



TESTING INFORMATION 2009 – 2010

Regents Examinations

In order to receive an Advanced Regents Diploma, students must earn a grade of 65% or higher on each of the following Regents Examinations:

Comprehensive English
Mathematics A
Mathematics B
Global History and Geography
United States History
2 Science Examinations: Living Environment; and one of the following three options: Earth Science, Chemistry, Physics
Foreign Language or Studio Comprehensive Examination

For students entering high school in 2009 and thereafter, the mathematics examination requirements are different. In place of the mathematics exams listed above, students must now pass:

Integrated Algebra
Geometry
Algebra 2/Trigonometry

In order to receive an Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors, the average of the student's scores on the above examinations must be 90% or higher. As per state regulations, the average may not be rounded.

In order to receive a Regents Diploma, students must earn a mark of 65% or higher on each of the following Regents Examinations:

Comprehensive English
Integrated Algebra or Geometry or Algebra 2/Trigonometry
Global History and Geography
United States History
1 Science Examination: Living Environment; Chemistry; Earth Science; Physics

Students who are registered for a course that terminates in a Regents Examination must sit for the exam when scheduled by the school unless a student submits sufficient evidence to Ms. van Keulen, AP of Data & Technology, to excuse the absence. If a student fails a Regents Examination, the student will be scheduled to sit for the exam the next time it is administered by the State of New York.

Regents Testing Schedule

Student may be enrolled in one or more of the following course that terminate in a Regents Examination. For each course, the parentheses indicate during which grade(s) a typical student may take the exam.

- Comprehensive English (Grade 10 if Honors, Grade 11 otherwise)
- Global History (Grade 10)
- US History (January of Grade 12. June of Grade 11 if enrolled in Advanced Placement)
- Integrated Algebra (Grade 9 or 10; some students take this exam in middle school)
- Geometry (Grade 9 or 10)
- Algebra 2/Trigonometry (Grade 10 or 11)
- Living Environment (Grade 9; some students take this exam in middle school)
- Earth Science (Grade 9 or 10; some students take this exam in middle school)
- Chemistry (Grade 9 or 10; 9 only if student has taken Living Env. in middle school)
- Physics (Grade 11)
- Foreign Language (After the 3rd year of study; typically grade 10 or 11)

Advanced Placement Courses (AP Courses)

All students who enroll in Advanced Placement courses must sit for the associated AP Exam as a condition of enrollment. Students who are enrolled in an AP course, but who fail to sit for the required AP Exam and fail to provide documentation regarding the exam, need to make up the work in a manner expected. (See AP booklet at www.laguardiaartsprogramoffice.org.)

At this time, students may receive Advanced Placement credit on the basis of the following examinations:

- Art History
- Biology
- Calculus AB
- Calculus BC
- Chemistry
- English Language and Composition
- English Literature and Composition
- Environmental Science
- French Language
- Japanese Language
- Music Theory
- Spanish Language
- Statistics
- United States History

We also support native-speaking students who would like to take the AP Chinese Exam or the AP German Exam.

AP Examinations are administered during the first two weeks in May as determined by the College Board. Each exam costs \$86. The fee is reduced or waived for students who qualify for federal lunch subsidies.

PSAT

The PSAT exam is offered by the Department of Education, free or charge, to all students in grades 10 and 11 every October. The PSAT serves as excellent practice for students who will take the SAT Reasoning Test as part of the college admissions process. Students who take the PSAT in 11th grade may qualify for the National Merit Scholarship/National Achievement Scholarship competition based on their performance. PSAT scores may also qualify students for other scholarship programs.

The College Board provides PSAT test-takers with a comprehensive score report that contains valuable information for students preparing for the SAT Reasoning Test. Score reports will be returned to students in mid-December of each year.

SAT Reasoning Test

The SAT Reasoning Test is a college entrance exam required as part of the application process to most four-year degree programs. The SAT attempts to measure critical thinking skills by assessing how well students analyze and solve problems. The SAT is comprised of three sections: critical reading, mathematics, and writing.

The SAT is offered seven times per year, and students generally take the exam for the first time in the spring of 11th grade. Most students not satisfied with their original score elect to re-take the SAT in the fall of 12th grade. In general, students must take the exam no later than October of 12th grade to be sure that colleges will receive score reports on time. To view the calendar please visit:

<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/calenfees.html>

Most colleges require students to have an official SAT score report mailed to them directly by the College Board. All students who take the SAT receive four college score reports. Additional reports may be purchased, for a fee, from the College Board.

SAT II Subject Tests

SAT II Subject Tests are one-hour multiple-choice exams that measure how much students know about a particular academic subject and how well they can apply that knowledge. These exams help colleges compare the academic achievement of students from different schools around the country.

Many selective colleges require students to take two or three SAT II Subject Tests. Usually, colleges require at least one of these exams to be taken in mathematics or science and one be taken in English or social studies. It is the student's responsibility to become aware of each college's admissions requirements. If a student does not complete the required number of SAT II Subject Tests, most colleges will consider the entire application incomplete. Some colleges also use SAT II results to determine appropriate course placement.

In general, students must have taken all SAT II Subject Tests prior to early Fall of 12th grade. We strongly suggest that students register for SAT II Subject Tests in June of the year they finish the corresponding high school course. For example, a 10th grade student would want to take the SAT II in World History in June, around the same time they will take the Global History and Geography Regents Exam.

If a student intends to take an AP class in a particular subject, such as biology or chemistry, the student should take the corresponding SAT II exam after completing the AP class.

ACT

The ACT is a national college admission examination that consists of sub-tests in English, mathematics, reading, and science, as well as an optional writing test. Unlike the SAT, the ACT is curriculum-based. Virtually all colleges, including all of the Ivy League schools, permit students to take the ACT.

Traditionally, the ACT has been a more popular college entrance exam in the mid-West and Western parts of the country. In recent years it has become more popular in our area. The ACT can serve as an excellent option for students instead of, or in addition to, the SAT.

Many highly competitive colleges will accept the ACT with writing in lieu of both the SAT Reasoning Test and SAT II Subject Tests. The ACT has established a “score choice” policy, meaning that scores are not reported to colleges until students have first reviewed their results. ACT registration forms are available in the Guidance Office.

SAT, SAT II, and ACT Registration Policy

LaGuardia High School is not a designated testing site for these exams. It is the student’s responsibility to register for these exams and to select a testing site.

Students Entitled to Extended Time

Students with a 504 Educational Plan approved by LaGuardia or an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) are entitled to extended time on exams according to the Americans with Disabilities Act. The College Board, however, has its own review board and students with existing accommodations must apply directly to the College Board to be entitled to extra time on the PSAT, SAT, and AP Exams.

Students receiving such accommodations at LaGuardia are encouraged to use their extra time on all class exams, midterms, finals, and Regents Examinations. If you do not show that you in fact need the extra time, the College Board may not grant you similar accommodations.

Students who are English Language Learners (ELL) or have passed the NYSESLAT within the past two years are entitled to extra time for all class exams, midterms, finals, and Regents Examinations at LaGuardia. The College Board does not currently allow extended time accommodations for ELL students.

2009-2010 ACUITY SCHEDULE

ENGLISH ASSESSMENTS

9 th Grade	October 5 – 16: Literary Text Focus February 26 – March 9: Informational Text Focus
10 th Grade	October 14: PSAT February 26 – March 9: Literary Text Focus
11 th Grade	October 14: PSAT February 26 – March 9: Version A

MATHEMATICS ASSESSMENTS

9 th Grade	October 5 – 16: Fall Alternate Curriculum February 26 – March 9: Winter Alternate Curriculum
10 th Grade	October 14: PSAT February 26 – March 9: Winter Prentice Hall Version 2
11 th Grade	October 14: PSAT