

VCE EXAMS NAVIGATOR 2020

STUDENT INFORMATION AND EXAMINATION TIMETABLE



This booklet contains information on:

- General Achievement Test (GAT)
- Approved materials and equipment
- VCAA rules
- Examination dates and times
- Special Provision



Message from the Minister for Education

This has been an extraordinary year that has presented unprecedented challenges for Victoria's education sector.

I want to thank every Victorian school, our students and our teachers and school staff who have shown such deep commitment and impressive flexibility in managing the rapidly changing circumstances and demands of 2020.

Students and their families have been subjected to significant challenges, none more so than our senior secondary students for whom this year is so important.

The year hasn't been easy. We all know that. But I could not be prouder of how our students and our schools have responded.

Students undertaking VCE Unit 3–4 studies, and especially those completing their final year of schooling, have shown great initiative, energy and resilience in tackling these challenges.

This booklet – *VCE Exams Navigator 2020* – is a comprehensive guide to what you need to know about VCE examinations and the GAT, Special Provision and how to access your final VCE results and ATAR.

I encourage you to read through this booklet and familiarise yourself with the content that relates to the VCE studies you are completing in 2020.

I wish you every success for the remainder of 2020 and your future endeavours.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Merlino". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Hon. James Merlino MP
Deputy Premier of Victoria
Minister for Education

IMPORTANT

This booklet should be read by all students presenting for 2020 VCE external assessments.

VCE external assessments include the General Achievement Test (GAT), written, aural, electronic/digital, oral and performance examinations, and the Extended Investigation oral presentation.

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Glossary

Examination centre, venue, room

A location where VCE external assessments are held.

Response material/s

Any designated answer book, question and answer book or Multiple-Choice Answer Sheet in which students record their responses.

Supervisor

A person appointed by the principal and approved by the VCAA to act as a supervisor for VCE external assessments.

VCE external assessment

Any set task that is assessed externally by the VCAA, including the General Achievement Test (GAT), and any written, electronic/digital, oral, aural or performance tasks taken under examination conditions.

Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA)

An independent statutory body directly responsible to the Minister for Education, serving government, Catholic and independent schools in Victoria.

VCE External Assessments

COVID-19 Advice: Please note that all VCE external assessments (written, oral and performance) will be conducted in line with the advice from the Victorian Chief Health Officer applicable to schools and other venues at the time.

VCAA student number

All response materials must be identified by your VCAA student number. This number, which is assigned by the VCAA, appears on your individual Student Examination/Assessment Timetables, which are supplied by your school.

Student identification

When you present for a VCE external assessment your identity must be verified as you enter the examination room, either by a staff member from your school or by producing photographic identification (see also 'Advice for performance and Languages oral examinations and the Extended Investigation oral presentation' on page 16).

Conduct of written examinations and the GAT

Supervisors have the right to check materials brought by you into the examination room and to remove any non-compliant material for the duration.

A suitably qualified member of the school teaching staff will check the appropriateness of your reference materials, calculators and dictionaries (where these items are permitted) as you enter the examination room.

During reading time, you may study the instructions, the question book and a dictionary or bound reference (where these items are permitted).

You must not begin to write or mark your paper or response materials in any way, or use a calculator (where one is permitted), until the announcement that writing time has commenced.

Your responses to questions must be entered on the response materials, as instructed. Notes and other markings made elsewhere on the response materials will not be assessed. For multiple-choice questions you must ensure that you use the Multiple-Choice Answer Sheet provided for your responses and follow the instructions printed on the sheet.

You must immediately notify the supervisor if the incorrect paper has been provided or if your paper has missing pages.

You cannot leave before 30 minutes has elapsed from the start of writing time. An announcement will be made before the last five minutes of scheduled writing time. After this announcement you cannot leave the examination room until instructed to do so by a supervisor.

You must cease writing when instructed to do so by a supervisor.

You must remain silent and must not leave your place until all response materials have been collected. When all response materials have been collected, the supervisor will direct you to leave the room. Any disruptive behaviour by students will be reported to the VCAA. The matter will be investigated, and appropriate action will be taken by the VCAA (see also 'VCAA rules' on page 10).

Timetable clashes and three examinations on one day

You may have a timetable clash (two examinations scheduled at the same time) or three examinations scheduled on one day.

Your school should already be aware of any timetable clashes or if students are required to sit three examinations on one day.

All examinations must take place on the date published in the VCE examination timetable. If you have an examination at an alternative time, you will be supervised between examinations. The VCAA will contact schools to advise them of the scheduling arrangements for individual students.

Bottled water

You may bring one bottle of still water into an examination room subject to the following conditions:

- The water is in a transparent plastic bottle (all labels removed).
- The water bottle has a secure lid.
- The capacity of the bottle is no more than 1500 mL.
- The water bottle must not be placed on the table at any time.
- The water bottle must not be refilled during the written examinations or the GAT.
- The water bottle must not be shared between students.

Mobile phones and other electronic devices

Mobile phones and other unauthorised electronic communication devices, organisers, portable media players, electronic dictionaries and computerised pens, stopwatches and watches that are capable of storing, receiving or transmitting information or electronic signals, such as smart watches and fitness trackers, are not permitted in an examination room for written examinations or the GAT under normal conditions.

Confiscated mobile phones and other devices may be held for up to three months.

Watches

You will not be permitted to wear watches of any type during written examinations or the GAT. All watches must be removed and placed at the top of your table, where they can be seen clearly and easily by supervisors.

Stopwatches or watches with special functions, such as an alarm or a stopwatch, are not permitted in the examination room.

If there is any doubt about the functions of your watch, supervisors are authorised to direct you to remove the watch from the table for the duration.

The commencement of reading and writing times will be based on the clock time displayed in the examination room.

Dictionaries

A suitably qualified member of the school teaching staff will check the appropriateness of dictionaries as you enter the examination room.

- Dictionaries are allowed only in the English, English as an Additional Language (EAL) and Languages written examinations and the GAT.
- Dictionaries may be consulted during reading and writing time.
- In the English and EAL written examinations and the GAT, you may use a printed English and/or bilingual dictionary.
- In the written component of Languages examinations, you may use any printed monolingual and/or bilingual dictionary in one or two separate volumes.
- Dictionaries must not contain any highlighting, annotation or tabs that are not part of the original publication.
- A thesaurus, or a dictionary that contains a thesaurus in the same volume, is not permitted.
- Dictionaries must not be shared between students during an examination or the GAT.
- Electronic dictionaries are not permitted.

Calculators

In examinations where calculators are permitted, a suitably qualified member of the school teaching staff will check the appropriateness of calculators as you enter the examination room.

Calculators must not be used during reading time.

CAS calculators that have graphic, symbolic or programmable capabilities may be used in specified Mathematics examinations, provided the model has been approved.

Scientific calculators may be used in specified examinations. A scientific calculator does not have graphic, symbolic or programming capabilities. It does not have extended memory capable of storing text and/or symbols.

Conditions of use

Calculators may be used under the following conditions:

- The calculator must be silent and of the handheld type containing its own power source. You are not permitted to take portable chargers into the examination room.
- You will be entirely responsible for ensuring adequate power supply to your calculator. You must supply your own spare batteries. Any technical fault or battery failure that limits the usefulness of a calculator during an examination will not be taken into consideration by the assessors.
- You will be responsible for ensuring that the calculator is in excellent working order.
- You may not borrow a calculator from another student after entering the examination room.

Other technology

Computers, mini-computers, portable media players, pocket-organisers, laptops, palmtop computers, calculator models that can 'communicate' with other calculators and notebooks are excluded from use in any written examination or the GAT, except under specified circumstances for which prior approval has been given by the VCAA.

Scientific calculators

Scientific calculators may be used for examinations in the following studies:

- Accounting
- Algorithmics (HESS)
- Applied Computing: Software Development
- Chemistry
- Environmental Science
- Physics
- Systems Engineering
- VET Business
- VET Engineering Studies
- VET Furnishing
- VET Hospitality
- VET Information, Digital Media and Technology
- VET Integrated Technologies
- VET Laboratory Skills.

Calculators that have graphic, symbolic or programmable capabilities are not permitted in these examinations.

A scientific calculator may also be used in specified Mathematics examinations.

CAS calculators

The following CAS calculators are approved for use in Further Mathematics Examination 1 and Examination 2, Mathematical Methods Examination 2 and Specialist Mathematics Examination 2. The full functions of approved CAS calculators may be used (that is, memories do not have to be cleared before entering the examination).

Brand	Model
Casio	Algebra or ClassPad series
Hewlett-Packard	HP 40/48/49/50 or HP Prime series
Texas Instruments	TI 89/92/Voyager or TI Nspire CAS series

Summary of examinations with approved calculators

Examination	Calculator
Accounting Algorithmics (HESS) Applied Computing: Software Development Chemistry Environmental Science Physics Systems Engineering VET Business VET Engineering Studies VET Furnishing VET Hospitality VET Information, Digital Media and Technology VET Integrated Technologies VET Laboratory Skills	Scientific calculator only
Further Mathematics Examinations 1 and 2 Mathematical Methods Examination 2 Specialist Mathematics Examination 2	Approved CAS calculator or CAS software for approved schools only A scientific calculator is also permitted

Use of bound references in Mathematics examinations

You are permitted to take a bound reference into designated Mathematics examinations. This resource is intended to provide you with access to mathematics-related reference material that may be of assistance during the examination. A suitably qualified member of the school teaching staff will check the appropriateness of the bound reference as you enter the examination room for Mathematics examinations where these items are permitted.

If your school receives written approval from the VCAA to use approved CAS software, you are permitted to have your bound references as stored files on a CD-ROM, DVD or USB.

The following table lists the examinations into which the bound reference may be taken.

Study	Examination 1	Examination 2
Further Mathematics	Bound reference as described	Bound reference as described
Mathematical Methods	None	Bound reference as described
Specialist Mathematics	None	Bound reference as described

Specifications for bound references

- Bound references must be in book format of A4 size or smaller when closed.
- The number of pages is not specified.
- Pages must be permanently bound and securely attached to the spine.
- There must be a single horizontal or vertical spine.
- The bound reference may be:
 - a textbook
 - a securely bound lecture pad
 - a permanently bound student-constructed set of notes without fold-outs
 - an exercise book.
- The form of binding is not specified but it must be secure, and pages must not be readily detachable or designed to be removed. Binding can include cloth, glue, staple, spiral or comb binding.

You are allowed to:

- consult your bound reference during reading and writing time
- annotate the material
- design your own written index
- fold pages
- cut page corners
- colour code pages
- insert dividers into your own sets of notes
- firmly attach additional material to pages in the bound reference (for example, by glue, adhesive tape or staples).

Your bound reference must not include:

- pages or parts of pages that can be detached from the bound reference during the examination
- fold-outs, maps or brochure-style components
- removable tabs, sticky notes or other pages or material designed to be detached
- forms of collation or binding that are designed to be non-permanent and the content modified by insertion, including
 - ring-binder folders
 - plastic A4 sleeves (permanent or removable) from which pages may be removed
 - manila and similar folders with clip, clamp, slide and metal-prong binding of loose-leaf material.

If any page or part of a page is detached from the rest of the bound reference, the page will be removed by the supervisor for the duration of the examination and the incident will be reported as a potential breach of rules.

Bound references must not be shared between students during an examination.

Questions can be emailed to the VCAA:

vcaa.assessment.operations@education.vic.gov.au.

General Achievement Test (GAT)

All Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) and Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) students enrolled in one or more VCE or scored VCE VET Units 3–4 study this year are expected to sit the GAT, unless they are exempted by the VCAA after an application from their school principal. International Baccalaureate (IB) students who are in their final year of IB studies in 2020 are also required to sit the GAT if they want a notional Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) calculated.

Why you have to do the GAT

The GAT is an essential part of the VCE assessment process. While it is important that you attempt the GAT, the test does not count directly towards your VCE. However, GAT results may play a very important part in determining your final assessments for the VCE. GAT results are used to check that your VCE external assessments and School-based Assessments have been accurately and fairly assessed. The GAT is used in these checks because its results are a good predictor of final assessment outcomes for VCE studies. If a student has done well in the GAT, they are likely to do well in their external assessments and School-based Assessments.

About the GAT

The GAT is a 3-hour test of your general knowledge and skills in:

- written communication
- mathematics, science and technology
- humanities, the arts and social sciences.

There are two writing tasks and 70 multiple-choice questions. You may complete the tasks in any order, but it is recommended that you complete the writing tasks first, then the multiple-choice questions.

The following time allocations are recommended:

Writing Task 1	30 minutes
Writing Task 2	30 minutes
Multiple-choice questions	2 hours
TOTAL	3 hours

Writing Tasks

Writing Task 1

Writing Task 1 will present written and graphical information in colour. You will be asked to write a piece that presents the main information in this material. You should not present an argument in your response. You will be assessed only on your writing skills and not on any extra knowledge you may have about the material.

Writing Task 1 will be assessed on:

- how well you organise and present your understanding of the material
- how effectively you communicate the information
- how clearly you express yourself.

Writing Task 2

Writing Task 2 will present some statements on an issue. You will be asked to develop a piece of writing presenting a point of view on the issue, based on one or more of the statements. You can include other knowledge or information you may have to support your view. You should aim to present your reasons and arguments to support your view and to rebut opposing ideas. You should also aim to communicate clearly and effectively to the reader.

Writing Task 2 will be assessed on:

- the extent to which you develop your point of view in a reasonable and convincing way
- how effectively you express yourself.

Multiple-choice questions

The multiple-choice questions will cover mathematics, science, technology, humanities, the arts and social sciences. There will be 70 questions in this section, which will take about two hours to complete. You should attempt every question. Marks will not be deducted for incorrect answers.

You must use a pencil on the answer page for multiple-choice questions. There will be instructions on how to shade the boxes to show your answers.

The multiple-choice section consists of groups of questions or units. Each unit will offer one or more pieces of information and a number of questions about that information.

Permitted materials

You may take an English and/or bilingual printed dictionary into the GAT, but not a thesaurus or a combined thesaurus–dictionary. Electronic dictionaries and calculators are not permitted. You will need pens, pencils and an eraser to complete the GAT. You must use a pencil for the multiple-choice answer page.

Preparing for the GAT

No special study is required for the GAT. The general knowledge and skills that are tested are those you have built up through your previous study in English, mathematics, science, humanities, the arts and social sciences. Each question provides all the information needed to work out the correct answer. You can get further information about the GAT, including previous GAT papers, answers to previous multiple-choice questions, and step-by-step instructions for completing the GAT, on the VCAA website: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/assessment/vce-assessment/general-achievement-test/Pages/HowtoComplethegat.aspx.

Tips for doing the GAT

- Read all the information carefully.
- Read each question and try to pick out the key ideas and information.
- For the multiple-choice questions, try to quickly reject choices that appear to be wrong, then read the question again and select the answer most likely to be right.
- Attempt all questions and do not spend too much time on any one question. Questions can be revisited later.

How the GAT is used

School-based Assessment

The VCAA uses GAT results, along with other external assessments, to align each school's local graded assessment scores to the statewide scale. The VCAA applies a process known as statistical moderation to all School-based Assessment to account for the differences in tasks and markings that may occur from school to school. This is to ensure that the final results are comparable across the state and are fair to all students.

The statistical moderation process compares the level and spread of school-based scores with that of the same group for the external assessment and the GAT. Based upon this comparison, the alignment to a statewide scale is determined.

This process allows schools to take into account their unique needs when delivering the VCE and ensures fairness in the calculation of student study scores. More information about statistical moderation can be found on the VCAA website:

www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/assessment/vce-assessment/how-vce-assess/how-pages/Pages/StatisticalModeration.aspx.

VCE external assessments

The VCE external assessment marking process is rigorous, carefully and expertly conducted, and designed to be fair to all students. VCE external assessments are assessed twice, at a minimum, by two different assessors. Each assessment is done separately, and each assessor does not know the marks given by the other assessor. If there is insufficient agreement between their assessments, the student's response is assessed again by another independent assessor.

When the assessment is complete, there is a final check to identify any students with scores that are significantly lower

than expected. If a student's score for an external assessment is statistically significantly different from the mark predicted by the GAT, the indicative grade given by the school and any other external assessment in the same study, the student's response will be assessed again by the chief assessor's panel.

Derived Examination Scores

GAT scores can contribute to the calculation of a Derived Examination Score (DES; see page 21).

GAT results

GAT results will be reported to you as part of your final results package. The GAT results may also be received via the optional student email service.

A GAT statement will show raw scores out of:

- 40 for written communication
- 35 for mathematics, science and technology
- 35 for humanities, the arts and social sciences.

This statement will also report GAT results as a standardised score for each component. The standardised score will be calculated and reported using the same scale used for VCE study scores, that is, on a scale from 0 to 50 with a mean of 30 and a standard deviation of 7.

Your VCE or VCAL Statements of Results will show whether you sat for the GAT or if your absence was authorised. Your absence is only authorised if your school has obtained an exemption for you from the VCAA. Exemption criteria from the GAT are available on the VCAA website:

www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/administration/special-provision/pages/OtherCircumstances.aspx.

If you have questions about the GAT, contact the VCAA: (03) 9032 1700, 1800 134 197 or vcaa@education.vic.gov.au.

Approved Materials and Equipment for VCE External Assessments

Supervisors have the right to check material brought by you into the examination room and remove any non-compliant material for the duration.

A suitably qualified member of the school teaching staff will check the appropriateness of reference materials, calculators and dictionaries, where these items are permitted, as you enter the examination room.

Basic stationery

You are permitted to bring basic stationery items into the examination room. This includes pens, pencils, highlighters, erasers, sharpeners and rulers.

Pencil cases can only be brought into the examination room if they are transparent, that is, the contents are visible to the supervisor.

Basic stationery items do not include aids for curve sketching, Mathomat, MathAids or geometrical drawing instruments, such as compasses, set squares and protractors.

Correction fluid/tape and loose sheets of paper are not allowed. It is recommended that you do not use erasable pens.

Additional specific materials

For some VCE external assessments, you are permitted to bring additional specific materials into the examination room, as outlined in the following table.

Additional specific materials

External assessment	Approved materials and equipment
General Achievement Test (GAT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> an English and/or bilingual printed dictionary
Written examination	Approved materials and equipment
Examinations with a multiple-choice component	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> pencil and eraser
Accounting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one scientific calculator pencil should be used where calculations are required
Algorithmics (HESS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one scientific calculator
Applied Computing: Software Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one scientific calculator
Chemistry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one scientific calculator
English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> an English and/or bilingual printed dictionary
English as an Additional Language (EAL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> an English and/or bilingual printed dictionary
Environmental Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one scientific calculator
Further Mathematics Examination 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one approved CAS calculator or CAS software <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> one scientific calculator one bound reference that may be annotated (see page 6)
Further Mathematics Examination 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one approved CAS calculator or CAS software <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> one scientific calculator one bound reference that may be annotated (see page 6)
Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> coloured pencils, water-based pens and markers
Languages written examinations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> any printed monolingual and/or bilingual dictionary in one or two separate volumes
Mathematical Methods Examination 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one approved CAS calculator or CAS software <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> one scientific calculator one bound reference that may be annotated (see page 6) protractors, set squares and aids for curve-sketching

Written examination	Approved materials and equipment
Music Performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> pencil should be used for musical notation
Physics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one scientific calculator one folded A3 sheet or two A4 sheets bound together by tape, single- or double-sided. Notes may be typed or handwritten and from any source (including commercially available notes).
Product Design and Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> coloured pencils, water-based pens and markers
Specialist Mathematics Examination 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one approved CAS calculator or CAS software <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> one scientific calculator one bound reference that may be annotated (see page 6) protractors, set squares and aids for curve-sketching
Systems Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one scientific calculator
Theatre Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> coloured pencils, water-based pens and markers protractors, compass, set squares and aids for curve sketching
VET Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one scientific calculator
VET Engineering Studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one scientific calculator protractors, set squares and aids for curve sketching
VET Furnishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one scientific calculator
VET Hospitality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one scientific calculator
VET Information, Digital Media and Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one scientific calculator
VET Integrated Technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one scientific calculator
VET Laboratory Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> one scientific calculator
Visual Communication Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> coloured pencils fineliners (not exceeding 0.6 mm line width) set squares, protractors, compass and circle and ellipse templates

VCAA Rules

You are required to observe the following rules for the conduct of VCE external assessments conducted by or on behalf of the VCAA, as well as the day-to-day rules of your school and of the examination centre.

VCAA rules shall apply with appropriate and reasonable modifications to students who have disabilities or other impairments. All supervisors are issued with directions for the administration of VCE external assessments and are required to report all alleged breaches of these rules to the VCAA.

Supervisors have the right to check any authorised materials that are taken into a VCE external assessment.

Reported breaches of VCAA rules may be referred to the VCAA Review Committee, which will consider the alleged breach and determine any appropriate penalty. Possible penalties range from a reprimand to cancellation of all your grades for examinations and other assessments conducted by the VCAA during the year in which the contravention occurred or the assessment was obtained, including cancellation of the course.

VCAA rules for the conduct of VCE external assessments

1. Students must not cheat or assist other students to cheat, including taking any action that gives or attempts to give them or another student an unfair advantage in a VCE external assessment.
2. Students must not allow, induce or assist any other person to present for a VCE external assessment in their place.
3. Students must not present for a VCE external assessment in another student's place.
4. Students must not present for a VCE external assessment under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
5. Students must obey and observe all proper instructions or directions given by their supervisor.
6. Students must provide reasonable assistance to any investigation by VCAA in relation to a suspected breach of the VCAA rules.
7. Students attending a VCE external assessment may bring only materials and equipment approved for that VCE external assessment into the examination room.
8. Students must not possess mobile phones and electronic devices that are capable of storing, receiving or transmitting information or electronic signals, such as recorded music and video players, organisers, dictionaries and computerised watches, during a VCE external assessment.
9. Students detected with any device defined in Rule 8 must, upon the direction of a supervisor, surrender that device for inspection. Any confiscated device may be retained pending any investigation into an alleged breach of VCAA rules. Students must provide reasonable assistance to VCAA or its agents to enable the interrogation of the device.
10. Students must not bring into or possess in the examination room any drinks or food, except under special circumstances as approved and directed by the VCAA. Bottled water is permitted in the examination room under approved conditions.
11. Students must not communicate with any other student while the VCE external assessment is being conducted.
12. Students must not cause any nuisance, annoyance or interference to any other student during a VCE external assessment.
13. Students must not remove or tear out any part of a bound reference, question/task book, question and answer book or answer book, except where permitted, for example, formula sheets.
14. Students must not remove any response material, used or unused, from the examination room.
15. Students must not begin to write or mark their paper or response material in any way, or use a calculator, until advised by a supervisor that writing may commence.
16. Students must raise their hand if they wish to communicate with a supervisor.
17. Students must not leave their place until permitted by a supervisor.
18. Students will not be permitted to leave the VCE external assessment before 30 minutes have elapsed from the start of writing time.
19. Students will not be permitted to leave in the last five minutes of the VCE external assessment.
20. Students must cease writing when instructed to do so by a supervisor.
21. Students must remain silent and seated in their place at the end of the VCE external assessment until response materials have been collected and checked, and an announcement is made permitting students to leave the examination room.
22. Students must not communicate with an assessor before, during or after a VCE external assessment, except when communication is necessary for the conduct of the assessment.

2020 VCE Examination Timetable

PULL-OUT POSTER

This timetable is also available on the VCAA website:
www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/administration/Key-dates/Pages/VCE-exam-timetable.aspx



2020 VCE Examination Timetable

You must check the starting time of each examination and arrive at least 30 minutes earlier, and be familiar with rules about late admission to examinations.

The start time for the afternoon session on Thursday 12 November, Friday 13 November, Monday 23 November, Tuesday 24 November (when only two sessions are scheduled) is 2.00pm.

The start time for the afternoon session on all other days when three sessions are scheduled is 3.00pm.

The reading period is included in the times shown in the timetable. Each examination commences with a 15-minute reading period, unless otherwise specified.

All written responses must be in English, unless otherwise instructed in the question book for that particular examination.

Wednesday 9 September	10.00am – 11.10am Extended Investigation: Critical Thinking Test (computer-based)
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Wednesday 7 October	10.00am – 1.15pm General Achievement Test (GAT)
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Monday 12 October to Friday 6 November	<p>Languages oral examinations (except Classical Greek, Classical Hebrew, Indigenous Languages of Victoria and Latin)</p> <p>Auslan Interactive Sign examination</p> <p>Students will be notified of dates, times and locations via advice slips from Monday 17 August.</p>
	<p>Performance examinations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dance • VET Dance • Drama: Solo • Theatre Studies: Monologue Examination

Monday 12 October to Sunday 8 November	<p>Performance examinations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music Investigation • Music Performance • VET Music Industry: Performance <p>Students will be notified of dates, times and locations via advice slips from Monday 17 August.</p>
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If you are presenting for performance examinations, Languages oral examinations or the Extended Investigation: Oral presentation, you will be issued with an examination advice slip. Photo identification and examination advice slips must be presented for entry to your assessment. In some cases, students in regional and rural areas may be required to attend venues in Melbourne.

The following written examinations have an audio component:

- English as an Additional Language (EAL)
- Music Style and Composition
- Music Performance
- VET Music Industry: Sound Production
- all Languages, including Chinese Language, Culture and Society, except Indigenous Languages of Victoria, Classical Greek, Classical Hebrew and Latin.

Monday 16 November	9.00am – 10.45am Further Mathematics Examination 2	11.45am – 2.00pm Indigenous Languages of Victoria Latin	3.00pm – 5.15pm Business Management
Tuesday 17 November	9.00am – 10.15am Mathematical Methods Examination 1	11.45am – 2.00pm Outdoor and Environmental Studies	3.00pm – 5.15pm Australian Politics Industry and Enterprise Sociology
Wednesday 18 November	9.00am – 10.45am VET Business VET Community Services VET Furnishing	11.45am – 2.00pm Japanese First Language Literature	3.00pm – 5.15pm Mathematical Methods Examination 2
Thursday 19 November	9.00am – 10.15am Specialist Mathematics Examination 1	11.45am – 1.30pm VET Hospitality VET Information, Digital Media and Technology Visual Communication Design	3.00pm – 5.15pm Health and Human Development
Friday 20 November	9.00am – 10.45am Product Design and Technology	11.45am – 2.00pm Music Style and Composition Specialist Mathematics Examination 2	3.00pm – 5.15pm Accounting VET Creative and Digital Media (computer-based)

Monday 19 October to Friday 23 October	Extended Investigation: Oral presentation Students will be notified of dates, times and locations via advice slips from Monday 17 August .
Tuesday 20 October	2.00pm – 4.40pm Armenian, Bosnian, Chin Hakha, Croatian, Dutch, Filipino, Hebrew, Hindi, Hungarian, Karen, Khmer, Macedonian, Maltese, Persian, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Sinhala, Swedish, Tamil, Turkish, Yiddish Each examination commences with a 10-minute reading period. 2.00pm – 4.15pm Arabic, Korean First Language, Korean Second Language Each examination commences with a 15-minute reading period.
Wednesday 21 October	8.00am – 6.00pm Auslan Sign Comprehension and Sign Production Examination Students are scheduled in one two-hour session. Each session is preceded by 10 minutes reading/viewing time.
Thursday 22 October	9.25am – 12.30pm Classical Hebrew This examination commences with a 5-minute reading period.
Wednesday 28 October	1.55pm – 5.00pm Classical Greek This examination commences with a 5-minute reading period.
Tuesday 10 November	9.00am – 12.15pm English English as an Additional Language (EAL)
Wednesday 11 November	9.00am – 10.45am Art 11.45am – 1.30pm Agricultural and Horticultural Studies Dance VET Equine Studies VET Integrated Technologies VET Music Industry: Sound Production 3.00pm – 5.15pm History: Revolutions
Thursday 12 November	9.00am – 11.45am Psychology 2.00pm – 4.15pm English Language
Friday 13 November	9.00am – 11.45am Biology 2.00pm – 3.45pm Further Mathematics Examination 1

Monday 23 November	9.00am – 11.45am Chemistry 2.00pm – 4.15pm Legal Studies
Tuesday 24 November	9.00am – 11.45am Physics 2.00pm – 4.15pm Economics History: Australian History
Wednesday 25 November	9.00am – 10.45am Theatre Studies 11.45am – 2.00pm Applied Computing: Data Analytics Geography 3.00pm – 5.15pm Algorithms Philosophy Physical Education
Thursday 26 November	9.00am – 10.45am Food Studies VET Engineering Studies 11.45am – 2.00pm Environmental Science History: Ancient History Japanese Second Language Texts and Traditions 3.00pm – 5.15pm Chinese Language, Culture and Society Media
Friday 27 November	9.00am – 10.45am Studio Arts 11.45am – 1.30pm Music Performance VET Hospitality: Kitchen Operations VET Sport and Recreation 3.00pm – 5.15pm Applied Computing: Software Development Global Politics
Monday 30 November	9.00am – 10.45am Drama Systems Engineering VET Health 11.45am – 2.00pm Classical Studies German Religion and Society 3.00pm – 5.15pm Chinese First Language French Indonesian First Language
Tuesday 1 December	9.00am – 10.45am VET Laboratory Skills 11.45am – 2.00pm Chinese Second Language Advanced Greek Indonesian Second Language Spanish Vietnamese First Language Vietnamese Second Language 3.00pm – 5.15pm Chinese Second Language Italian

If you arrive late for a VCE external assessment

If you arrive late:

- a. up to 30 minutes after the scheduled start of writing time, you will be admitted to the examination room. You will be given the full writing time but no allowance for reading time.
- b. after 30 minutes from the scheduled start of writing time, but before the scheduled finish of writing time, you may be admitted only if all the following conditions are met:
 - i. The principal of the host school, or the principal's delegate, recommends your admittance.
 - ii. You are admitted into the examination room on the understanding that your response materials may not be accepted by the VCAA. You will be advised of this condition and must sign acceptance of this requirement on the statutory declaration.
 - iii. You complete a statutory declaration immediately following the conclusion of the examination or GAT, declaring:
 - the reason for being late
 - the time of your admittance to the examination room
 - that you have not seen or read the examination or GAT question book before your admittance
 - that you have not received any information about the contents of the examination or GAT question book
 - that you understand that your response materials may not be accepted by the VCAA.
 - iv. That appropriate arrangements can be made to enable you to complete the examination or GAT without disruption to other students.

You will be given the full writing time but no allowance for reading time.

If you arrive late for a performance or Languages oral examination or Extended Investigation oral presentation, and you have a valid reason for the lateness endorsed by your home school, you may have your assessment rescheduled to an alternative time.

Irregularities

Irregularities are events outside of your control that significantly interrupt and adversely affect your performance immediately before or during a VCE external assessment. Irregularity applications do not apply to the GAT.

Examples of irregularities include:

- power failures, emergency evacuations and other disruptive events
- printing and/or collating errors in examination question books
- excessive noise or interference
- incorrect interpretation of external assessment conditions or the VCAA rules by supervisors
- procedural issues with the conduct of oral and performance examinations or the Extended Investigation oral presentation.

Where reasonably possible and practical, minor disruptions will be rectified and remedied at the time by the supervisor, for example by replacing faulty books.

If you believe that an event constitutes an irregularity that has materially affected your performance in the external assessment, you must advise your principal or principal's delegate in writing within three days of the end of the external assessment.

If you are ill or affected by personal circumstances immediately before or during a VCE external assessment, and you believe your performance in the assessment is unlikely to be a fair or accurate indication of your learning in a study, you should apply for a Derived Examination Score (DES; see page 21), rather than pursue an irregularity application through your school.

Advice for Performance and Languages Oral Examinations and the Extended Investigation Oral Presentation

Date and time of assessment

Dates and assessment venue information for performance and Languages oral examinations and the Extended Investigation oral presentation will be available to schools on the Victorian Assessment Software System (VASS) from Monday 17 August 2020.

VCAA forms

You should contact your VCE coordinator to obtain VCAA forms, such as examination advice slips, information booklets, Performance Program Sheets/Performer's Statement, Statements of Intention, Industry Statements and Interpretation Statements.

These documents are available only on VASS.

Student identification

If you are undertaking a performance examination, an oral examination or an oral presentation, you will be required to provide personal identification before entering the assessment venue. The personal identification must consist of a clear photograph of you and your full name, for example a school identification card or a driver's licence.

School uniform should not be worn.

Examination advice slip

You must present two copies of the examination advice slip to a venue coordinator when you arrive at the assessment venue. The venue coordinator will retain one copy and you must present the other copy to the assessor immediately before your assessment commences.

Languages oral component

Conditions

- The oral examination will be conducted by two assessors.
- The oral examination will be conducted in the language being assessed. You will provide your student number in English.
- Dictionaries and electronic communication devices are not permitted.
- An audio recording will be made.

Oral examination for CCAFL Languages

Armenian, Bosnian, Chin Hakha, Croatian, Dutch, Filipino, Hebrew, Hindi, Hungarian, Karen, Khmer, Macedonian, Maltese, Persian, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Sinhala, Swedish, Tamil, Turkish, Yiddish

Description of task

Section 1: Conversation (approximately 7 minutes)

A conversation between you and two assessors will cover topics about your personal world.

Section 2: Discussion (approximately 8 minutes)

A discussion will focus on the subtopic chosen for your detailed study.

You may support your discussion with objects, such as photographs, diagrams and maps.

Notes and cue cards are not permitted.

For further information, refer to the relevant language on the VCAA website: <https://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/curriculum/vce/vce-study-designs/Pages/languages.aspx>.

Oral examination for Victorian Second Languages

Arabic, Chinese Second Language, Chinese Second Language Advanced, French, German, Greek, Indonesian Second Language, Italian, Japanese Second Language, Korean Second Language, Spanish, Vietnamese Second Language

Description of task

Section 1: Conversation (approximately 7 minutes)

The conversation between you and two assessors will be about your personal world and your interactions with the language and culture as a learner.

Section 2: Discussion (approximately 8 minutes)

The discussion will focus on your chosen subtopic and the supporting visual material that you have brought with you. The supporting visual material must consist of one image on a piece of paper no larger than A3 size.

Notes and cue cards are not permitted.

For further information, refer to the relevant language on the VCAA website: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/assessment/vce-assessment/past-examinations/Pages/Languages-index.aspx.

Oral examination for Victorian First Languages

Chinese First Language, Indonesian First Language, Japanese First Language, Korean First Language, Vietnamese First Language

Description of task

Section 1: Presentation (approximately 5 minutes)

You will present an issue relating to the option selected for detailed study (Language and Culture through Literature and the Arts).

You may support your presentation with objects, such as photographs, diagrams, maps and brief speaker's notes.

Speaker's notes must be in point form on one side of a cue card measuring no more than 20 x 12.5 cm.

Section 2: Discussion (approximately 5 minutes)

A discussion between you and the assessors will focus on aspects of the nominated issue.

For further information, refer to the relevant language on the VCAA website: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/curriculum/vce/vce-study-designs/Pages/languages.aspx

Oral examination for Chinese Language, Culture and Society

Description of task

Section 1: Conversation (approximately 7 minutes)

A conversation between you and two assessors in Chinese will cover topics about your personal world.

Section 2: Presentation and discussion (approximately 8 minutes)

You will provide a 2-minute description in Chinese of an item that you have brought into the examination, such as a picture, cartoon or artefact, that relates to the prescribed topics in the Chinese Language strand. You will then respond in Chinese to a series of simple questions from the assessors about the item.

For further information, refer to the VCAA website: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/assessment/vce-assessment/past-examinations/Pages/Chinese-Language-Culture-and-Society.aspx

Auslan interactive sign examination

Conditions

- The examination will be conducted by three assessors: one assessor will conduct the examination, while the other two assess.
- You will sign your student number.
- Dictionaries and electronic communication devices are not permitted.
- An audiovisual recording will be made.

Description of task

Section 1: Conversation and discussion (approximately 7 minutes)

A conversation between you and one assessor will cover topics relating to your personal world. It will be followed by an informal discussion on one or more of these covered topics.

Section 2: Presentation and response (approximately 8 minutes)

Following the conversation and discussion, you will indicate to the assessors your chosen topic of interest for presentation and response.

You may support your presentation (3 minutes) and response (5 minutes) with objects, such as photographs, diagrams and maps.

Notes and cue cards are not permitted.

Following the presentation, you will respond to questions asked by the assessors.

For further information, refer to the VCAA website: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/curriculum/vce/vce-study-designs/auslan/Pages/Index.aspx.

Dance*

Description of task

You are required to present one solo dance work – a Cohesive Composition Solo.

Time

The duration of the dance is between 2.5 and 5 minutes.

You must provide the following document at your examination:

- Statement of Intention (three copies).

Conditions

- The performance spaces are covered with a tarket that provides a non-slip surface of approximately 9 x 14 m.
- A sound system will be supplied at the examination venues.
- A small stereo playback unit with 3.5-mm mini-jack input lead will be supplied at examination venues by the VCAA for students using devices such as MP3 players (for connection to headphone output). CDs will not be permitted. It is not possible for you to perform to live accompaniment.
- Another student will be permitted in the examination room to operate the sound system, if required.
- An audiovisual recording will be made.

For further information, refer to the VCAA website: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/assessment/vce-assessment/past-examinations/Pages/Dance.aspx.

VET Dance*

Description of task

You are required to perform two solo dances learnt from the dance repertoire of a choreographer/teacher. Each solo dance should be presented as a single live uninterrupted performance in a distinct style.

Time

The duration of each dance is between 1.5 and 3 minutes.

The two dances will be performed approximately 45 minutes apart.

You must provide the following documents at your examination:

- Performance Program Sheet (three copies)
- Industry Statement (three copies).

Conditions

- The performance spaces are covered with a tarket that provides a non-slip surface of approximately 9 x 14 m.
- A sound system will be supplied at the examination venues.
- A small stereo playback unit with 3.5-mm mini-jack input lead will be supplied at examination venues by the VCAA for students using devices such as MP3 players (for connection to headphone output). CDs will not be permitted. It is not possible for you to perform to live accompaniment.
- Another student will be permitted in the examination room to operate the sound system, if required.
- An audiovisual recording will be made.

For further information, refer to the VCAA website: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/assessment/vet-assessment/past-examinations/Pages/VCEVETDance.aspx.

* Works presented for assessment in one VCE/VET study cannot be presented for assessment in another VCE/VET study.

Drama

Description of task

You are required to prepare a solo performance using one of the prescribed structures from the 2020 VCE Drama Solo Performance examination document.

Time

You must present a single uninterrupted performance of a maximum duration of 7 minutes. You will be allocated a total of 10 minutes to prepare, perform and clear the examination room.

You must provide the following document at your examination:

- Statement of Intention (three copies).

Conditions

- Two chairs will be provided in the examination room for you to use in the performance, if required. A table will not be provided.
- You must carry, set up and remove additional props, if required, within the allocated time.
- You are not permitted to bring any objects or substances deemed hazardous or illegal into the examination room.
- Actual and imitation weapons are prohibited.
- An audiovisual recording will be made.

For further information, refer to the VCAA website: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/assessment/vce-assessment/past-examinations/Pages/Drama.aspx.

Theatre Studies

Description of task

You will interpret a prescribed monologue from the 2020 VCE Theatre Studies Monologue examination document.

For the interpretation stage of the examination, students will choose either:

- Acting and Direction
- Design – any two of make-up, costume, set pieces, properties and sound.

The examination will be conducted in two stages:

- Stage 1 – Interpretation
- Stage 2 – Interpretation Statement.

The two stages of the monologue examination will be assessed against common criteria and a total combined mark will be awarded for both Stages 1 and 2.

Time

There will be 12 minutes for the entire examination. A timing device will be used during the examination.

- You will have a maximum of 2 minutes to set up the materials for the monologue examination.
- It is recommended that Stage 1 – Interpretation does not exceed 6 minutes.
- Stage 2 – Interpretation Statement will follow Stage 1 without a break and, as a guide, should not exceed 2 minutes. If you are still undertaking your monologue examination at the 8-minute mark, you will be instructed to stop.
- The remaining 2 minutes should be used to pack away materials, return the examination room to its original state and exit the room.

You must provide the following document at the end of your examination:

- Interpretation Statement (one copy).

Conditions

- Two chairs will be provided in the examination room for you to use, if required. A table will not be provided.
- You must carry, set up and remove additional props, if required, within the allocated time.
- You are not permitted to bring any objects or substances deemed hazardous or illegal into the examination room.
- Actual or imitation weapons are prohibited.
- The use of multimedia, including a data projector or folios, will not be permitted in the stagecraft examination.
- An audiovisual recording will be made.

For further information, refer to the VCAA website: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/assessment/vce-assessment/past-examinations/Pages/Theatre-Studies.aspx.

Music Investigation*

You will present a live performance either as a member of a group or as a soloist.

Description of task

You will present a live performance of at least four contrasting works that relate to the Investigation Topic underpinning your study in Units 3 and 4. You must complete a Performer's Statement outlining your Investigation Topic and its relationship to the performance program you have selected for the examination. At least one work in the program must be selected from either the current Prescribed List of Group Works or the Prescribed List of Notated Solo Works, as published on the VCAA website, or be an approved Alternative Work.

You must provide the following documents at your examination:

- Performance Program Sheet/Performer's Statement.

Group students

Time

- One assessed performer – maximum of 25 minutes
- Two or three assessed performers – maximum of 30 minutes
- Four assessed performers – maximum of 35 minutes
- Five or six assessed performers – maximum of 40 minutes

Conditions

- Assessed performers may change instruments during the examination. You will be assessed on all instruments, including voice, on which you perform during an examination.
- Assessed performers will be assessed in the first group in which they perform, before participating in other groups as non-assessed performers.
- There should only be one performer per musical part to ensure that the work of each assessed student can be clearly identified.
- The sound volume during the examination must be within safe limits. The examination may be stopped if the assessors deem the volume of the performance to be at a dangerous level.
- Sheet music may be used.
- Page turners will be regarded as non-assessed performers.
- A period of 30 minutes will be allowed for groups to set up and complete a sound check and warm-up. Teachers and other personnel may assist in this activity.
- An audiovisual recording will be made.

Solo students

Time

The task duration will be a maximum of 25 minutes, starting from the assessor's announcement (for recording purposes) of the candidate number, instrument, date, time and venue.

Conditions

- Different accompanists may accompany different works in the program.
- If you are performing accompanied works, you must provide your own accompanist.
- The sound volume during the examination must be within safe limits. The examination may be stopped if the assessors deem the volume of the performance to be at a dangerous level.
- Sheet music may be used, except for Voice – Classical and Voice – Contemporary Popular.
- Page turners are not permitted.
- An audiovisual recording will be made.

For further information, refer to the VCAA website: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/assessment/vce-assessment/past-examinations/Pages/Music-Investigation.aspx.

Music Performance*

You will present a live performance either as a member of a group or as a soloist.

You must provide the following document at your examination:

- Performance Examination Program Sheet.

Group students

Description of task

You will present a live performance of at least three contrasting works that represent a range of styles and diversity of character.

At least one work in the program must be selected from the Prescribed List of Group Works published on the VCAA website.

Works may be appropriately shortened to demonstrate variety within the time available.

Time

- One assessed performer – maximum of 15 minutes
- Two or three assessed performers – maximum of 20 minutes
- Four assessed performers – maximum of 23 minutes
- Five or six assessed performers – maximum of 25 minutes

Conditions

- Students presenting for assessment will be assessed on all instruments, including voice, on which they perform during an examination.
- Assessed performers will be assessed in the first group in which they perform, before participating in other groups as non-assessed performers.
- There should only be one performer per musical part to ensure that the work of each assessed student can be clearly identified.
- The sound volume during the examination must be within the safe limits prescribed by health and safety regulations. The examination may be stopped if the assessors deem the volume of the performance to be at a dangerous level.
- You may use any equipment normally used by the group.

- No electronic mixing or adjusting of the sound by a person other than a student performer will be allowed during the performance.
- Sheet music may be used.
- Page turners will be regarded as non-assessed performers.
- A period of 30 minutes will be allowed for groups to set up and complete a sound check and warm-up. Teachers and other personnel may assist in this activity.
- An audiovisual recording will be made.

Solo students

Description of task

You will present a live performance of works selected from the Prescribed List of Notated Solo Works published on the VCAA website. Details of examination and program requirements specific to each instrument, including the number of works to be performed, are published in the prescribed list.

Time

The task duration will be a maximum of 25 minutes, starting from the assessor's announcement (for recording purposes) of the candidate number, instrument, date, time and venue.

Conditions

- Students presenting for assessment may be assessed in only one examination.
- Assessed performers may change instruments during the examination in accordance with the requirements for selected instruments.
- The sound volume during the examination must be within safe limits. The examination may be stopped if the assessors deem the volume of the performance to be at a dangerous level.
- If you are performing accompanied works, you must provide your own accompanist.
- Only one accompanist is permitted in the examination room at a time. Recorded accompaniments (backing tracks) may only be used as indicated in the prescribed list.
- You should tune your own instrument without assistance from any other person.
- You may use sheet music, except in the case of Voice – Classical and Voice – Contemporary Popular, where the complete program must be sung from memory.
- Page turners are not permitted.
- An audiovisual recording will be made.

For further information refer to the VCAA website: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/assessment/vce-assessment/past-examinations/Pages/Music-Performance.aspx.

* Works presented for assessment in one VCE/VET study cannot be presented for assessment in another VCE/VET study.

VET Music Industry: Performance*

Description of task

You will present a live performance, either as a single performer (as a solo performance or as the only assessed performer within a music group), or in a music group of between two and 10 performers.

Time

- Solo performance – 20 minutes
- Single performer being assessed within a group – 20 minutes
- Two or three performers being assessed within a group – 24 minutes
- Four or five performers being assessed within a group – 28 minutes
- Six performers (maximum) being assessed within a group – 36 minutes

You must provide the following documents at your examination:

- Performance Program Sheet
- Industry Statement.

Conditions

- A maximum of 30 minutes will be allowed for groups to set up and complete a sound check and warm-up.
- Students presenting for assessment will be assessed on all instruments, including voice, on which they perform during the examination.
- The sound volume during the examination must be within safe limits. The examination may be stopped if the assessors deem the volume of the performance to be at a dangerous level.
- You must bring your own instrument/s to the performance. An acoustic piano will be provided, if required. You must provide all other equipment, including PA systems, amplifiers and music stands.
- An audiovisual recording will be made.

For further information, refer to the VCAA website: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/assessment/vet-assessment/past-examinations/Pages/VCEVETMusicIndustryPerformance.aspx.

Extended Investigation Oral Presentation

Conditions

- The oral presentation will be assessed by two assessors.
- You may use presentation software and posters. Speaker notes are permitted.
- No additional electronic medium, such as sound and video files, is permitted.
- No additional props, such as laboratory equipment, costumes, scientific models and simulations, are permitted.

Description of task

You will present your research and investigation findings to the panel of assessors and respond to questions and challenges from the panel.

- The oral presentation, including the student response to panel questions and challenges, will be 14–18 minutes.
- The oral presentation component will be 7–9 minutes.
- The panel questions and student responses will be 7–9 minutes.
- You must provide any presentation software, posters and speaker notes, as permitted.
- An audiovisual recording will be made.

For further information, refer to the VCAA website: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/assessment/vce-assessment/past-examinations/Pages/Extended-Investigation.aspx.

* Works presented for assessment in one VCE/VET study cannot be presented for assessment in another VCE/VET study.

Special Provision

The following two types of Special Provision are available to you for VCE external assessments:

- Special Examination Arrangements
- Derived Examination Score (DES).

Special Examination Arrangements

The VCAA recognises that some students with an illness or disability may require Special Examination Arrangements to enable them to access questions and communicate their responses in an external assessment.

Schools are responsible for submitting an application for Special Examination Arrangements on behalf of their students.

All applications for 2020 VCE external assessments associated with long-term or chronic conditions should already have been submitted to the VCAA and a decision communicated to the student's school.

If you have a recently diagnosed condition and believe you might be eligible for Special Examination Arrangements, you must initially discuss this with your VCE coordinator. The school may then submit a late application, which must include the appropriate supporting documentation.

Emergency Special Examination Arrangements

Your school may apply for Emergency Special Examination Arrangements if you experience a sudden illness, accident or personal trauma immediately before or during the relevant assessment period. This application must be supported by appropriate evidence.

Derived Examination Score

If you are significantly affected by the onset of an illness, or the occurrence of an injury or personal trauma at the time of your VCE external assessments, you may be eligible for a DES.

You must have independent professional evidence to support any DES application.

You cannot submit a DES application on the basis of:

- unfamiliarity with the English language
- teacher absence or other teacher-related difficulties
- a long-term or chronic condition or illness
- matters that could have been avoided by you, such as misreading the examination timetable or instructions, or matters related to school discipline
- matters of your own choosing, such as involvement in social events, sporting or training activities, school events or voluntary work.

This applies to all VCE oral, performance and written examinations, and the Extended Investigation Critical Thinking Test and oral presentation.

A DES is not available for the General Achievement Test, Music Style and Composition Externally-assessed Task, or Extended Investigation Externally-assessed Task written report.

Attendance at VCE external assessments

You are advised to attend every VCE external assessment. You should not miss an external assessment because you do not feel able to do your best.

While you are not expected to attend an external assessment against medical advice, you must meet the DES eligibility requirements and have a definitive written statement from an independent health professional recommending non-attendance at the external assessment. You must have consulted this professional as close as possible to the day before the external assessment, or on the same day as the external assessment, about your illness or injury and inability to attend.

If you are prevented from attending an external assessment, it is crucial that you immediately notify your principal or VCE coordinator.

If you are ill but able to attend the external assessment, you should inform the VCE coordinator of your condition as soon as possible (before or after) the external assessment. If you are ill during the external assessment, you should inform the supervisor.

Closing date for DES applications

Your individual Student Examination/Assessment timetable contains the DES closing dates.

There are individual closing dates for oral, performance and written examinations.

How to make an application

If you believe you are eligible for a DES, you should first seek advice from your school.

Specific details on how to complete each section of the DES application are provided in the application.

Submitting your application

The primary responsibility for submitting an application that meets all eligibility criteria rests with you.

You should contact your VCE coordinator to gain access to and complete an application. Your principal will consider the application and make a recommendation to the VCAA at their discretion.

The VCAA reserves the right to contact the school when statements involving the school need to be verified.

Compassionate Late Withdrawal or Interrupted Studies

If an illness or personal circumstance has been so severe that you have not been coping with the demands of VCE studies, you should discuss with your VCE coordinator the possibility of being granted Compassionate Late Withdrawal or Interrupted Studies status. The school will need supporting professional evidence if you decide to pursue either of these options.

You should be aware of the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS). Check the VTAC website for details and closing dates: www.vtac.edu.au.

More Information

More information about Special Provision is available from your school and on the VCAA website: www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/administration/special-provision/Pages/SpecialProvisionVCEandVCAL.aspx.

Additional Information

Important examination documents

You should contact your VCE coordinator to obtain the following documents, which can only be downloaded from VASS:

- Student Examination/Assessment timetables
- examination advice slips (for performance and Languages oral examinations and the Extended Investigation oral presentation)
- additional information about performance examination requirements, including
 - Performance Examination Program Sheet (Music Performance)
 - Statement of Intention (Drama)
 - Statement of Intention (Dance)
 - Interpretation Statement (Theatre Studies)
 - Performance Examination Program Sheet and Industry Statement (VET Dance, VET Music Industry)
 - Performance Program/Performer's Statement (Music Investigation)
- Special Examination Arrangements advice slips.

Sample examination front covers, data books, formula sheets and Multiple-Choice Answer Sheets for written examinations are published on the VCAA website before the written examination period (available in October 2020): www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/assessment/vce-assessment/past-examinations/Pages/examinationAdviceOctoberNovemberWrittenExaminations.aspx.

Response materials and recordings

Your response materials, audio and audiovisual recordings remain the property of the VCAA and will not be returned. Response materials may be made available for inspection under certain conditions.

The following materials are not available for inspection:

- audiovisual recordings for any performance examination
- recordings of VCE Language oral examinations and VCE Extended Investigation oral presentation.

Change of address advice

Your results will be sent to your address as recorded on VASS. The final date to amend your address is Friday 27 November 2020.

Consents and permissions

Earlier this year, you would have completed a Student Full Details form, in which you gave consent and permission for your personal or assessment information to be used.

It is critical that you check and confirm that you are comfortable with your consent and permission well before the end of the year.

For example, if you achieve a study score of 40 or above in any VCE study and you have given your consent, your achievement will be published in major newspapers and on the VCAA website.

Contact your school if you wish to check or change any of your consents and permissions.

Australian Tertiary Admission Rank

Calculation of the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) is the responsibility of the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC).

Any queries about the ATAR, applications for tertiary courses or selection procedures should be directed to:

VTAC
40 Park Street
South Melbourne VIC 3205
(03) 9926 1020
www.vtac.edu.au

Key websites

All VCE, VCAL and VET information

www.vcaa.vic.edu.au

Information about VCE examinations and external assessments

www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/assessment/vce-assessment/past-examinations/Pages/index.aspx

Information on tertiary entry and the ATAR

www.vtac.edu.au

Information on vocational education and training, and apprenticeships

www.education.vic.gov.au/training/Pages/default.aspx

Information on financial assistance for tertiary study in Australia

www.studyassist.gov.au

Information on the student and youth allowance

www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

A range of information and advice on studying, working and services for young people

www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au

On Track survey

www.education.vic.gov.au/about/research/pages/ontrack.aspx

You may be contacted about On Track after you leave school.

2020 VCE Results and ATAR Service

The 2020 VCE Results and ATAR Service is available from 7.00am Wednesday 30 December 2020. Only 2020 results are released on this service.

Results are also sent by mail, and VCE and VCAL results can also be obtained by email.

You must register to access results

To access the VCE Results and ATAR Service online or via the app, you will need to register in advance at resultsandatar.vic.edu.au or by using the Results and ATAR app on your smartphone.

Registration opens on Monday 3 August 2020. You will need your VCAA student number and personal details to register. You will be asked to create a secure password when registering, which you will then use to access your results. You only need to register once. The password you create can then be used for both the internet service and mobile app.

To ensure easy access to your results you are advised to complete registrations by 5.00pm Tuesday 29 December 2020.

If you have created a VTAC account, please note that this is separate from your registration for the VCE Results and ATAR Service and will not give you access to the service.

Using the service

Once you have registered for the VCE Results and ATAR Service, you can access your results for free, 24 hours a day from 7.00am Wednesday 30 December 2020 until 4.00pm Sunday 3 January 2021 using the internet service or mobile app.

Internet service

resultsandatar.vic.edu.au

Mobile app

Results and ATAR



Results and ATAR

You will log in with your VCAA student number and the password you created when registering for the VCE Results and ATAR Service.

Note that location restrictions may prevent access from outside Australia 7.00 – 7.15am Wednesday 30 December 2020.

Student email

Students enrolled in a Unit 3–4 sequence can receive their grades and study scores on the morning of results release by email. To receive your grades and study scores by email, you must provide an email address on your VCAA 2020 Student Personal Details form.

Please work with your school or educational provider to ensure that your email address as recorded on VASS is accurate and active.

Mail

VCE and VCAL results and ATAR statements will arrive in the mail from Wednesday 30 December 2020. Printed ATAR statements are mailed only to VTAC applicants who have submitted and paid for a course application. Students who have not applied for courses can request an ATAR statement from the VTAC website: www.vtac.edu.au. Administrative fees apply.

VCE and VCAL certificates are distributed by schools and colleges. They are not mailed with the results. To obtain your VCE or VCAL certificate, please contact your school or education provider.

Post Results and ATAR Service

The Post Results and ATAR Service (PRAS) website contains detailed information from the VCAA and VTAC about your results and ATAR, as well as answers to frequently asked questions. If you have further questions after receiving your results and ATAR, contact PRAS by phone or email.

7.00am – 5.00pm

Wednesday 30 December 2020

7.00am – 5.00pm

Thursday 31 December 2020 (New Year's Eve)

10.00am – 4.00pm

Saturday 2 January 2021

10.00am – 4.00pm

Sunday 3 January 2021

(03) 9637 3877 (metropolitan callers)

1800 653 080 (free call)

pras@education.vic.gov.au

pras.resultsandatar.vic.edu.au

You cannot access results through PRAS.

Further details on the 2020 VCE Results and ATAR Service can be found at resultsandatar.vic.edu.au.

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