



Assessment During COVID-19 and Lockdown

Wednesday 08.09.2021

Introduction

The purpose of this information is to provide further guidance to students on the delivery of senior secondary assessment. This information will be updated as required.

Topics

1. Variation of planned assessment
2. Expectations of students undertaking senior secondary education
3. Completion of assessment
4. Limited participation in learning due to medical conditions
5. Non-submission of work and/or assessment as specified due to technological failure or lack of access
6. Reasonable grounds for appeal
7. Assessment of practical or workshop-based subjects
8. Assessment of VET competencies

1. Variation of planned assessment

The COVID-19 context is an exceptional circumstance and schools may need to alter planned assessment because certain types of assessment may be difficult or no longer be feasible to implement.

Unit Outlines are the single point of truth that indicate the assessment students will do during a unit of study. They must therefore be updated and made available to students when changes are made.

Please note that the weightings of completed assessment cannot be changed.

Any change to assessment as described in Unit Outlines are made in consultation with students. Students are given the opportunity to contribute to the process prior to changes being made to the published Unit Outline. This may be done online such as email or through a school's online learning platform.

2. Expectations of students undertaking senior secondary education

To be awarded units towards the Senior Secondary Certificate students are expected to meet participation and assessment requirements (Policy and Procedures Manual [4.3.8](#) and [4.3.9](#)). However, there may be variations in the modes and timing of delivery where schools are working in the online environment.

In the current situation, students are expected to be engaged with the course work provided by their school. Schools will aim to continue the learning of students online and provide them with appropriate assessment opportunities.

3. Completion of assessment

Students are expected to complete and submit the assessment that they have been assigned. All BSSS and school policies regarding completion and submission of assessment still apply, including reasonable accommodations and provision of special consideration.

4. Limited participation in learning due to medical conditions

Students with medical conditions continue to be covered by Special Consideration processes detailed in the BSSS Policy and Procedures Manual [4.3.13](#).

5. Non-submission of work and/or assessment as specified due to technological failure or lack of access

Normal school practices that support students who have online access challenges should be continued in order to maintain equity.

6. Reasonable grounds for appeal

Current policy remains unchanged. The grounds for an appeal fall broadly into two areas (refer to BSSS Policy and Procedures Manual [section 7](#))

- the published procedures used to calculate an assessment or unit grade or score, have not been followed, or have been applied unfairly or incorrectly
- an inappropriate penalty has been imposed for a breach of discipline in relation to assessment, including the severity of the penalty or denial of the breach of discipline

7. Assessment of practical or workshop-based subjects

There may be limitations on what can be assessed at this time. Schools will inform students about their plans for practical subjects if the required practical learning or assessment is not possible.

8. Assessment of VET competencies

Competencies are required to be assessed according to the relevant training package and be compliant with ASQA regulations. See ASQA advice (<https://www.asqa.gov.au/coronavirus-advice>).

If a competency has not been demonstrated by the student, they cannot be deemed competent.

There will necessarily be limitations on the competencies that can be both taught and assessed at this time.