Through a Membrane**
- Information pertaining to this may be found at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/mst/sci/partd.html>

Physical Setting/Earth Science

- The written portion of the Regents Examination consists of:
 - ❖ Part A - multiple choice
 - ❖ Part B - multiple choice and constructed-response
 - ❖ Part C - constructed-response and extended constructed-response
- The first administration of the new version of the Physical Setting/Earth Science Performance Test (Part D) occurred in June 2008.
- More information may be accessed at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/science/earthscience-performance.pdf>

Physical Setting/Chemistry

Physical Setting/Physics

- Regents Examination consists of:
 - ❖ Part A – multiple choice
 - ❖ Part B – multiple choice and constructed-response
 - ❖ Part C – constructed-response and extended constructed-response

Scoring State Exams

- October 2011 - Board of Regents approved a new scoring policy which goes into effect in the 2012 – 2013 school year prohibiting teachers from scoring their own students' exams.
- <http://www.regents.nysed.gov/meetings/2011Meetings/October2011/1011p12a5.pdf>
- Questions/comments emailed to emscassessinfo@mail.nysed.gov

Cell Phones/Electronic Devices

- All students are prohibited from bringing cell phones and certain other electronic devices into a classroom or other location where a New York State assessment is being administered.
- <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/memos/test-security/july-12-memo.pdf>