Regents Level Science Courses
Laboratory Requirements 2020-2021

Guidance from New York State Education Department and Statewide Science Framework Group
Science Laboratory Requirements Per Commissioner’s Regulations:

- must include 1200 minutes of laboratory experiences
- the 1200-minute lab requirement can be met through hands-on laboratory experiences, virtual laboratory experiences, or a combination
- the school district is responsible for:
  - aligning laboratory experiences specific to each science course
  - determining the mode or modes of instruction
  - identifying a viable vetted list of acceptable virtual labs or a combination of virtual and hands-on labs that a student would need to complete for each science course that culminates in a Regents examination.
- Schools must determine a method for students to record laboratory experiences and satisfactory lab reports.
- In a virtual environment, emphasis should be placed on the quality of the experience and the satisfactory completion of each laboratory experience rather than the time spent in completing such laboratory experience.
- Any student who has completed all laboratory experiences in accordance with teacher expectations shall be deemed to have met the 1200-minute requirement.
Further guidance was given at the August 20, 2020 meeting of the Statewide Science Framework Group:

- school districts will be responsible for vetting and approving any virtual labs used to meet the 1,200 minute requirement
- as long as the virtual lab aligns with the district’s Continuity of Learning Plan, it will be deemed acceptable
- local control is being stressed in determining laboratory resources and experiences
- districts need to be mindful of 2D privacy requirements when selecting virtual lab experiences
- successful completion, on the part of the student, will be determined by the teacher in accordance with district expectations
What Hasn’t Changed?

There have been no changes to the following:

- Living Environment required labs
- the requirements for districts to maintain lab records for six months following the exam date
- cut-off for lab submissions prior to the exam (one week)
Templates:

Student Template for Laboratory Work
Teacher Template for Laboratory Work

Resources:

BT BOCES Virtual Lab Collection
Suffolk County STANYS Lab Collection
2021 Tentative Regents Examinations Dates
Questions:

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