



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PO Box 500

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

DAVID C. HESPE
Commissioner

April 5, 2016

TO: Chief School Administrators
Charter School and Renaissance School Project Lead Persons
High School Principals and Supervisors
School Counselors
District Bilingual/ESL/ELS Point of Contact

FROM: Karen L. Campbell, Director
Office of Supplemental Educational Programs

Jeffrey B. Hauger Ed.D., Director
Office of Assessments
Division of Talent and Performance

SUBJECT: ELL Graduation English Language Arts Assessment Inclusion

As noted in the New Jersey Department of Education’s (Department) [September 9, 2015](#), “Graduation Requirements for the Class of 2019” memo, during the transition to utilizing the PARCC assessment for a high school graduation requirement, the Department is allowing substitute competency assessments for graduation assessment requirements.

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| PARCC ELA Grade 9 ≥ 750 (Level 4) <i>or</i> | PARCC Algebra I ≥ 750 (Level 4) <i>or</i> |
| PARCC ELA Grade 10 ≥ 750 (Level 4) <i>or</i> | PARCC Geometry ≥ 725 (Level 3) <i>or</i> |
| PARCC ELA Grade 11 ≥ 725 (Level 3) <i>or</i> | PARCC Algebra II ≥ 725 (Level 3) <i>or</i> |
| SAT Reading* ≥ 400 <i>or</i> | SAT Math* ≥ 400 <i>or</i> |
| ACT Reading or ACT PLAN Reading ≥ 16 or | ACT or ACT PLAN Math ≥ 16 <i>or</i> |
| Accuplacer Write Placer ≥ 6 <i>or</i> | Accuplacer Elementary Algebra ≥ 76 <i>or</i> |
| Accuplacer Write Placer ESL ≥ 4 <i>or</i> | |
| PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading** ≥ 40 <i>or</i> | PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math** ≥ 40 <i>or</i> |
| PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading*** ≥ 22 <i>or</i> | PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math*** ≥ 22 <i>or</i> |
| ACT Aspire Reading ≥ 422 <i>or</i> | ACT Aspire Math ≥ 422 <i>or</i> |
| ASVAB-AFQT Composite ≥ 31 <i>or</i> | ASVAB-AFQT Composite ≥ 31 <i>or</i> |
| Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal | Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal |

Note: * SAT taken prior to March 2016; ** PSAT taken prior to October 2015; ***PSAT taken after October 2015. The College Board will establish new ‘threshold scores’ in May 2016 for the March 2016 SAT.

Effective immediately, the Accuplacer Write Placer ESL can be used as a substitute competency assessment for current English language learners (ELLs). The Accuplacer Write Placer ESL is an English test of writing for ELLs. The score scale for Accuplacer Write Placer ESL is 0-6. The passing score for meeting the English language arts assessment requirement for graduation is equal to or greater than four. All other graduation requirements (math assessment, credit requirements, etc.) will remain unchanged for students who meet graduation requirements using the Accuplacer Write Placer ESL. You can find more information on the Accuplacer WriterPlacer ESL at:

<https://secure-media.collegeboard.org/digitalServices/pdf/accuplacer/accuplacer-2009-esl-brochure.pdf>.

Thank you for your continued support of ELLs in New Jersey. If you have additional questions, please contact the Office of Supplemental Educational Programs at lep@doe.state.nj.us.

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c: Members, State Board of Education
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