



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

**TO:** P-12 Education Committee

**FROM:** John B. King, Jr.  
Valerie Grey *Valerie Grey*

**SUBJECT:** January 2012 Regents Exams

**DATE:** September 6, 2011

**AUTHORIZATION(S):** *gc*

**SUMMARY**

Issue for Decision

Should the Board of Regents accept \$1.5 million from the Fund for Public Schools and the Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City (both 501(c)(3) organizations) to restore the January 2012 Regents Exams?

Reason(s) for Consideration

Review of policy

Proposed Handling

The question will come before the P-12 Education Committee at its September 2011 meeting where it will be discussed and action taken.

Procedural History

At the May 2011 P-12 Education Committee, the Board adopted a set of action steps designed to meet the challenges presented by the on-going structural imbalance between the Department's available resources and the costs of administering the Regents Exam Program. For 2011-12, the Board of Regents requested \$15 million in General Fund support for the administration of the Regents examination program. The enacted State Budget only included funding of \$7.0 million for the Regents examinations. This left a funding gap of \$8.0 million that was addressed by adopting approximately \$4.0 million in cost containment and approximately \$4.0 million in programmatic actions which included elimination of the January administration of Regents Exams.

## Background Information

During the summer, \$1.5 million in funding from the two 501(c)(3) organizations became available to support the January 2012 Regents Exams. If accepted, the exams listed below will be reinstated for January 2012. The support from these two organizations is expected to be one-time. January administration of Regents exams in 2013 will be dependent on receiving sufficient General Fund support in the 2012-13 State Budget.

### **Regents Exams**

Comprehensive English  
Living Environment  
Physical Setting/Chemistry  
Physical Setting/Earth Science  
Physical Setting/Physics  
Integrated Algebra  
Geometry  
Algebra2/Trigonometry  
Global History & Geography  
U.S. History & Government

### **Regents Competency Tests**

Mathematics  
Science  
Reading  
Writing  
Global Studies  
U.S. History & Government

## Recommendation

We recommend that the Board of Regents accept funding of \$1.5 million to reinstate the exams listed above for administration in January 2012.