



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

# DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: September 8, 2021  
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads  
Route To: Principals, Teachers, Guidance Counselors, Students  
From: Lisa J. Gleason, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner  
Division of Academics and Performance

## State Board Adoption of Graduation Assessment Requirements for Classes of 2023–2025

On September 8, 2021, the State Board of Education adopted graduation assessment requirements for the classes of 2023, 2024, and 2025. The new regulations comply with State statute (*N.J.S.A. 18A:7C-1 et seq.*) and require, as a prerequisite for graduation, all students to demonstrate proficiency by achieving a passing score on the English language arts (ELA) and mathematics components of the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment, by achieving a passing score on a substitute competency assessment, or by submitting portfolio appeals through their district.

Students in the classes of 2023, 2024, and 2025 will take the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment in grade 11. The assessment will be aligned to New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS) for grade 10 ELA and NJSLS for Algebra I and Geometry. The assessment format will be familiar to students and educators, as it will be delivered on the same platform students use for the current New Jersey Student Learning Assessments (NJSLA).

If, after completing the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment, a student does not demonstrate proficiency on the ELA or Mathematics section, the student may take the following steps:

- Retake the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment in the following summer or the following fall. A district must offer remediation and support to prepare the student to retake the assessment;
- Meet a designated cut score from the same menu of alternative assessments as the class of 2022; or
- Complete a portfolio appeal.

### Reminders for the Class of 2022

On June 5, 2019, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) updated the high school graduation assessment requirements in both ELA and mathematics for the classes of 2019 through 2022, pursuant to an amended Consent Order issued by the Appellate Division of the Superior Court of New Jersey.

The [fall block administration](#) of the NJSLA high school assessments in ELA 9, Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II is available to students in the class of 2022 who have not yet met the graduation assessment requirements. Additionally, districts may submit portfolio appeals for students in the class of 2022 beginning on January 3, 2022.

### Additional Information

The [graduation assessment requirements](#) for students in the class of 2022 and the classes of 2023-2025 can be found on the NJDOE website. Additionally, resources to help districts prepare for the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment and information about the designated cut scores for the first and second pathways are forthcoming.

For questions or concerns, please reach out to [assessment@doe.nj.gov](mailto:assessment@doe.nj.gov).

c: Members, State Board of Education  
Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner of Education  
NJDOE Staff  
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