

ARLINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL
1157 Route 55, LaGrangeville, NY 12540 (845) 486-4860

Executive Principal
Mr. John Orcutt

Dear Families of Students Taking High School Regents Courses,

Both the federal Department of Education and New York State's Education Department have made changes to the requirements for state testing this year, including requirements for Regents Exams. This letter is to inform you of the changes that pertain to high school students enrolled in either Algebra I Regents, Earth Science Regents, Living Environment Regents, and/or English Language Arts Regents.

The NY State Education Department (NYSED) has removed the passing of Regents exams as both a graduation requirement and as a barrier to receiving local course credit as long as students meet one of the following criteria:

- The student is currently enrolled in a course of study culminating in a Regents Examination and by the end of the 2021 school year, or the 2021 summer session, will have earned credit in such course of study.
- The student was previously enrolled in the course culminating in the applicable Regents Examination, has achieved course credit, and has not yet passed the associated required Regents Examination but was intending to take the test in June 2021 or August 2021 to achieve a passing score.

The District is required to offer Algebra I Regents, Earth Science Regents, Living Environment Regents, and/or English Language Arts Regents. However, students that “will have earned credit in the course will be eligible for an exemption to the examination requirements.” In plain language, this means that students who are expected to pass the course this year or in summer school are not required to take the Regents exam. **Families who would like to “opt-in” their student to take the applicable Regents exam must notify their building principal by May 10, 2021. Notification can be made to Mr. Orcutt through this form [here](#).**

To help inform your decision, here are some points to consider.

What are the dates for the Regents?

- The dates can be found [here](#).

My student has been remote all year. Will the Regents be offered online?

- No, the only administration will be in person. Remote students are exempted from taking the exam, or they may choose to come to the school building to participate. Inform your principal using the form above if your student would like to take the exam. However, a remote student who is at risk of failing the course will not receive the exemption and will need to take the course either during summer school, or the following school year.

Will the Performance portion of the Earth Science exam be administered?

- No, only the written portion will be administered this year.

Will the Regents score count as part of the course grade for the year?

- Yes, the Regents score will count as 20% of the student's grade in the course for Math and Science if they elect to take the exam. The Regents in English Language Arts Regents does not count towards the student's GPA.

My student is taking a course that would have normally culminated in a Regents Exam. How does this year impact them if New York State is not offering the Regents in their class?

- Students who are enrolled in courses that would normally culminate in a Regents exam will be given an exemption from that exam as part of their graduation requirements, as long as they pass the course at the end of the year. If a student does not pass the course, they will need to take the course during summer school, or next school year in order to satisfy the graduation requirement.
- A student's overall grade in the course will be used to determine if they are eligible for: Advanced Regents Diploma, Regents Diploma with Honors, and diplomas with subject mastery.

Will the Regents score show up on student transcripts?

- The student and family can choose to have the transcript reflect the student's score or not. The score must be recorded in the school's permanent record.

Additional information can be found here.

- [March 15 Emergency Regents Regulations](#)
- [March 19 SED Memo](#)

Will my student have to take finals in any other courses?

- Each course is handling the end of the year a little differently. Some courses will still be administering final exams, while others will be asking students to complete projects. Some courses will be administering a benchmark assessment. The purpose of the benchmark assessment is to gather information about potential gaps that need to be addressed in the curriculum in the following year's corresponding course. Teachers will be informing their students which of the end of year assessments their courses will require.

If you have any further questions, please reach out to your child's guidance counselor or house administrators.

Thank you,
John Orcutt
Executive Principal
Arlington High School