



David Abrams, Assistant Commissioner
Office of Standards, Assessment and Reporting

March 2009

TO: District Superintendents
Superintendents of Schools
Special Education Directors
Chairpersons of Committees on Special Education
Project Managers for the Level I Data Repositories

FROM: David Abrams 

SUBJECT: Age Ranges for Students with Disabilities Participating in the 2009-10 New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA)

NYSAA is a datafolio assessment that measures student progress in achieving the learning standards through alternate grade level indicators. All students in the following age ranges who are eligible to take NYSAA must be tested in 2009-10. Students with severe disabilities are assessed according to chronological ages aligned with grade levels as indicated below. Students should be tested only once at each grade and in all the content areas indicated for each grade.

| Age Ranges for Testing on NYSAA in 2009–10 | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| Assessment | Birth Date | Reaches Age Given Between September 1, 2009 and August 31, 2010 |
| Grade 3 ELA, Mathematics | September 1, 2000—August 31, 2001 | 9 |
| Grade 4 ELA, Mathematics, Science | September 1, 1999—August 31, 2000 | 10 |
| Grade 5 ELA, Mathematics, Social Studies | September 1, 1998—August 31, 1999 | 11 |
| Grade 6 ELA, Mathematics | September 1, 1997—August 31, 1998 | 12 |
| Grade 7 ELA, Mathematics | September 1, 1996—August 31, 1997 | 13 |
| Grade 8 ELA, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies | September 1, 1995—August 31, 1996 | 14 |
| Secondary-Level ELA, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies | September 1, 1991—August 31, 1992 | 18* |

***Note:** NYSAA-eligible students who do not meet the age criteria above and will be leaving school before they reach their eighteenth birthday must take the secondary-level NYSAA before they leave school (i.e., when they are 17 years old). NYSAA-eligible students with a birth date prior to September 1, 1991 who have not been assessed at the secondary-level must be assessed in 2009-10 before they leave school.

Please contact Cynthia Wilson at 518-474-5900 if you have any questions regarding the age ranges for students participating in the NYSAA.

c: Alan Ray