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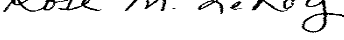
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FIELD ADVISORY

FROM:

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SUBJECT: Reporting English Language Learners (ELLs) Who Score Proficient in Regents English in August

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide guidance on reporting English Language Learners who exit ELL status pursuant to Commissioner's Regulations (CR) §154-2.3(m).¹ Currently, each school district annually determines if a student identified as an ELL will continue to be so identified.

Under §154-2.3(m), an ELL exits ELL status when such student:

- Scores at or above a state designated level of Proficient/Commanding on the annual English language proficiency assessment (currently, the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT)); or
- Scores at a state designated level of Advanced/Expanding on the annual English language proficiency assessment, **and**
 - scores at or above Proficient (Level 3 or above) on the English Language Arts (ELA) assessment required pursuant to Sections 100.3 and 100.4 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education (i.e., the grade 3-8 ELA assessments), **or**
 - meets or exceeds proficiency standards as defined in Section 100.18 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education on:
 - The Regents Examination in Comprehensive English (i.e., a score of Level

¹ Exit criteria for students with disabilities who have been identified as ELLs are found in CR §154-3.4.

- 3 or above), or
- *The Regents Examination in English (Common Core) (i.e., a score of Level 3 or above), or*
- *An approved alternative to a Regents examination in English (i.e., a passing score).*

August Regents Administration

ELLs who use an August Regents examination to meet the above exit criteria may use the NYSESLAT taken immediately prior to that August administration to exit ELL status. These students need not take the NYSESLAT in the spring following the August Regents administration as long as they score Advanced/Expanding on the NYSESLAT immediately preceding that August and score at Level 3 or above on a Regents examination in English in that August (or at a passing score on an approved alternative to a Regents examination in English).

In other words, for purposes of ELL exit criteria under CR §154-2.3(m), an August Regents exam score will now be paired with the NYSESLAT exam score preceding the Regents (rather than following the Regents) for those students who score Advanced/Expanding on their NYSESLAT exam. For example, a student who scores Advanced/Expanding on the 2015 NYSESLAT and proficient (Level 3 or above) on the August 2015 ELA Regents (or alternative) is not required to take the 2016 NYSESLAT. The purpose of this is to allow ELLs to exit ELL status immediately upon achieving exit criteria in August, rather than waiting another school year to take the NYSESLAT the following spring.

Information regarding how to enter these data via the Student Information Repository System (SIRS) is available in the New York State *SIRS Manual* at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/irs/sirs/>. Additional information can be obtained by contacting your local Regional Information Center (RIC) or Big 5 city school district data center.