



# STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**For Immediate Release**

**Date:** May 5, 2021

**Contact:** [Michael Yaple](#)

(609) 376-9072

## **NJ Department of Education Seeks Public Testimony on Changes to Proposed Graduation Requirements**

**Trenton, NJ** – The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is accepting public input on additional proposed changes to statewide graduation assessment requirements.

“Our goal is to that ensure our school communities are aware of the process for determining graduation assessment requirements, a concerted effort to ensure that the public is fully aware of the graduation assessment expectations for the State’s current and future public high school students,” said Dr. Angelica Allen-McMillian, Acting Commissioner of Education. “We want to give members of the public ample opportunity to provide their input and suggestions on the proposed graduation requirements that will apply to the classes of 2023-2025.”

At today’s meeting, the New Jersey State Board of Education approved for publication in the *New Jersey Register* a notice of substantial changes to proposed amendments regarding *N.J.A.C. 6A:8, Standards and Assessment*. The notice includes five new amendments, including the provision that students must take the 11<sup>th</sup>-grade State graduation proficiency assessment prior to availing themselves of the portfolio appeals process. The other four amendments would make technical changes to a proposed definition, correct a typographical error, add a reference to individualized education programs (IEP), and add a reference to the IEP process.

The five amendments relate to previously proposed changes, including the implementation of the 11<sup>th</sup>-grade State graduation proficiency assessment that is required by State law (*N.J.S.A. 18A:7C-6*). If the revised proposal is adopted, students in the classes of 2023-2025 who take but do not pass the 11<sup>th</sup>-grade State graduation proficiency assessment can otherwise meet the graduation proficiency assessment requirement by achieving a certain score on the menu of alternative assessments (i.e., SAT, ACT, Accuplacer, etc.) or through the portfolio appeals process.

The graduation proficiency assessment requirements for the class of 2022, which would remain unchanged, are on the NJDOE’s Graduation Assessment Requirements [webpage](#).

The NJDOE’s notice of substantial changes upon adoption will be published in the *New Jersey Register* on June 7, 2021 and can be viewed on the NJDOE’s [Proposed Rules webpage](#). Public testimony on the notice will be held on Wednesday, July 14, 2021. The public will also be able to send in written comments concerning the notice by August 6, 2021, via the NJDOE’s [website](#) or by emailing [chapter8@doe.nj.gov](mailto:chapter8@doe.nj.gov). The State Board’s vote on the adoption of the proposed regulations is anticipated in the early fall.

###