

## **UPDATED POLICY AND GUIDELINES FOR ADMINISTERING CITY AND STATE ASSESSMENT TO ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS (ELLs) IN GRADES 3-8**

No Child Left Behind (NCLB) requires that the English Proficiency of all English Language Learners (ELLs) be tested annually. In order to fulfill the mandates of No Child Left Behind (NCLB) the following rules will apply to all ELLs in a New York City public school:

All ELLs regardless of grade must take the NYSESLAT, even if they take the Grades 3-8 English Language Arts (ELA), the Regents exam in comprehensive English, or for certain ELL Special Education students, the Regents competency examination in reading or writing.

Schools are permitted to exempt from the English Language Arts tests only those ELLs who on January 2, 2009 will have attended school in the United States (excluding Puerto Rico) for less than one year. This change in department policy was necessary so that the State's assessment program would be in conformity with NCLB.

All ELLs regardless of how they have been enrolled in a school in the United States (not including Puerto Rico) must take content area exams (mathematics, science, and social studies). When exams are not available in a student's native language, the exam may be translated orally. This policy is the same for State and Citywide exams.

Schools may continue to provide the following testing accommodations to ELLs as long as these accommodations are used consistently throughout the school year:

### For ELA, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies tests:

Time Extension: time and a half

Separate Location

Bilingual Dictionaries and Glossaries

Third Reading of Listening Selection for ELA

### For Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies tests:

Simultaneous use of English and Alternative Language Editions

Oral Translations for Lower-Incidence Languages

Writing Responses in a Native Language