



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Governor

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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.

PARCC ELA Grade 9 \geq 750 (Level 4) <i>or</i>	PARCC Algebra I \geq 750 (Level 4) <i>or</i>
PARCC ELA Grade 10 \geq 750 (Level 4) <i>or</i>	PARCC Geometry \geq 725 (Level 3) <i>or</i>
PARCC ELA Grade 11 \geq 725 (Level 3) <i>or</i>	PARCC Algebra II \geq 725 (Level 3) <i>or</i>
SAT Reading* \geq 400 <i>or</i>	SAT Math* \geq 400 <i>or</i>
ACT Reading or ACT PLAN Reading \geq 16 or	ACT or ACT PLAN Math \geq 16 <i>or</i>
Accuplacer Write Placer \geq 6 <i>or</i>	Accuplacer Elementary Algebra \geq 76 <i>or</i>
Accuplacer Write Placer ESL \geq 4 <i>or</i>	
PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading** \geq 40 <i>or</i>	PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math** \geq 40 <i>or</i>
PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading*** \geq 22 <i>or</i>	PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math*** \geq 22 <i>or</i>
ACT Aspire Reading \geq 422 <i>or</i>	ACT Aspire Math \geq 422 <i>or</i>
ASVAB-AFQT Composite \geq 31 <i>or</i>	ASVAB-AFQT Composite \geq 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
Commissioner David C. Hesper
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