

# *Graduation Requirements*

Graduation from Ballston Spa High School requires the fulfillment of course and examination requirements as outlined by the New York State Board of Regents. In accordance with state and district standards the high school offers four possible diplomas (Local, Regents, Advanced Regents, and the NYS CDOS), with some offering additional accolades.

<b>Course Requirements</b>			<b>Examination Requirements</b>
Students must earn the following credits to graduate with one of four possible diplomas <sup>1</sup>			Students must earn a minimum grade of 65 on ALL of the following Regents Exams <sup>2</sup>
	<i>Regents or Local</i>	<i>Advanced</i>	<b>Regents Diploma (5 exams)</b>
English	4	4	• English Regents <sup>3</sup>
Social Studies	4	4	• Global Studies Regents
Mathematics	3	3	• U.S. History Regents
Science	3	3	• One Math Regents <sup>4</sup>
Art/Music	1	1	• One Science Regents
Health	½	½	<b>Advanced Regents Diploma (8 exams)</b>
Physical Education	2	2	• English Regents <sup>3</sup>
Foreign Language	1	3	• Global Studies Regents
Electives	3.5	3.5	• U.S. History Regents
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>	• Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II/Trigonometry Regents <sup>4</sup>
			• Two Science Regents

**Notes:**

<sup>1</sup>Details about the NYS CDOS diploma option are available on page 3.

<sup>2</sup>Examination requirements for a Local Diploma are the same as the Regents Diploma except students may score between 55-64. For students with disabilities, a score of 45-55 on a required Regents exam other than English and Math can be compensated with a score of 65 or above on another required Regents exam. In all cases, students must achieve a 55 on English and Math, and pass the course in which s/he earned a score of 45-55.

<sup>3</sup>Students who enter grade 9 in 2013 and beyond must pass the Regents Exam in ELA (Common Core). Students who enter grade 9 prior to 2013 may pass the Regents Comprehensive Examination in English or Regents Exam in ELA (Common Core).

<sup>4</sup>In 2013 and thereafter, any student, regardless of grade level, who begins their first commencement level course in Math that culminates in a Regents exam must be provided with math instruction aligned with the NYS P-12 Common Core Learning Standards for Mathematics and take the corresponding Common Core Regents exam.

## *Additional Diploma Accolades*

### **Honors**

Students who earn an overall average of 90 or higher on the 5 required exams needed for the NYS Regents Diploma receive an Honors distinction. Students who earn an overall average of a 90 or higher on all 8 Regents exams needed for the NYS Advanced Regents Diploma receive an Honors distinction.

### **Mathematics and/or Science Seal**

Students who earn an 85 or higher on 3 Mathematics Regents exams will earn a Math Seal on their diploma. Students who earn an 85 or higher on 3\* Science Regents exams will earn a Science Seal on their diploma.

\*note: one of the three must be the Living Environment exam.

### **Career & Technical Endorsement**

Students who passed the 5 required Regents exams and passed the certification examination relative to their specific vocational field of study will receive a CTE Endorsement Seal.

### **SPECIFIC TO STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES ACCOLADE**

NYS Career and Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential:

- The student must have developed a Career Plan that includes documentation of the student's self-identified career interests, career-related strength and needs, career goals, career and technical coursework, and work-based learning experiences that the student plans to engage in to achieve those goals; and
- The student must have demonstrated achievement of the commencement level CDOS learning standards in the areas of career exploration and development, integrated learning and universal foundation skills; and
- The student must have successfully completed at least 216 hours of CTE coursework and/or work-based learning experiences (of which at least 54 hours must be in work-based learning experiences); and
- The student must have at least one completed employability profile that documents the student's skills and experiences, attainment of each of the commencement level CDOS learning standards, and, as appropriate, attainment of technical knowledge and work-related skills, work experiences, performance on industry-based assessment and other work-related academic achievements.

### **APPEAL TO GRADUATE WITH A LOWER SCORE ON A REGENTS EXAMINATION**

Students who have at least a 65 course average but whose highest score on the corresponding Regents examination after two attempts is below, but within 3 points of a 65, may appeal to graduate. If a student appeals one exam, with a score ranging 62-64, the student may be eligible for a Regents Diploma, using this lower score. However, if a student appeals two exams with scores ranging 62-64, the student may be eligible for a Local Diploma using this lower score. The appeals process is initiated with the assistance of the high school counselor.

# *Special Education Programs*

The Special Education Programs are provided to students who have been determined by the district Committee on Special Education to be in need of an Individual Education Plan (IEP).

## **NYS Career Development and Occupational Studies (CDOS) Commencement Credential**

### **New 7/1/13 – ONLY for Students with Disabilities:**

1. As a supplemental credential to an earned diploma, or
2. A stand alone credential in lieu of a high school diploma.

### Documents for entry-level employment

- Must provide opportunities to earn regular high school diploma and access to participate and progress in the general curriculum.
- Develop, and annually review, a career plan to ensure active engagement in career exploration.
- Evidence of commencement level knowledge and skills (CDOS learning standards).
- 2 units of study in CTE courses and/or Work Based Learning experiences with a minimum of 54 hours documented school supervised WBL experiences.
- Skills employability profile.
- May award based on credential requirements.

### Experience 4 years of High School

- Students who complete school with a CDOS Commencement Credential prior to age 21 have the right to return to school, tuition free, to work toward a local diploma or additional career experience. This option includes the school year in which they turn 21 years of age. Students who turn 21 prior to the first day of school will not be allowed to return for the next year.

# *High School Equivalency*

## **TASC** (Test Assessing Secondary Completion)

*\*in replacement of GED*

- **Subject Areas and Grades**  
Assesses 5 subject areas including Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies. Measures examinees' levels of achievement and readiness for college and the workforce as outlined by the Common Core Standards
- **Scoring**
  - Immediate scoring for computer-based tests
  - Paper-based and writing tests are sent to CTB/McGraw-Hill and returned within 10 days
- **Delivery Formats**
  - Paper and pencil
  - Online