

Assessment, results, and appeals

Overview of clarifications

This information sheet helps schools understand the clarifications in this group of ACE Rules, but schools must view the rules on the NSW Curriculum website.

The clarifications to **Assessment, results, and appeals** include:

Formal assessment programs and tasks

Formal assessment program

NESA has clarified the requirements for the development of a Preliminary and HSC course school-based assessment program. Rules are now explicit about the components of assessment programs that students must have at the start of a course.

School malpractice policy

NESA has strengthened the requirements for managing and reporting malpractice in school-based assessment to align with NESA's rules for the integrity of HSC school-based assessment and exams.

Formal assessment tasks

NESA has clarified the ACE Rules for assessment tasks that have multiple parts. The clarified rules explain the conditions under which an assessment task with multiple parts can constitute a single formal assessment task, and how they need to be reflected in an assessment schedule.

Task notifications

NESA has clarified the written notice period that schools must give students for upcoming assessment tasks.

Estimate marks

NESA's rules clarify the expectation that students attempt all assessment tasks, and the conditions under which a school can issue either an extension of time or a substitute assessment task. The rules also indicate the conditions for the provision of estimate marks in exceptional circumstances.

Retaining records

NESA has revised the minimum period that schools need to retain records of marks awarded in each HSC assessment task.

NESA has published clarified ACE Rules on the [NSW Curriculum website](https://curriculum.nsw.edu.au/ace-rules).

<https://curriculum.nsw.edu.au/ace-rules>

The clarified rules will be mandated from **14 October 2024**, but schools must use the current rules until then. Schools must not implement the clarified rules before this date.

The clarified rules will apply to students commencing HSC courses from **October 2024**, sitting HSC exams in **2025**, and receiving the RoSA from **October 2024**.

The current ACE Rules remain in effect for the 2023 and 2024 HSC. The current rules can be found at:

<https://ace.nesa.nsw.edu.au>

To find the right contact for enquiries about ACE Rules, visit the ACE Rules contact page:

<https://curriculum.nsw.edu.au/ace-rules/contact>

Assessment terminology

NESA has clarified assessment terminology for schools. Clarifications will help schools understand NESA's requirements for school-based assessment, including assessment policies and procedures, schedules and tasks, and course documentation.



Calculating and confirming submitted marks and grades

Certifying HSC results data

NESA has clarified rules for certifying HSC results data. The clarified rules define HSC results data and specify the certification requirements for principals. The clarified rules also set the due date for entering data in Schools Online.

Internal school reviews and student appeals

NESA has clarified requirements for internal school reviews of final Stage 6 grades and for subsequent appeals to NESA. The rules also provide direction to schools for resolving student appeals of marks allocated for individual assessment tasks.

Submitting assessment data and rank order placement reviews

The clarified rules outline the process for submitting assessment data to NESA for Preliminary and HSC courses including grades and HSC school-based assessment marks. The rules also clarify the process for students requesting a school or NESA review of their rank order placement in an HSC course.

Allocating and submitting Stage 5 grades

School policies and procedures

NESA has clarified the policies and procedures schools must have in place for determining grades in Stage 5, including assessment plans for each 100-hour or 200-hour graded course.

Confirming grades

NESA has outlined the steps for schools to follow to confirm grades awarded for Stage 5 courses.

Retaining student work samples and assessment activities

Work samples

NESA has clarified requirements for the retention of student work samples and assessment activities. These rules specify the number of work samples to be retained for Year 10, Preliminary and Year 12 courses respectively. The rules also include the minimum retention period for work samples, and the format for submitting work samples in Schools Online.

HSC practical exams

Definition of HSC practical exams

NESA has clarified the term 'HSC practical exams' to describe the HSC courses with projects, submitted works and performances.

Certification

NESA has strengthened rules for certifying and submitting HSC projects, submitted works and performances. The ACE Rules now specify requirements for the Student Declaration Form and record retention. The clarified rules also outline the process for non-certification.

Transporting physical works

NESA has clarified its requirements for transporting physical works to ensure equity across HSC courses.

Health and safety

NESA has clarified rules for both principals and students regarding the health and safety requirements for the development and submission of projects, submitted works and performances.

HSC results services

NESA has simplified and updated the rules for principal and students enquiring about HSC results. These rules make clear that HSC results inquiries are not an avenue for appeal or re-marking of HSC exams.