

Cell phones no longer allowed in Regents exams

New York State has enacted new testing security policies that will be in effect next week as the high school administers Regents and mid-term exams.



One significant change is this:

Students cannot bring a cell phone, iPod or other electronic device into the testing room. If a proctor sees that a student has one of these devices during the exam or during any breaks (such as a restroom visit), the student's exam will be invalidated.

To read the full text of the State Education Department's January 2013 Regents administration directives, see

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/hsgen/2013/541-113rev.pdf>.

These new directives were put in place last August, but for most of our students, this is the first testing period in which they will need to follow the "no cell phones" rule. Previously, students were allowed to place their phones under their desks during exams, but this will no longer be allowed during Regents and mid-term examinations.

Since we know how important cell phones have become to students, we ask parents to have a conversation with their child, so he/she understands the severe consequences of having his/her cell phone "on or near" him/her during exams next week. There are no warnings in the new state policy: ***students observed with phones in the exam room will have their test invalidated.***