



Grade Boundaries

External Assessment for
BTEC Level 1 /Level 2 Firsts (NQF)

March 2017

Understanding the external assessment grade boundaries for BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Firsts (NQF)

This document shows the grade boundaries for our BTEC externally assessed tests. It includes:

- all paper-based tests that took place in January

For each set of grade boundaries, the maximum number of available marks and the size of the unit in Guided Learning Hours (GLH) is also shown.

Definition of terms

All of the grade boundaries for our BTEC externally assessed units are given in 'raw' marks. A raw mark is the actual mark awarded by our examiners for an assessment. Raw mark scores can be downloaded by Exams Officers from Edexcel Online.

A grade boundary is the minimum mark at which a grade can be achieved. For example, if the grade boundary for a Distinction is 29 marks, then 29 is the minimum mark at which a Distinction can be achieved. A mark of 28 would therefore be a Merit.

In order to calculate the overall qualification grade, unit results are combined by converting unit grades into points scores.

You can find out more about raw marks and point scores at

qualifications.pearson.com/understandingmarksandgrades

Pearson BTEC Firsts from 2012 and 2013

Unit results for our BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Firsts are reported on a 5 point scale. The table below shows the number of points scored per 10 GLH at each grade.

Highest Grade	Lowest Grade			
Level 2 Distinction (D)	Level 2 Merit (M)	Level 2 Pass (P)	Level 1 Pass (L1)	Unclassified (U)
8	6	4	2	0

More information on calculating qualifications results can be found in [Section 10 of the specification](#).

BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Firsts in Applied Science		Max Mark	D	M	P	L1	U
Unit 1: Principles of Science (20460E)	30 GLH	54	41	31	22	13	0
Unit 1: Principles of Science (21911G) (Welsh)	30 GLH	54	41	31	22	13	0
BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Firsts in Applied Science		Max Mark	D	M	P	L1	U
Unit 8: Scientific Skills (20474E)	30 GLH	50	38	29	20	11	0
Unit 8: Scientific Skills (21909G) (Welsh)	30 GLH	50	38	29	20	11	0