

GUIDELINES FOR ISSUANCE OF LOCAL CERTIFICATE FOR STUDENTS WITH
DISABILITIES

The Committee on Special Education shall make every effort to ensure that students with disabilities are provided appropriate opportunities to earn a Regents High School Diploma in accordance with the provisions of Section 100.5 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education.

Students with disabilities who are unable to complete the requirements for a Regents High School Diploma may be awarded a local diploma pursuant to Part 100.6 of the Commissioner's Regulations. Local diplomas are reserved for students with disabilities who have a documented disability and have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or a 504 Accommodation Plan indicating the student is Safety-Net eligible in a specific subject area.

The following guidelines must be followed in making the determination of awarding local diplomas:

1. Scores between 45-54 on one or more of the five required Regents exams, other than the English language arts (ELA) or mathematics exam, but scores 65 or higher on one or more of the required Regents exams, in which case the lower score(s) can be compensated by the higher score(s); and
2. Obtains a passing grade, that meets or exceeds the required passing grade by the school, for the course in the subject area of the Regents examination in which he or she received a score of 45-54; and
3. Has a satisfactory attendance rate, in accordance with the district's or school's attendance policy, for the school year during which the student took the examination in which he or she received a score of 45-54, exclusive of excused absences; and
4. Is not already using a passing score on one or more Regents Competency Tests (RCTs) to graduate with a local diploma. (A student may not use the compensatory score option if he or she is using a passing score on one or more RCTs to graduate with a local diploma.
5. The student must have acquired at least 22 credits.

Earning a local high school diploma shall terminate a students' entitlement to a free public education pursuant to Education Law Section 3202(1).