



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234  
Office of P-12

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**To:** District Superintendents  
Superintendents of Public and Nonpublic Schools  
Principals of Public, Nonpublic, and Charter Secondary Schools  
Other Interested Parties

**From:** Jason Harmon, Assistant Commissioner

**Subject:** Request for Public Comment

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Harmon", is written over a dark grey rectangular redaction box. Below the signature is a solid green rectangular redaction box.

**Date:** April 23, 2021

Description of Current Performance Index Calculations:

Under the ESSA accountability system, a Composite Performance Level at the secondary level is determined using a multi-step process for each accountability subgroup. According to New York's approved ESSA plan, high school accountability cohort PI must be calculated for ELA, math, science, and social studies using the formula given below:

$$= \frac{1 (\# \text{ Level 2}) + 2 (\# \text{ Level 3}) + 2.5 (\# \text{ Level 4})}{4 - (\# \text{ Level 1})}$$

**Failed a Course and is not Eligible for an Examination Exemption:**

- x If the student failed the course in a subject and the student has a Regents\* score for another administration in the same subject that places the student at an accountability Level 1, 2, 3 or 4, NYSED will use the highest accountability level achieved for the PI calculation.
- x If the student does not have a Regents accountability level for another administration of a Regents Examination\* in the same subject, then NYSED will assign the student an accountability Level 1 and include the student in the denominator for the PI calculation.

See the Attachment for specific examples of how records would be processed under this proposal.

The Department is seeking public comment regarding this proposal to include exemptions when generating high school PIs by subject in New York’s approved ESSA accountability system. Districts and schools are encouraged to inform their comments by using locally available data to determine how this approach might impact their Performance Indices. The Department welcomes alternate proposals for how to modify the Performance Index to incorporate Regents exemptions. Please submit your comments by email to [ESSAComments@nysed.gov](mailto:ESSAComments@nysed.gov). Please include, “Public Comment on Regents Exemption PI” in the subject line of your email. Comments must be received by Wednesday, June 23, 2021.

We thank you for your support and look forward to hearing from you.

cc: Kim Wilkins  
Rose LeRoy  
Jennifer Todd  
Lisa Long

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\* Includes an approved alternative to a Regents or a New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA).

**Attachment:**

Table 2: Calculation of Accountability Level in Mathematics for a member of the 2018 Accountability Cohort

Student Scenario	Regents Examination Result 2018-19 or 2019-20 (Aug. or Jan.) <sup>6</sup>	Course Outcome 2019-20 (June) or 2020-21 (Aug.) <sup>7</sup>	Course Outcome 2020-21 (June)	Regents Examination Result 2020-21 (June)	What happens to Final Accountability Performance Level if Student <b>DOES NOT</b> Take Regents Examination in January 2022 or June 2022?	What happens to Final Accountability Performance Level if Student <b>DOES</b> Take Regents Examination in January 2022 or June 2022?
A	Did not take examination	Failed	Not Enrolled	N/A	Assign Level 1 > 1BC14(n)FC1 (	

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