



# Portfolio Appeals Overview

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# Objectives

- Reiterate what it takes to graduate in the State of New Jersey
- Provide a description of the Portfolio Appeals process
- Discuss the NJDOE's preparation to receive and review submitted Appeals
- Discuss next steps



# Graduation Requirements

In order for students to graduate high school, they must, at a minimum, complete the following:

- 1) Participate in a local program of study with at least 120 credits in courses designed to meet New Jersey academic standards;
- 2) Meet local school attendance requirements; and
- 3) Demonstrate competency on Statewide assessments or through the alternative assessment process.



## High School Assessment Graduation Requirements (Class of 2016)

English language arts	Mathematics
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 $\geq 16$ <i>or</i>	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>
<b>Accuplacer Write Placer ESL <math>\geq 4</math> <i>or</i></b>	
PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading** $\geq 40$ <i>or</i> PSAT10 Reading or PSAT/NMSQT Reading*** $\geq 22$ <i>or</i>	PSAT10 Math or PSAT/NMSQT Math** $\geq 40$ <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>
<b>Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal</b>	<b>Meet the Criteria of the NJDOE Portfolio Appeal</b>



# What is a Portfolio Appeals?

- Purpose of the Appeals process:
  - Established in the 2009-2010 school year as an alternative path to achieving a diploma for those students otherwise on track to meet all graduation requirements except their assessment requirements.



# History of Appeals

- New Jersey has a history of providing students an alternate route to meet their high school assessment graduation requirement:
  - Special Review Assessment (SRA).
  - Alternative High School Assessment (AHSA) and Portfolio Appeals process.
- Previously, the SRA and the AHSA had performance assessment tasks (PATs). The PATs were:
  - Aligned to the standards like the HSPA assessment.
  - Performance tasks so students can demonstrate their critical thinking skills.



# History of Appeals

## 2009-2010

- Operational Changes
  - Locally scored SRA process was scored by New Jersey's vendor Measurement Incorporated.
  - Name of the alternate process switched to the Alternative High School Assessment (AHSA), used Performance Assessment Tasks (PATs).
- Alternative High School Assessment (AHSA)
  - After first administration, the number of students passing AHSA significantly decreased.
  - Department issued memo: Any student not passing the required state assessment graduation requirement could successfully meet their graduation requirement by passing one of several other national assessments with benchmarks determined by the state.
- Portfolio Appeals process
  - **“Laundry List” of assessments established** and included:
    - SAT, ACT, Accuplacer, ASVAB, etc.
    - An appeal could be filed to the state.



# History of Appeals

## 2010-2011

- **“Laundry List” disappeared but the appeals process continued and was modified.**
  - Students not deemed proficient on the HSPA during their junior year required to sit for the October and March administrations of the HSPA during their senior year
  - Students would also take the AHSA beginning in January of their senior year and subsequently had two more opportunities to take the AHSA in April and June.
  - Students not passing HSPA or the AHSA after multiple opportunities submitted an appeal.
- Therefore, **the appeals process is not a new process** but has evolved over the past five years.



# What is Involved in Submitting and Evaluating an Appeal?

- The information needed to submit an appeal is required to be kept and recorded by districts in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:8-4.2, regardless of whether a student files a Portfolio Appeal.

## **PARCC Portfolio Appeal Review Process**

- Educational Proficiency Plan (EPP)
  - Portfolio appeal cover sheet
  - Assessment history
  - A copy of the student transcript
  - Remediation courses and actions by the school
- Portfolio Appeal submission is completed and signed by the school guidance counselor/advisor and the student's teacher, indicating that the student's information is accurate.



# What is Involved in Submitting and Evaluating an Appeal?

When submitting a Portfolio Appeal, districts must compile and submit the following information to demonstrate the student has satisfied the proficiencies deemed necessary for graduation:

- Mathematics
  - Four mathematics CRTs, 2 reasoning and 2 modeling
  - Cover page for each CRT
  - CRT with student response
  - Rubric with sample student response
- ELA
  - 2 High School Level Passages (one literature and one informational)
    - Items associated with the passages to demonstrate competency
    - Writing that includes 2 of the 3 types required by the NJ Standards (informational/explanatory, argument, narrative)
  - Cover page for each CRT
  - CRT with student response
  - Rubric with sample student response



# Example of a Mathematics Constructed Response Task (CRT)

With the PARCC assessment, the constructed response items are developed from what are called the Evidence Statement Tables.

## **Example (Evidence Statement):**

Here is a Type II ES taken from the Algebra II Informational Guide HS.C.5.4.

Given an equation or system of equations, reason about the number or nature of the solutions. Content Scope (from CCSS): A-REI.2.

## **Sample Constructed Response Task (MATH)**

Let  $|x| + |y| = c$  where  $c$  is a real number.

Determine the number of points that would be on the graph of the equation for **each** given case:

Case 1:  $c < 0$

Case 2:  $c = 0$

Case 3:  $c > 0$

Justify your answers.



# Preparation to Facilitate Appeals Process

- Sent five broadcast memos to the field regarding the Portfolio Appeals process (September 30, 2014; December 2, 2014; October 6, 2015; January 13, 2016 and March 8, 2016)
- Extended the window to submit appeals from two weeks to 17 weeks (January 11, 2016 through May 13, 2016)
- NJDOE dedicated staff to assist in the review process
  - Program Offices
  - County Staff
- DOE continually reviews and works with districts on creating the Constructed Response Tasks (CRTs)
  - Shared across county offices and districts
- District and County Survey administered
  - Communication with every high school in the State



# Next Steps

- Remind all districts to ensure that students who have met all other high school graduation requirements, with the exception of the statewide assessment, complete a Portfolio Appeal as soon as possible.
- Districts should notify parents/guardians by the beginning of May if the district is submitting an appeal on behalf of the their child.



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Questions?