High School Graduation Requirements

On August 3, 2016, the State Board of Education approved updated state regulations for the high school graduation assessments requirements in both English language arts (ELA) and mathematics for the Classes of 2016 through 2021, and beyond.

Students graduating as members of the classes of 2016 through 2019 can meet graduation assessment requirements through a variety of ways, including:

1. Achieving passing scores on certain PARCC assessments;
2. Achieving certain scores on alternative assessments such as the SAT, ACT, or Accuplacer; or
3. The submission by the district of a student portfolio through the Department’s portfolio appeals process.
(Special Education students whose Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) specify an alternative way to demonstrate proficiencies will continue to follow the graduation requirements set forth in their IEPs.)

The Class of 2020 can demonstrate graduation assessment proficiency through the same alternative means as those in the Classes of 2016 through 2019, provided that students in the Class of 2020 take all end-of-course PARCC assessments for which they are eligible, as of the effective date of when the amendments were adopted by the State Board of Education.

For the Class of 2021 and thereafter, students who have not demonstrated proficiency on the ELA 10 and Algebra 1 assessments, and have taken all end-of-course PARCC assessments for which they are eligible, can demonstrate graduation assessment proficiency by meeting the criteria of the portfolio appeals process.

It is important to note there has always been a system for students to demonstrate and meet graduation requirements through an alternative assessment or pathway to graduation throughout New Jersey’s forty-year history with a statewide assessment program.

In this document, you will find charts containing the list of assessment requirements in both ELA and mathematics for the high school graduation Classes of 2016 through 2021.
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA)**

- PARCC ELA Grade 9 >= 750 (Level 4)
  
  or

- PARCC ELA Grade 10 >= 750 (Level 4)
  
  or

- PARCC ELA Grade 11 >= 725 (Level 3)
  
  or

- Prior to 3/1/16 SAT Critical Reading >= 400
  
  or

- 3/1/16 or later SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Section >= 450; or SAT Reading Test >= 22
  
  or

- ACT Reading or ACT PLAN Reading >= 16
  
  or

- Accuplacer WritePlacer >= 6
  
  or

- Accuplacer WritePlacer ESL >= 4
  
  or

- PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading* >= 40
  
  or

- PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading** >= 22
  
  or

- ACT Aspire Reading >= 422
  
  or

- ASVAB-AFQT Composite >= 31
  
  or

- Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal

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**MATHEMATICS**

- PARCC Algebra I >= 750 (Level 4)
  
  or

- PARCC Geometry >= 725 (Level 3)
  
  or

- PARCC Algebra II >= 725 (Level 3)
  
  or

- Prior to 3/1/16 SAT Math >= 400
  
  or

- 3/1/16 or later SAT Math Section >= 440; or SAT Math Test >= 22
  
  or

- ACT or ACT PLAN Math >= 16
  
  or

- Accuplacer Elementary Algebra >= 76
  
  or

- PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math* >= 40
  
  or

- PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math** >= 22
  
  or

- ACT Aspire Math >= 422
  
  or

- ASVAB-AFQT Composite >= 31
  
  or

- Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal

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*Note: *PSAT taken prior to October 2015; **PSAT taken after October 2015. Effective immediately, students who took the redesigned SAT after March 1, 2016, may meet the state assessment graduation requirement by attaining a Math Section Score of 440 or a Math Test Score of 22 and an Evidence-Based Reading and Writing Section Score of 450 or a Reading Test Score of 22.*
Class of 2017, 2018 and 2019

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA)

PARCC ELA Grade 9
or
PARCC ELA Grade 10
or
PARCC ELA Grade 11
or
SAT Reading
or
ACT Reading or ACT PLAN Reading
or
Accuplacer WritePlacer
or
Accuplacer WritePlacer ESL
or
PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading
or
PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading
or
ACT Aspire Reading
or
ASVAB-AFQT Composite
or
Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal

MATHEMATICS

PARCC Algebra I
or
PARCC Geometry
or
PARCC Algebra II
or
SAT Math
or
ACT or ACT PLAN Math
or
Accuplacer Elementary Algebra
or
PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math
or
PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math
or
ACT Aspire Math
or
ASVAB-AFQT Composite
or
Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA)

(Must Take) PARCC ELA Grade 9
and
(Must Take) PARCC ELA Grade 10
and
(Must Take) PARCC ELA Grade 11

If passing score not met on any of the three,
then the student can use the following

SAT Reading

or
ACT Reading or ACT PLAN Reading

or
Accuplacer WritePlacer

or
Accuplacer WritePlacer ESL

or
PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading

or
PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading

or
ACT Aspire Reading

or
ASVAB-AFQT Composite

or
Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal

MATHEMATICS

(Must Take) PARCC Algebra I
and
(Must Take) PARCC Geometry
and
(Must Take) PARCC Algebra II

If passing score not met on any of the three,
then the student can use the following

SAT Math

or
ACT or ACT PLAN Math

or
Accuplacer Elementary Algebra

or
PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math

or
PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math

or
ACT Aspire Math

or
ASVAB-AFQT Composite

or
Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA)

(Must Take) PARCC ELA Grade 9

and

(Must Take and Pass) PARCC ELA Grade 10

and

(Must Take) PARCC ELA Grade 11

If passing score not met on PARCC ELA Grade 10, then the student can use the following

Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal

MATHEMATICS

(Must Take and Pass) PARCC Algebra I

and

(Must Take) PARCC Geometry

and

(Must Take) PARCC Algebra II

If passing score not met on PARCC Algebra I, then the student can use the following

Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal