



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY,
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TO: P-12 Education Committee

FROM: John B. King, Jr.

SUBJECT: Proposed Technical Amendment of Section
100.5(b)(7)(v)(a) of the Regulations of the Commissioner,
Relating to Mathematics Requirements for Regents
Diploma with Advanced Designation

DATE: September 2, 2011

AUTHORIZATION(S):

SUMMARY

Issue for Discussion

Should the Regents adopt the proposed technical amendment of section 100.5(b)(7)(v)(a) of the Commissioner's Regulations?

Reason for Consideration

To enact a technical amendment to ensure students who complete an appropriate series of Mathematics Assessments regardless of cohort will be determined to have met the Mathematics Assessment requirements for a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation.

Proposed Handling

This item will be presented to the P-12 Education Committee for discussion at the September Regents meeting. A draft of the express terms of the proposed amendment is attached. Supporting materials are available upon request from the Secretary to the Board of Regents.

Background Information

In June 2008, the Department began the phase-in process of the new Mathematics Regents examination structure moving from a two exam sequence: Math A/Math B, to a three exam sequence: Integrated Algebra/Geometry/Algebra 2 Trig.

When the phase-in process began, new regulations were adopted facilitating this transition and outlining what students must pass in order to get a Regents Diploma (1 exam) or a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation (2 or 3 exams based upon cohort and availability). Commissioner's Regulation section 100.5(b)(7)(v)(a) provides that beginning with the cohort entering grade 9 in 2009, all students seeking a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation had to pass a three exam sequence in mathematics, as this was all that would be available to them. The sequence of exams available to students entering grade 9 in 2009 were the following:

- Mathematics A, Geometry, and Algebra 2/Trigonometry.
- Integrated Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra 2/Trigonometry.

Absent from these sequences in the regulatory language are the following two or three exam sequences that would also meet the mathematics requirements for the Advanced Designation Regents Diploma:

- Mathematics A, Mathematics B
- Integrated Algebra and Mathematics B
- Mathematics A, Algebra 2/Trigonometry
- Integrated Algebra, Geometry and Mathematics B

It has come to the attention of the Department that there are some students who have completed or wish to complete one of the sequences listed above in order to meet the requirements for an Advanced Regents. While Math A and Math B are no longer available, there are still students in the P-12 system that may have completed one or both of these exams in the past. In order to give students a continued opportunity to meet the Advanced Regents requirements and honor the work they have completed in the past, the above sequences would have to be made available to all students regardless of cohort assignment. The proposed amendment would ensure that any student (regardless of cohort) who completes an approved combination of Mathematics Regents Examinations will meet the mathematics assessment requirements for a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Regents P-12 Education Committee reach consensus on the intent of the proposed amendment prior to taking action at the December 2011 Regents meeting.

Timetable for Implementation

It is anticipated that a Notice of Proposed Rule Making will be published in the State Register on October 12, 2011 and that the proposed amendment will be presented for adoption at the December Regents meeting, with an effective date of January 4, 2012.

AMENDMENT OF THE REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Pursuant to Education Law sections 101, 207, 208, 209, 305, 308, 309 and 3204.

Subparagraph (v) of paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of section 100.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education is amended, effective January 4, 2012, as follows:

(v) Earning a Regents diploma with advanced designation. To earn a Regents diploma with an advanced designation a student must complete, in addition to the requirements for a Regents diploma:

(a) additional Regents examinations in mathematics as determined by the commissioner or approved alternatives pursuant to section 100.2(f) of this Part.

[Students entering grade nine prior to September 2009 must pass two of the three commencement level Regents examinations in mathematics through one of the following combinations: Mathematics A and Mathematics B, or Mathematics A and Algebra 2 and Trigonometry. Students entering grade nine in September 2009 and thereafter] Beginning with the 2011-12 school year and thereafter, students must pass [all] two or three commencement level Regents examinations in mathematics [titled Mathematics A or Integrated Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra 2 and Trigonometry] through one of the following combinations:

(i) Two examination combination. A student must pass:

(a) Mathematics A and Mathematics B, or

(b) Mathematics A and Algebra 2/Trigonometry, or

(c) Mathematics B and Integrated Algebra;

or

(ii) Three examination combination. A student must pass:

(a) Mathematics A, Geometry and Algebra 2/Trigonometry, or

(b) Integrated Algebra, Geometry and Mathematics B, or

(c) Integrated Algebra, Geometry and Algebra 2/Trigonometry

(b) . . .

(c) . . .