

## AMENDMENT OF THE REGULATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

Pursuant to Education Law sections 101, 207, 208, 209, 305, 308, 309, 3204 and 3205

1. Subparagraph (i) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of section 100.7 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education is amended, effective June 1, 2016, as follows:

(i) shall be 19 years of age or over, or 18 years of age or older in the case of a student receiving a high school equivalency diploma based on successful completion of the National External Degree Program; or

2. Subparagraph (i) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of section 100.7 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education is amended, effective June 1, 2016, as follows:

(2)(i) In order to receive a high school equivalency diploma, candidates shall:

(a) take a general comprehensive examination prescribed for the program, in English, and achieve a standing designated as satisfactory by the Commissioner of Education; or

(b) take a general comprehensive examination prescribed for the program in a language other than English, where available, and achieve a standing designated as satisfactory by the commissioner on such examination, except that such candidates shall receive a high school equivalency diploma with a transcript that bears an inscription indicating the language in which the general comprehensive examination was taken, and may exchange such diploma with a transcript for a diploma with a transcript not containing such inscription upon achievement of a satisfactory standing on

the Reading and Writing subtest of the general comprehensive exam subsequently taken in the English language; or

(c) provide satisfactory evidence that they have successfully completed 24 semester hours or the equivalent as a recognized candidate for a college-level degree or certificate at an approved institution. Beginning with applications made on or after September 1, 2000 and before September 30, 2004, the 24 semester hours shall be distributed as follows: six semester hours or the equivalent in English language arts including writing, speaking and reading (literature); six semester hours or the equivalent in mathematics; three semester hours or the equivalent in natural sciences; three semester hours or the equivalent in social sciences; three semester hours or the equivalent in humanities; and three semester hours or the equivalent in career and technical education and/or foreign languages. Beginning with applications made on or after September 30, 2004, the 24 semester hours shall be distributed as follows: six semester hours or the equivalent in English language arts including writing, speaking and reading (literature); three semester hours or the equivalent in mathematics; three semester hours or the equivalent in natural sciences; three semester hours or the equivalent in social sciences; three semester hours or the equivalent in humanities; and six semester hours or the equivalent in any other courses within the registered degree or certificate program; or

(d) effective September 1, 2016 and thereafter, provide satisfactory evidence that they have successfully completed and thoroughly demonstrated the delineated competencies of the National External Diploma Program.

3. Section 100.8 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education is amended, effective June 1, 2016, as follows:

Boards of education specified by the commissioner may award a local high school equivalency diploma based upon experimental programs approved by the commissioner until [June 30, 2017] August 31, 2016, after which date such boards may no longer award a local high school equivalency diploma.