

## Other Approved Tests to meet the State Assessment Requirement for Graduation

September 2013

Beginning with the class of 2014, the Board of Education have designated performance at the *Partially Proficient* level or higher on the grade 11 New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) Reading and Mathematics tests as the minimum level of student achievement necessary to meet the state assessment requirement for graduation. Professional standards and legal precedent have established that when a state assessment is used as part of a conjunctive system of graduation requirements it is necessary to provide students with multiple opportunities to meet that requirement, the Regulations, **L-6-3.3(b)**, outline a sequential series of opportunities that includes retaking the state assessment as well as meeting the requirement through performance on other external, standardized measures of student achievement.

The intent of the testing alternatives is to allow students the opportunity to provide evidence from an external, standardized assessment that they have met or exceeded the assessment expectation required to earn a high school diploma. It is NOT assumed that the approved assessments listed in Table 1.0 provide information or scores that are directly interchangeable with the state assessments. In other words, the alternative tests are NOT intended to be NECAP equivalent tests. Additionally, the alternative tests and their associated acceptable scores are not directly comparable to each other. A key criterion in the selection of additional approved testing and the determination of minimum acceptable scores on those assessments is the extent to which the assessment enables students to demonstrate college and career readiness.

**Table 1.0 List of Other Approved Tests: Effective Sept. 1, 2013**

Other Approved Tests– September 2013		
Testing Program	Mathematics	Reading
ACCUPLACER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elementary Algebra – 55 <u>and</u> Arithmetic – 52</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading Comprehension – 71 <u>or</u></li> <li>• Reading Comprehension – 65 <u>and</u> Sentence Skills – 80</li> </ul>
COMPASS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Algebra – 52</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Writing Skills – 77</li> </ul>
ACT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mathematics – 22</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English – 18</li> </ul>
SAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mathematics – 470</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical Reading – 440</li> </ul>
Advanced Placement (AP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calculus AB – 3 <u>or</u></li> <li>• Calculus BC – 3</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English Literature and Composition – 3 <u>or</u></li> <li>• English Language and Composition – 3</li> </ul>
International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program Higher Level Examinations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mathematics – 5</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English – 5</li> </ul>
Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Armed Forces Qualification Test (AFQT) – 31</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Armed Forces Qualification Test (AFQT) – 31</li> </ul>
PSAT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mathematics - 45</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical Reading - 40</li> </ul>
SAT Subject Tests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mathematics Level I – 530</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Literature – 540</li> </ul>
Other State Graduation Exams*		
Minimum scores required to meet the state assessment requirement for graduation.		
*Other State Graduation Exams are only applicable if taken while the student was enrolled in the other state and must meet that state’s proficiency cut score		
**Previous versions of this list included the ACCESS assessment as one of the other approved tests. ACCESS is now more appropriately part of the Language Proficiency Adjustment (LPA) through the Waiver process.		

# Other Approved Tests to meet the State Assessment Requirement for Graduation

September 2013

---

## Frequently Asked Questions

- *Can a student take one of the other approved tests prior to retaking the NECAP test(s) in the fall of grade 12?*
  - Yes. A student may complete one or more of the approved alternative tests prior to retaking the state assessment, however, scores from those assessments may not be considered until the student has participated in a second administration of the state assessment. It is expected that students demonstrate a good faith effort in both the initial and retake administrations of the state assessment.
  
- *Can local assessments be used as other approved tests?*
  - No. The Regulations establish three distinct, but related, sources of evidence of student proficiency as a requirement for graduation: (1) individual student results on the state assessment in content areas designated by the Board of Regents; and (2) successful course completion; and (3) successful completion of two performance-based diploma assessments. Locally developed district-wide or school-wide assessments and commercial assessments used primarily as part of the instructional planning and support process, such as the NWEA Measures of Academic Progress (MAP<sup>®</sup>), are more appropriate to contribute to evidence of successful course completion.
  
- *Will other assessments be considered as other approved tests?*
  - Yes. The list of other approved tests will be updated on an annual basis. Districts may nominate assessments for review and approval. To be considered for approval, a test must a) be part of an established external, standardized testing program, b) provide documented evidence of technical quality, and c) provide documented evidence of a relationship to college-and-career readiness. Procedural details for nominating tests are available at:  
<http://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Diploma-System/RIDE-Approved-Test-Process.pdf>
  
- *Are alternative test results for individual students submitted to RIDE?*
  - No. The school districts locally manage graduation decisions for individual students, including the review and approval of other approved test results. Local management of the processes and procedures established by the LEA will be monitored through the Diploma System Review set forth in section L-6-3.6 of the Regents' Secondary Regulations and other accountability processes.
  
- *How were the minimum acceptable scores determined for the other approved tests?*
  - For most of the approved tests, the minimum acceptable scores represent an established college readiness benchmark or the level of performance required for placement into a credit-bearing course at the community college level, as appropriate for the primary use of the test. In cases where such benchmarks were not established, additional information including the relationship with performance on the NECAP tests and other approved tests, was considered to determine a minimum acceptable score.