

LCB File No. R037-09

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

(This regulation was previously adopted as T035-09)

NAC 389.655 Passage of proficiency examinations. (NRS 385.080, 389.015, 389.805)

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 9, a pupil must not be given a standard high school diploma until the pupil has, after entering grade 11, passed:

- (a) The Nevada High School Proficiency Examination in Reading;
- (b) The Nevada High School Proficiency Examination in Mathematics; and
- (c) The Nevada High School Proficiency Examination in Writing for the Eleventh Grade and Above.

For pupils who graduate from high school before the 2004-2005 school year, the Nevada High School Proficiency Examination in Science must be used solely to gather information and data concerning the examination and must not be used as a condition for receipt of a high school diploma.

2. After entering grade 10, if a pupil passes one of the high school proficiency examinations, the pupil is not required to take that examination again to graduate.

3. For pupils who enroll in grade 11 in the 1997-1998 school year, passing scores on the high school proficiency examinations are as follows:

- (a) In reading, 70 percent of the questions on the examination answered correctly.
- (b) In mathematics, 61 percent of the questions on the examination answered correctly.
- (c) In writing, 7.

4. For pupils who enroll in grade 11 in the 1998-1999 school year, the 1999-2000 school year or the 2000-2001 school year, passing scores on the high school proficiency examinations are as follows:

- (a) In reading, a scaled score of 71.
- (b) In mathematics, a scaled score of 64.
- (c) In writing, 7.

5. On or before January 1, 2002, the State Board of Education will set the passing scores on the high school proficiency examinations for pupils who enroll in grade 11 in the 2001-2002 school year or thereafter. In making its determination of the appropriate passing scores, the State Board of Education will consider the scores received by pupils in the October 2001 administration of the examinations. The Department of Education shall provide notice to each school district and charter school of the passing scores that are set at least until such time as the scores are codified in regulation.

6. A passing score that is in effect at the time that a pupil enrolls in grade 11 will remain in effect for 1 year after the pupil's anticipated completion of grade 12.

7. For pupils who enroll in an adult high school program after July 1, 2000, but before July 1, 2003, passing scores on the high school proficiency examinations are as follows:

- (a) In reading, a scaled score of 71.
- (b) In mathematics, a scaled score of 64.
- (c) In writing, 7.

8. For pupils who enroll in an adult high school program after July 1, 2003, passing scores on the high school proficiency examinations are the scores that are set by the State Board of Education pursuant to subsection 5.

9. A pupil who fails to pass the Nevada High School Proficiency Examination in Writing for the Eleventh Grade and Above must receive a standard high school diploma if he:

- (a) Satisfies the requirements of paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of NRS 389.805;
- (b) Satisfies the requirements of NAC 389.657; and
- (c) Has not previously failed to satisfy the requirements of NAC 389.657.

10. A pupil who fails to pass the Nevada High School Proficiency Examination in Science for the Eleventh Grade and Above must receive a standard high school diploma if he:

- (a) Satisfies the requirements of paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of NRS 389.805;*
- (b) Satisfies the requirements of NAC 389.XXX; and*
- (c) Has not previously failed to satisfy the requirements of NAC 389.XXX.*

NAC 389.XXX Alternative method to demonstrate proficiency in science. (NRS 385.080, 389.805)

1. A pupil who is currently enrolled in the 12th grade and who satisfies the requirements of paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of NRS 389.805 may demonstrate proficiency in science by submitting to the Department of Education a portfolio of student work.

2. The portfolio submitted pursuant to subsection 1 must:

a. Demonstrate proficiency in all science content areas, as described in the Nevada Science Content Standards: Physical Science, Life Science, Earth/Space Science, and Nature of Science.

b. Include:

i. One complete experimental design; and

ii. One work sample requiring analysis and interpretation of a data set; and

iii. One additional work sample demonstrating the pupil's science content

knowledge and abilities to use and apply basic and integrated science process skills, including, without limitation:

1. science project or laboratory report based on student generated data; or

2. completed science fair project, consolidated into one document; or

3. any other sample of work demonstrating the pupil's science knowledge,

abilities, and skills.

3. A teacher or other licensed personnel at the school in which the pupil is enrolled and the principal of that school shall certify that the science work samples submitted by the pupil are the pupil's own work.

4. Completed work samples, including all application and teacher certifications shall be submitted to the district testing departments for submission to the state for scoring.

5. Submissions that do not meet the requirements of this section will be classified as "Insufficient" and will not be scored.

6. The Department of Education shall, in collaboration with licensed educational personnel, develop the guidelines for evaluating the science work samples submitted by pupils pursuant to this section. The guidelines must require a pupil to meet or exceed the academic standards for Science.