

Centre Assessment Grade Information

The centre assessment grades submitted to exam boards must reflect a fair, reasonable and carefully considered judgement of the most likely grade a student would have achieved if they had sat their exams this summer. There is no requirement to consider work undertaken after the end of March and tutors are advised to be cautious in considering work produced after this date that shows a change in performance that could be explained by the context in which the work was undertaken. It is recognised that centres will have incomplete evidence, and that the range and amount of evidence will vary between different subjects.

So that the final grades awarded are as fair as possible, exam boards will standardise the judgements across different centres once they have been submitted, using a statistical methodology developed in conjunction with Ofqual. The information provided will allow Ofqual and the awarding bodies to standardise grades across schools and colleges, to make sure that, as far as possible, results are fair and that students are not advantaged or disadvantaged because their schools or colleges are more generous or harsh than others when making those judgements. This means the final grade you get could be different from the one NEC sends to the exam board.

Do I still have to have a centre assessment grade?

No. If you think that the work you have submitted to NEC won't reflect your true ability then we would strongly advise you to defer your exams until the next available session. Awarding bodies are looking into offering an additional session this autumn. If you wish to defer we must know **by Tuesday 5th May**. You will not be asked to pay any additional fees to defer your exams to the next available session.

If I have requested a centre assessment grade, am I entitled to a refund of my exam entry fee?

Unfortunately not. A centre assessment grade can only be provided/attempted to be provided if you still have your examination entry in place. The work involved in the assessment and awarding is significant and therefore a refund will not be possible.

I haven't been submitting my assignments steadily throughout my enrolment period. Could this mean that NEC cannot provide a centre assessment grade for me?

Those students that have submitted assignments steadily are in a better position to receive a centre assessment grade than those that have submitted most of their assignments over a shorter period of time. We will need to be able to have verifiable evidence of achievement and progression.

I haven't completed the majority of my course. Should I still seek a centre assessment grade?

Our advice is to defer your exams to the next available session if you have not completed the majority of your course and course assignments. Those students that have done this will be in a stronger position as they will have more evidence of progression and achievement.

Will the assignments I completed after the end of March be used?

As per earlier guidance, this will be looked at on a case by case basis and will depend on a number of factors including progress prior to the end of March and whether there has been a change in the quality of work submitted. Tutors may continue to mark assignments submitted as many students are continuing to work towards the next available exam sitting, but anything submitted after Friday 1st May is unlikely to be used as evidence.

Will my endorsement results be taken into account?

Yes. You should expect to see your endorsement result on your Statement of Results and certificate as normal.

Can I find out the mark I got for my NEA?

No, this information will be confidential. We will not be allowed to share this with you. Should you decide to re-sit the normal processes would apply.

Can I see the grades that NEC submits for me?

No, this information will be confidential. We will not be allowed to share this with you and you must not ask your tutor or NEC for this information.

Can I talk to my tutor about how they are going to grade me?

No. Any instances of pressure from a candidate or their parent/guardian to try and influence the decision-making on a grade or rank order will be reported to the exam board(s) as advised. They may investigate this as potential candidate malpractice.

Can I see what evidence was used before the grade is submitted?

No, this information will also be confidential. It may be possible to request this after the results are released.

When will I get my results?

13th August for A levels and 20th August for GCSE and IGCSEs

Can I appeal the grade I am awarded?

The normal arrangements for reviews of marking and appeals will not apply. Ofqual are considering what arrangements might be put in place and we will let you know the outcome prior to the release of results in August.

If I decide to re-sit my exams, can I use the NEA I completed this year?

Yes, if you are resitting exams, please let us know and we will discuss this further with you.

Are the exam boards definitely going to open up an Autumn exam session?

Unless Ofqual decides otherwise, the default position will be that exam boards will decide which exams to make available to students in the autumn series. If exam boards decide not to make exams available in the autumn for particular qualifications then any students who consider that the results issued this summer do not reflect how they would have performed in an exam in that qualification will be unable to take such an exam until summer 2021. This decision is still being made and we will keep you informed.

Can I get a centre assessment grade and sit my exams in the next exam series?

Yes. However, you would need to pay again to be entered and both grades would stand.