



## CHIEF DIRECTORATE: EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT

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### ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTION NO 52 OF 2024

**TO:** DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERALS  
CHIEF DIRECTORS  
HEAD OFFICE DIRECTORS AND DISTRICT DIRECTORS  
CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS  
CIRCUIT MANAGERS  
DEPUTY CHIEF EDUCATION SPECIALISTS  
PRINCIPALS OF PUBLIC AND INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS  
TEACHER UNIONS  
SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES ASSOCIATIONS

**DATE:** 04 NOVEMBER 2024

#### **SPECIAL MARK ADJUSTMENT AND CONDONATION DISPENSATION FOR LEARNERS IN GRADES 4-9**

1. This Assessment Instruction serves to inform school principals and all education managers that National Assessment Circular 5 of 2022 and National Assessment Circular 2 of 2023, pertaining to **Special Mark Adjustments and Condonation Dispensation for learners in Grades 4 -9** will be applicable to learners in Grades 4—9, in 2024 and in subsequent years.
2. The attention of school principals and education managers is specifically drawn to paragraph 3 of National Assessment Circular 2 of 2023. **Mark adjustments must also be applied to marks between 25% and 29%, where necessary.** This implies that the mark adjustments of between 1% and 5% will be applicable to marks that are between 25% and 29% for learners in Grades 4 — 9 in 2024. It is also important to note that the mark adjustments will be applicable to a maximum of three subjects that need to be adjusted as stipulated in Annexure C. Please refer to Annexure C on the scenarios for mark adjustments.
3. School Principals were also expected to ensure that together with their School Based Support Teams (SBST), they identify early in the year, learners that are at risk of retention.

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4. Parents should have been alerted of the performance of the learner and both the school and the parent would have provided the learner with additional support. At the end of the year when the promotion and progression of learners is being determined, where there is evidence that retention of the learner will not serve the best interest of the learner, the Principal and the SBST should ensure that the learner is progressed to the next grade with support.
  5. Paragraph (3) applies particularly in cases where a learner achieves a pass in most of his/her subjects and does not receive a mark adjustment or condonation as described in this circular, but he/she obtains:
    - a) below 35% in the First Additional Language; or
    - b) below 25% in two other subjects (excluding Home Language).

Such a learner must be considered for a condonation in either (a) or in one of the subjects in (b), so that the learner can be progressed to the next grade, provided he/she has met all the other promotion requirements.

6. In the case of paragraph (4) above, the mark obtained by the learner in the subject must be reflected in the mark schedule and the letter "C" must be inserted next to the mark, to indicate that the mark has been condoned. The same would apply in the way the mark is reflected on the learner's report. On the learner's report the following statement must appear:

"(List the name of the subject) mark has been condoned and the learner is progressed to the next grade"

7. Scenarios on the adjustment of marks and the condonation of marks is included in Annexure C.
8. The above condonation dispensation does not, in any way, change the other subject progression requirements for the Intermediate and Senior Phase, as stipulated in ***Paragraph 21 of the National policy pertaining to the programme and promotion requirements of the National Curriculum Statement Grades R–12, published as Government Notices No. 1115 and 1116 in Government Gazette No. 36042 of 28 December 2012.***

9. Enquiries regarding this Assessment Instruction can be directed to Ms T Mabengu at [thandiswa.mabengu@ecdoe.gov.za](mailto:thandiswa.mabengu@ecdoe.gov.za) . Your support in ensuring compliance with the contents of this Assessment Instruction will be greatly appreciated.

## ANNEXURE A: APPLICATION OF MARK ADJUSTMENT/CONDONATION

### Scenario 1

Subject	Original	Adjusted/ Condoned	Adjustment/ Condonation	Comment
Afrikaans FAL	37	40%	3%	The three subjects are below 40%. An adjustment of between 1% and 5% will be made only on these subjects to a mark of 40%. The adjusted mark should not exceed 40%
Social Science	35	40%	5%	
Technology	39	40%	1%	

### Scenario 2

Subject	Original	Adjusted/ Condoned	Adjustment/ Condonation	Comment
Afrikaans FAL	37	40%	3%	In this case, four subjects are below 40%, including Maths. The learner's marks in three of the subjects will be adjusted. In addition, the learner's mark in Maths will be condoned.
Social Science	35	40%	5%	
Technology	39	40%	1%	
Mathematics	25% ©	25%	Condoned	

### Scenario 3

Subject	Original	Adjusted/ Condoned	Adjustment/ Condonation	Comment
Mathematics	35	40%	5%	In this case, the 3 subjects below 40% includes Maths. The learner's marks in all three subjects will be adjusted. The Maths mark will be adjusted to 40% and not condoned
Social Science	36	40%	4%	
Technology	38	40%	2%	

#### Scenario 4

Subject	Original	Adjusted/ Condoned	Adjustment/ Condonation	Comment
Home Language	45%	50%	5%	In this case, the Home language is below 50% and three other subjects are below 40%. The Home language must first be adjusted to 50% and only two other subjects can be adjusted. The fourth subject cannot be adjusted given the limit of three subject adjustments.
EMS	38	None	None	
Social Science	37	40%	3%	
Technology	38	40%	2%	

#### Scenario 5

Subject	Original	Adjusted/ Condoned	Adjustment Condonation	Comment
First Additional Language	36	40%	4%	In this scenario, four subjects do not satisfy the pass requirement. Given that First Additional Language is a compulsory requirement, the FAL must first be adjusted to 40%, together with the two other subjects i.e. Social Sciences and Technology that must be adjusted to 30%. Mathematics will be condoned.
Social Sciences	27	30%	3%	
Technology	25	30%	5%	
Mathematics	2% ©	Condoned		

#### Scenario 6: Condonation of First Additional Language (FAL)

Subject	Original Marks	Condonation	Comment
English HL	61%	61%	In this scenario, the learner does not qualify for a mark adjustment or a Maths condonation. The learner has failed two subjects and one of them is Afrikaans FAL, which is a compulsory
Afrikaans FAL	<b>29%</b>	<b>29%</b> (Condonation)	
Mathematics	43%	43%	
Creative Arts	60%	60%	
EMS	46%	46%	
LO	65%	65%	
Natural Sciences	<b>20%</b>	<b>20%</b>	

Social Sciences	40%	40%	requirement. The learner must be condoned in Afrikaans FAL and promoted to the next grade.
Technology	48%	48%	

### Scenario 7 (Condonation in one Other Subject)

Subject	Original Marks	Condonation	Comment
English HL	61%	61%	In this scenario, the learner does not qualify for a mark adjustment or a Maths condonation. The learner has failed two subjects and needs one subject to be promoted to the next grade. The learner must be condoned in Natural Sciences or Social Sciences (not both) and promoted to the next grade.
Afrikaans FAL	63%	63%	
Mathematics	43%	43%	
Creative Arts	60%	60%	
EMS	46%	46%	
LO	65%	65%	
Natural Sciences	20%	20%	
Social Sciences	<b>22%</b>	<b>22%</b> (Condonation)	
Technology	48%	48%	

  
 MR R. TYWAKADI  
 DDG: CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT AND DELIVERY

04/11/2024  
 DATE