



The University of the State of New York  
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Office of State Assessment  
Albany, New York 12234

**INFORMATION BOOKLET FOR SCORING  
THE REGENTS EXAMINATIONS IN THE SCIENCES**

**JUNE 2024 ADMINISTRATION**

Living Environment  
Physical Setting/Earth Science  
Physical Setting/Chemistry  
Physical Setting/Physics

**AUGUST 2024 ADMINISTRATION**

Living Environment  
Physical Setting/Earth Science  
Physical Setting/Chemistry

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

The general procedures to be followed in administering Regents Examinations are provided in the publications [Directions for Administering Regents Examinations, June and August 2024 Administrations](#) (DET 541) and the [School Administrator's Manual](#), both available on the Department's website.

Questions about **general administration procedures** for Regents Examinations should be directed to the Office of State Assessment (OSA) at 518-474-5902 or 518-474-8220. For information about the **rating** of the Regents Examinations in the sciences, contact OSA at 518-474-5902.

School administrators should print or photocopy this information booklet and distribute copies to all school personnel who will be scoring these examinations.

**SCORING THE EXAMINATIONS**

**NOTE:** Teachers are **not** permitted to score their own students' answer papers.

**Scoring Keys and Rating Guides**

Printed copies of scoring keys and rating guides will **not** be sent to schools for any of the Regents Examinations. Instead, [scoring keys and rating guides](#) will be posted on the Department's website at approximately 11:00 a.m. for morning examinations and approximately 3:00 p.m. for afternoon examinations. Schools must print sufficient copies to supply one to each rater.

**All scoring keys and rating guides posted on the Department's website will be password-protected by two levels of password protection. In order to access the scoring keys and rating guides, schools will be required to enter the online request system (portal) using the same username and password that was used to order test materials.**

The constructed-response questions on each examination must be scored by a committee of science teachers. It is strongly recommended that the committee scoring each of the science Regents Examinations be composed of teachers of that area of science. **No teacher is to score any of the responses written by their own students.** Each committee must consist of at least two teachers. Each of these teachers should be responsible for scoring no more than approximately one-half of the constructed-response questions. For the August examinations, student responses may not be scored by the student's summer school teacher or the 2023–24 school year teacher. The more teachers serving on a committee, the fewer questions each teacher scores. This process yields consistent and reliable scores and allows scoring to proceed quickly.

Each student answer sheet includes a section labeled "Raters'/Scorers' Names" with the letters A–J. Each rater must be assigned a letter and the rater's name must be clearly printed on the answer sheet next to the letter the rater has been assigned. There are designated spaces next to each of the constructed-response questions. The letter identifying the rater that scored a specific constructed-response question must be clearly written in the designated area.

When student papers are scored in cooperation with another school, answer papers may be transported to the cooperating school. It remains the principal's responsibility to ensure the security of such papers while they are out of the building.

Students' responses must be scored strictly according to the scoring keys and rating guides. No credit should be granted for a multiple-choice question if a student records more than one answer. If a student writes more than one answer for a constructed-response question, only the first answer should be rated. For constructed-response questions, credit may be allowed for responses other than those provided in the rating guide if the response is a scientifically accurate answer to the question and demonstrates adequate knowledge as indicated by the examples in the rating guide. Fractional credit is not allowed. Only whole-number credit may be assigned to a response. Units need not be specified by the student when the wording of the question allows such omissions.

For the Regents Examinations in the sciences, the answer sheets provide spaces for recording the scores for each part of the written test, the total test raw score, and the final (scale) score. The answer sheet for the Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Earth Science also includes an area for recording the performance test score.

### **Scoring of Multiple-Choice Questions**

For the June and August 2024 Regents Examinations in the sciences, all schools must use the uniform scannable answer sheets provided by the Regional Information Center (RIC) or large-city scanning center. **If the students' responses for the multiple-choice questions are being hand scored prior to being scanned, the scorer must be careful not to make any marks on the front of the answer sheet except to record the total test raw scores in the designated score boxes. Marks elsewhere on the front of the answer sheet will interfere with the accuracy of the scanning.**

Before scannable answer sheets are machine scored, several samples must be both machine and



# Appendices



## Appendix II

### **Determining the Student's Final Examination Score for the Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Chemistry**

If the determination of each student's final score is being done by hand, record on the student's answer sheet the student's scores for Part A and Part B-1 in the area designated for the multiple-choice (MC) questions and record the scores for Part B-2 and Part C in the area designated for constructed-response (CR) questions. Add the student's total MC and CR scores to determine the student's total raw score and record it in the space provided. The maximum total raw score for the test is 85.

To determine the student's final examination score, use the [chart](#) provided for each administration on the Department's website. Locate the student's total test raw score in the column labeled "Raw Score" and then locate the scale score that corresponds to the raw score. The scale score is the student's final

### **Appendix III**

#### **Determining the Student's Final Examination Score for the Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Earth Science**

Record the student's performance test score in the designated area on the student's answer sheet. The maximum raw score for the performance test is 16.

If the determination of each student's final score is being done by hand, record on the student's answer sheet the student's scores for Part A and Part B-

**Regents Examination in Physical Setting/Earth Science  
Chart for Converting Total Test Raw Scores to Final Examination Scores (Scale Scores)**

		Total Performance Test Score																
		16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Total Written Test Score	85	100																



