

Friday, 05 August 2022



Important update

Technical Qualification 2022 results and autumn assessment series

Dear Centre,

As you will likely be aware, Ofqual has announced that grading for General Qualifications this summer will be more generous than prior to the pandemic. This is partly due to managing the impact of disruption and learning loss on learner performance and also managing fairness between learners in different years who had different methods of determining their grades. Therefore, for A levels and GCSEs, grading will seek a midway position between 2019 and 2021, meaning, in general, results will be somewhat higher than prior to the pandemic. This year, 2022, is a transitional year and outcomes and standards will likely return to pre-pandemic levels in 2023.

Similarly, for Vocational and Technical Qualifications (VTQs), this summer will be a transitional year and Ofqual has now been clear that for VTQs "we should expect that this summer's results will look different, despite exams and assessments taking a big step towards normality." Ofqual has published a blog [What's behind this summer's VTQ results](#).

In acknowledgement of the disruption to learning and to support fairness for all learners certificating this summer (some of whom will be competing against learners taking General Qualifications for the same progression and higher education opportunities), we will be taking loss of learning into consideration, whilst still acknowledging the need to uphold the validity of the qualifications. On this basis, we have made the decision to apply a form of 'safety net' through some additional 'generosity' to both the theory examinations and synoptic assignments within our Technical Qualifications wherever appropriate, (noting that it may not be appropriate to apply where there is a clear impact on knowledge and skills to practice, particularly health and safety requirements or other relevant legislation). We are therefore also reviewing candidate work a few marks below (equivalent to 5% of maximum marks) the Pass and Distinction notional boundaries – the boundaries used during the awarding process as the best representation of maintaining the performance standard from 2019.

The reason for lowering boundaries, where appropriate, by 5% of the maximum marks available, is that it is broadly commensurate with the level of generosity learners are likely to see in General Qualifications at level 2 and level 3. Providing that senior examiners can support the quality of learners' work seen below the notional boundaries and agree it is sufficient to maintain the integrity, meaning and credibility of the qualifications, the grade boundaries will be lowered across the full set of grades (e.g. Pass, Merit, Distinction and Distinction*).

Given the circumstances, this is the best approach to take into account the disruption to teaching and learning across every learner in a fair and transparent way, and at the same time maintain the integrity and meaning of qualifications. This approach helps to level our Technical Qualifications awarding approach with that adopted for General Qualifications and other qualifications awarded in England and in the wider UK.

Spring 2022 exam results

Having taken this decision, we are also mindful of learners who have taken components in **Spring 2022** and believe they should also have access to the same level of generosity. For these learners, we wish to adopt a similar approach. Therefore, for learners taking Technical Qualification assessments in spring there will be similar generosity, through the addition of 5% of the maximum mark available for the assessment. It is a different mechanism to that we are using for the summer assessments but provides the same level of generosity to those learners taking assessments in the summer.

Autumn 2022 exam series

City & Guilds will be offering a limited autumn examination series for some dated theory examinations only. The exams for Level 2 and Level

3 will be held between 17 and 21 October 2022, and results will be released to centres on 14 December and available for learners on 15 December 2022.

We will be providing a limited number of autumn exams (paper only) based on an overall determination of likely volume of need and the following factors:

- Volume of learners sitting the summer exam
- Performance of learners in the summer exam series
- Progression needs and destinations
- Likelihood of genuine improvement between results days and an autumn series.

Please note that no synoptic assessments will be available in autumn 2022 on the same determination of likely volume of need and having taken into consideration the above factors.

Accordingly, the examinations available in autumn 2022 are:

0172-531	Level 3 Animal Management - Theory exam
0171-502	Level 3 Agriculture - Theory exam
0172-524	Level 2 Animal Care - Theory exam
0172-526	Level 2 Equine Care - Theory exam
0172-535	Level 3 Animal Management - Theory exam
0172-539	Level 3 Animal Management - Theory exam
0172-543	Level 3 Animal Management - Theory exam
0172-545	Level 3 Animal Management - Theory exam
1145-520	Level 2 Engineering - Theory exam
1145-530	Level 3 Engineering - Theory exam
8202-520	Level 2 Electrical Installation - Theory exam
8202-525	Level 2 Plumbing - Theory Exam
8202-531	Level 3 Electrical Installation - Theory exam
8202-535	Level 3 Plumbing - Theory exam

The next opportunity for learners to access **all** assessments will be in spring 2023.

Please be reminded that DfE and Ofqual have confirmed that for external assessments, learners will be permitted two resit opportunities for VTQs. This applies to 16-18 performance table qualifications approved for 2022, 2023 and 2024 tables (for Applied Generals, Tech Levels and Technical Certificates) and for 2022 and 2023 Technical Awards

Contact us

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