HOW WE WILL AWARD CAMBRIDGE NATIONALS GRADES IN SUMMER 2020 Guidance for schools and colleges





Schools and colleges have submitted centre assessment grades and rank orders on the grade submission system.

We will calculate final grades for Cambridge Nationals using a process based on principles outlined by Ofqual and similar to that developed by Ofqual for GCSEs and A Levels. We will standardise your centre assessment grades to ensure grading standards are consistent across all schools and colleges taking our qualifications. The process for Cambridge Nationals also takes into account any units students have already completed.

STEP 1: Standardising your centre assessment grades

To standardise centre assessment grades, we will look at the following data to calculate what we would expect your students to achieve:

- Previous results from all schools and colleges taking the Cambridge National qualification
- · Your individual school or college results in recent years

We will consider your centre's grade distributions in previous years for the qualification, using your school or college results in recent years. We will compare this data with what you have given us, and we may make adjustments to align the two:

If centre assessment grades are high, we will adjust down.

Standardised D2 D2 D2 D2 M2 M2 M2 M2 M2 M2 M2

If centre assessment grades are low, we will adjust up.

Standardised D2 D2 D2 D2 D2 D2 M2 M2 M2 M2



STEP 2: Creating assessed grades from units students have already completed

The second piece of evidence we use to calculate the final grade comes from units within qualifications that students completed before summer 2020. We will use the results from these completed units to predict the performance on the units students intended to sit in summer 2020. These predictions are referred to as 'assessed grades'. It's the same process we use when a student is not able to sit an exam due to illness.

We will combine these two pieces of evidence:

- Standardised centre assessment grades
- Assessed grades based on units completed prior to summer 2020

to calculate final grades.



STEP 3: Final grade

We will calculate your students' final grade for the qualification by combining standardised centre assessment grades with the assessed grades based on completed units. The more units a student has completed, the greater weight they will be given in the final grade. For example, if a student had completed 75% of the units for the qualification, we will weight the assessed grades more heavily than if they had only completed 25% of the units.

This process for calculating grades for Cambridge Nationals follows the framework set by Ofqual for vocational and technical qualifications after exams and assessments were cancelled. It is designed to give students the fairest results possible this summer. The final grade students receive may be different from the centre assessment grades submitted.