

Special Conditions of Recognition for Summer 2022



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This document sets out the Special Conditions which WJEC-CBAC is required to comply with when awarding Approved and Designated Wales-only GCE A level qualifications and the Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate in summer 2022.

These Conditions came into effect on 4 July 2022 and will remain in force until such date as specified or determined by Qualifications Wales.

With respect to all GCE A level and Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate qualifications to which the Conditions set out in this document apply, save to the extent set out in those Conditions, WJEC must also comply with:

- our Standard Conditions of Recognition which apply to all awarding bodies and qualifications, and
- all relevant Regulatory Documents.

This document is also available in Welsh.

In pursuance of Schedule 3, paragraph 4 of the Qualifications Wales Act 2015, Qualifications Wales is issuing WJEC-CBAC with the following special conditions of recognition.

Special Condition of Recognition 6 – Awarding Approved and Designated Wales-only¹ GCE A level qualifications in summer 2022

SPCWJEC6.1 WJEC-CBAC must award an Approved and Designated Wales-only GCE A level qualification in summer 2022 based on candidate performance on GCE A2 units only.

SPCWJEC6.2 GCE AS unit or qualification outcomes from summer 2022 or previous series must not contribute towards the award of an Approved or Designated Wales-only GCE A level qualifications in summer 2022.

SPCWJEC6.5 To the extent that there is any inconsistency between a requirement included as part of this Special Condition, and;

(a) a requirement of any other Special Condition;

(b) a requirement of the Standard Conditions of Recognition;

(c) a requirement of an Additional Standard Conditions of Recognition for GCSE/GCE Qualifications, and

(d) any other Regulatory Document

such that WJEC-CBAC could not comply with both such requirements, WJEC-CBAC must comply with the requirement of this Special Condition and is not obliged to comply with the requirement of the other Condition.

¹ WJEC Advanced GCE in level Health and Social Care C00/0130/5; WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in Applied ICT C00/1177/8; WJEC Level 3 Advanced GCE in ICT C00/1177/9

Further details on the requirements for awarding in summer 2022 will be set out in our Regulatory Document, Summer 2022 Data Exchange Procedures.

Special Condition of Recognition 7 - Setting intermediate grade boundaries for Approved and Designated Wales-only GCE A level qualifications² in summer 2022

SPCWJEC7.1 WJEC-CBAC must continue to set grade boundaries for Approved and Designated Wales-only GCE A level qualifications in accordance with our Regulatory Document [Requirements for setting specified levels of attainment for GCE and GCSE qualifications](#).

Section 5 of the reformed GCE qualifications section of the above Regulatory Document sets out how an awarding body must set unit intermediate grade boundaries:

An awarding body must determine the other unit grade boundaries arithmetically:

- a) The grade B/C, C/D and D/E boundary marks are calculated by dividing the mark interval between the A/B and E/U boundaries by four.*
- b) Where there is a remainder of one, the extra mark is added to the A to B mark range.*
- c) Where there is a remainder of two, one extra mark is added to each of the A to B and B to C mark ranges.*
- d) Where there is a remainder of three, one extra mark is added to each of the A to B, B to C and C to D mark ranges.*

SPCWJEC7.2 When setting unit intermediate grade boundaries for Approved and Designated Wales-only GCE A level qualifications in summer 2022, WJEC-CBAC must also review qualification level outcomes at grades B, C and D against statistical starting points for the award, as set out in the Wales Summer 2022 Data Exchange Procedures.

SPCWJEC7.3 Where outcomes at either grades B, C or D at qualification level are lower than the statistical starting points for that grade, WJEC-CBAC must adjust the C/D unit boundaries until qualification level outcomes at each grade are at, or above the midpoint prediction, unless to do so would be inconsistent with the requirements set out in Condition SPCWJEC7.5.

SPCWJEC7.4 Where adjustments are made to a C/D unit boundary:

- (a) the B/C unit boundary is calculated by dividing the mark interval between the A/B and C/D boundary by two, and where there is a remainder of one, the extra mark is added to the A to B mark range;

² Excluding GCE A level qualifications with fewer than 10 entries

- (b) the D/E unit boundary is calculated by dividing the mark interval between the C/D and E/U boundary by two, and where there is a remainder of one, the extra mark is added to the C to D mark range.

SPCWJEC7.5 Where adjustments are made to C/D unit boundaries, it must not:

- (a) result in qualification outcomes at A or E moving outside of the reporting tolerance as set out in the Wales Summer 2022 Data Exchange Procedures;
- (b) result in qualification outcomes at any intermediate grade exceeding a 5-percentage point tolerance from the statistical starting point for that grade; or
- (c) result in the C/D unit boundary mark(s) being lowered by more than 15% (rounded up) of the distance between the grade A and grade E boundary.

SPCWJEC7.6 To the extent that any adjustments made to C/D unit boundaries results in one of the circumstances described in SPCWJEC7.5 before qualification level outcomes at grades B, C and D are at, or above the statistical starting point, the requirements of SPCWJEC7.5 will take precedence over the requirements of SPCWJEC7.3.

SPCWJEC7.7 Where adjustments are made to C/D unit boundaries, it must not result in any learner receiving a lower qualification grade than the qualification grade they achieved based on the unit grade boundaries initially calculated arithmetically using the approach set out in SPCWJEC7.1.

SPCWJEC7.8 To the extent that there is any inconsistency between a requirement included as part of this Special Condition, and;

- (a) a requirement of any other Special Condition;
- (b) a requirement of the Standard Conditions of Recognition;
- (c) a requirement of an Additional Standard Conditions of Recognition or GCSE/GCE Qualifications, and
- (d) any other Regulatory Document

such that WJEC-CBAC could not comply with both such requirements, WJEC-CBAC must comply with the requirement of this Special Condition and is not obliged to comply with the requirement of the other Condition.

Further details on the requirements for awarding in summer 2022 will be set out in our Regulatory Document, Summer 2022 Data Exchange Procedures.

Special Condition of Recognition 8 - Setting intermediate grade boundaries for the Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate in summer 2022

SPCWJEC8.1 WJEC-CBAC must continue to set grade boundaries for the Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate in accordance with our Regulatory Document [Requirements for setting specified levels of attainment for the Skills Challenge Certificate Qualifications \(Welsh Baccalaureate\)](#).

Section 2 of the above Regulatory Document sets out how an awarding body must set component Merit boundaries for the Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate:

4. For each component, the Level 3 Merit boundary will be set arithmetically, at half the distance between the Level 3 Pass and Level 3 Distinction boundaries. Where there is a remainder of one, the extra mark is added to the Merit boundary.

SPCWJEC8.2 When setting component grade boundaries for the Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate in summer 2022, WJEC-CBAC must review qualification level grade outcomes against the broad midpoint policy position, as set out in the Wales Summer 2022 Data Exchange Procedures.

SPCWJEC8.3 The WJEC-CBAC review of qualification outcomes must consider outcomes at intermediate grades against the broad midpoint policy position.

SPCWJEC8.4 WJEC-CBAC may adjust arithmetically set component Merit boundaries where an adjustment would bring qualification outcomes across the grade scale closer to a broad midpoint policy position for the award.

SPCWJEC8.5 Any adjustment should take account of the approach taken for A level qualification intermediate grades and seek to ensure that learners on the Advanced Skills Challenge Certificate are not disadvantaged compared to A level learners.

SPCWJEC8.6 Where adjustments are made to Merit component boundaries, it must not result in any learner receiving a lower qualification grade than the qualification grade they achieved based on the unit grade boundaries initially calculated arithmetically using the approach set out in SPCWJEC8.1.

SPCWJEC8.7 To the extent that there is any inconsistency between a requirement included as part of this Special Condition, and;

(a) a requirement of any other Special Condition;

(b) a requirement of the Standard Conditions of Recognition;

(c) a requirement of an Additional Standard Condition of Recognition for the Welsh Baccalaureate Skills Challenge Certificate, and

(d) any other Regulatory Document

such that WJEC-CBAC could not comply with both such requirements, WJEC-CBAC must comply with the requirement of this Special Condition and is not obliged to comply with the requirement of the other Condition.

Further details on the requirements for awarding in summer 2022 will be set out in our Regulatory Document, Summer 2022 Data Exchange Procedures.

Special Condition of Recognition 9 – Awarding the National Skills Challenge Certificate in Summer 2022

SPCWJEC9.1 WJEC-CBAC must continue to set grade boundaries for the National Skills Challenge Certificate in accordance with our [Setting specified levels of attainment for the Skills Challenge Certificate qualifications \(Welsh Baccalaureate\)](#) Regulatory Document.

Section 1 of the above Regulatory Document requires WJEC-CBAC to ensure that Learners must pass all Components with a minimum of 80% at level 2 and a maximum of 20% (one challenge) at level 1 to be awarded the National Skills Challenge Certificate.

SPCWJEC9.2 When awarding the National Skills Challenge Certificate in summer 2022, WJEC-CBAC must continue to apply the rule that requires Learners to pass all Components but must not apply the rule that requires Learners to achieve a minimum of 80% at level 2 and a maximum of 20% (one challenge) at level 1.