COHORT 2021 GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
Menu of Options to Demonstrate College and/or Career Readiness

In what subject areas does a student need to show demonstration of competency?
In addition to meeting course requirements, New Mexico public high school students who entered grade 9 in school year 2017-18 must be able to demonstrate postsecondary and/or workforce readiness in five content areas: Math, Reading, Writing, Science, and Social Studies.

What policy change now allows for multiple ways for students to demonstrate competency?
Until 2019, New Mexico required students to use the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) required proficiency assessment as a **primary** demonstration of competency and to request a waiver from the PED to use an **alternative** demonstration of competency. Students may now choose from a **menu of options** to demonstrate competency without a waiver. PED is no longer using primary and alternative structures.

Local school boards are given the flexibility to make available all or some of the menu options, establish local policies that include additional requirements, or establish higher cut scores than those set by the PED (shown in parentheses below). Students may use any of the menu options allowed by their local education agency (LEA).

COVID-19 IMPACT-ESSA ASSESSMENTS

Due to the extraordinary circumstance of the COVID-19 pandemic and the closure of schools in spring 2020, the PED was granted a waiver to bypass assessment and accountability requirements under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Therefore, no spring 2020 ESSA related assessment results can be applied to cohort 2021 and other options found on this menu must be applied.

A hold constant from cohort 2020 cut scores has been applied to cohort 2021 cut scores.

LOCAL DEMONSTRATION OF COMPETENCY (LDC)[1]

LEAs may develop, with PED notification, rigorous, standards-based demonstrations of career and/or college readiness to demonstrate students' graduation competency. PED notification form is available here.

OTHER NATIONAL ASSESSMENTS

Math:
Next-Gen ACCUPLACER Quantitative Reasoning (252), Advanced Algebra (252)
ACT Mathematics (19), Pre-ACT Mathematics (19) ACT ASPIRE Mathematics (431)
ACT WorkKeys Applied Mathematics (3)
ACT WorkKeys Graphic Literacy (3)
AP Calculus AB or BC or Statistics (2)
ASVAB AFQT Composite (31)
IB Mathematics (4)
PSAT 10 Mathematics (480)
PSAT NMSQT Mathematics (480)
SAT Mathematics (480)
SAT Subject Mathematics Level 1 (580) or Level 2 (640)

Reading:
Next-Gen ACCUPLACER Reading (241)
ACT Reading (18), Pre-ACT Reading (18)
ACT ASPIRE Reading (424)
ACT WorkKeys Workplace Documents (3)
AP English Language & Composition or English Literature & Composition (2)
ASVAB AFQT Composite (31)
IB Language & Literature (4)
PSAT 10 Evidence-based Reading & Writing (430)
PSAT NMSQT Evidence-based Reading & Writing (430)
SAT Evidence-based Reading & Writing (430)
SAT Subject Literature (570)

OTHER NATIONAL ASSESSMENTS (CONT.)

Writing:
Next-Gen ACCUPLACER Writing (236)
ACT English (18), Pre-ACT English (15)
ACT ASPIRE English (428) or Writing (428)
ACT WorkKeys Business Writing (3)
AP English Language & Composition or English Literature & Composition (2)
IB Language & Literature (4)
PSAT 10 Evidence-based Reading & Writing (430)
PSAT NMSQT Evidence-based Reading & Writing (430)
SAT Evidence-based Reading & Writing (430)

Science:
ACT Science (20), Pre-ACT Science (20)
ACT Aspire Science (431)
ACT WorkKeys Applied Technology (3)
AP Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Environmental Science, or Physics (2)
ASVAB AFQT Composite (31)
IB Experimental Sciences (4)
SAT Subject Chemistry (640), Ecological Biology (590), Molecular Biology (620) or Physics (630)

Social Studies:
AP Art History, European History, Government & Politics (Comparative), Government & Politics (US), Human Geography, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Psychology, US History, or World History (2)
IB Individuals and Society (4)
SAT Subject US History (610) or World History (580)

Abbreviations:
ACT: American College Testing
AP: Advanced Placement
ASVAB: Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery
AFQT: Armed Forces Qualification Test
IB: International Baccalaureate

OTHER LDC

End-of-Course (EoC) Exams[2]
(Cut scores listed are for SY18-19 and 19-20 exams; passing scores for previous years' exams found on graduation checklists.)

Math:
Algebra I (14)*
Algebra II (13)
Financial Literacy (12)*
Geometry I (15)
Integrated Math II (13)
Integrated Math III (14)
Pre-Calculus (15)

Reading:
English III: Reading (9)
English IV: Reading (9)
Spanish III: Reading (14)

Writing:
English III: Writing (17)
English IV: Writing (16)
Spanish III: Writing (17)

Science:
Anatomy and Physiology (23)
Biology (22)
Chemistry (19)
Environmental Science (21)
Physical Science (23)
Physics (20)

Social Studies:
Economics (18)
New Mexico History (14)
US Government (17), US History (29)
World History and Geography (28)

* An Algebra I or Financial Literacy EoC can only serve as a demonstration of competency if a student has passed the Algebra II course.

[1] NMPED is partnering with a Community of Practice to define and pilot a new graduation option that is more culturally relevant. These are innovative assessments that are locally developed. For more information, visit here.
[2] An EOC score earned prior to, and after, the COVID-19 release can be used as a LDC.

Students following the **modified option**, whose IEPs establish individualized passing scores, should default to their individualized score when determining demonstration of competency. Students following the ability option, PED encourages the use of local demonstration of competency as well as DLM as the primary assessment.