

The New York State Education Department’s Seal of Civic Readiness

The Seal of Civic Readiness is a formal recognition that a student has attained a high level of proficiency in terms of civic knowledge, civic skills, civic mindset, and civic experiences. The Seal of Civic Readiness distinction on a high school transcript and diploma:



- shows the student’s understanding of a commitment to participatory government; civic responsibility and civic values;
- demonstrates to universities, colleges, and future employers that the student has engaged in meaningful civic experiential learning; and
- recognizes the value of civic engagement and scholarship.

Criteria for the Seal of Civic Readiness

In order to obtain the Seal of Civic Readiness, a student must complete all the requirements for a New York State local or Regents diploma and earn a total of six points with at least two points in Civic Knowledge and at least two points in Civic Participation. Students may also earn points by completing a middle school Capstone project or a high school Capstone project.

Civic Knowledge	Pts.	Civic Participation	Pts.
4 Credits of social studies	1	High School Civics Project (limit two times during grades 9-12)	1.5
Mastery level on Social Studies Regents Exam	1.5*	Service-Learning Project (minimum 25 hours) and reflective civic learning essay/presentation/product	1*
Proficiency level on Social Studies Regents Exam	1*	Proficiency level in an elective course that promotes civic engagement	.5*
Advanced social studies course(s)	.5*	Middle School Capstone Project (Grades 7 and 8 are only eligible for this point)	1
Research Project	1	Extra-curricular participation or work-based learning experience (minimum 40 hours) and an essay/presentation/product	.5*
		Civics Capstone Project	4

*Students may receive these points more than once.

Testing accommodations recommended in an individualized education program or Section 504 accommodations plan must be provided for all State and districtwide assessments administered to students with disabilities, as consistent with State policy.

Learn more about the New York State Education Department’s Seal of Civic Readiness on the Department’s [Civic Readiness Initiative webpage](http://www.nysed.gov/curriculum-instruction/civic-readiness-initiative) (http://www.nysed.gov/curriculum-instruction/civic-readiness-initiative).

