

Pearson 2020 qualification fees update



When it comes to issuing results, each year we follow a rigorous process to ensure that students are awarded grades from all the hard work they have put in and, despite summer exams being cancelled, 2020 is no exception.

You may have questions about how the changes to the summer series will affect your qualification fees. We're continuing to work through the impact of the cancellation of the 2020 exam series and we remain fully committed to passing on any savings, where they exist, to you.

Qualifications and assessments are different across our suite of General and Vocational Qualifications, which means that exam boards have needed to put in place different arrangements for each to support 2020 grading and results. We're working hard to ensure we are ready to release results to you in August for each qualification portfolio, and would like to thank you all for the huge amount of work and commitment that has gone into submitting your Centre Assessment Grades and rank orders. We know this has involved many weeks of dedicated hard work.

In the meantime, we'd like to share more information with you about what your qualification fees cover.

Understanding qualification fees

The qualification fees cover the delivery of each qualification from first teaching to successful completion of the course and assessment. Our experts work to provide schools and colleges, teachers and students with the best and most up-to-date support possible throughout this cycle.

For General Qualifications (including iPrimary, iLowerSecondary, GCSE, International GCSE, AS/A level, International AS/A level), the fees are paid towards the end of the course delivery, but you will have had the benefit of all that we have provided to that point, as well as the assessments, results and our free Access to Scripts and ResultsPlus services.

For our Vocational Qualifications (including BTEC, Work-Based Learning, Higher Nationals), fees are paid at the start of the course and cover a number of different elements including internal and external assessment.

Here is a flavour of what's included in your qualification fees.




Development of our qualifications

Research and development of the specifications and sample assessment materials, in partnership with subject communities and external stakeholders, and the ongoing management and refinements of our qualifications.



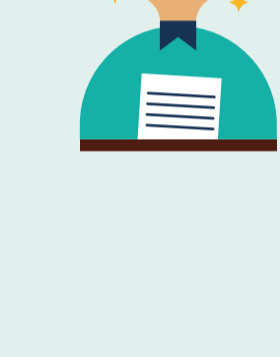
Planning and getting ready to teach the course

Qualification approval, planning and getting started guides, training and events to support departmental CPD. Plus for BTEC, information and guidance to support student recruitment for BTEC (e.g. Parents Guide, case studies, HN degree finder tool). HN Global, our online community of students and teachers, was also opened up to everyone via a guest account.



Delivery of the teaching and learning

Teaching resources (e.g. schemes of work, mapping documents), network events, support for tiering in General Qualifications, practical skills, internal assessment support, NEA and exams, expert subject support.



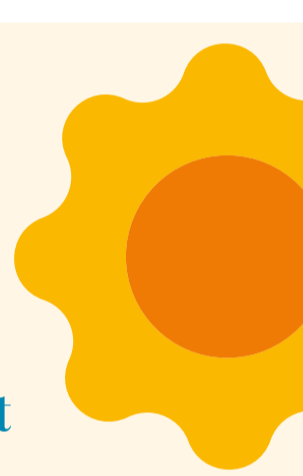

Assessment and results

Homework and revision, mock exams, past papers, mark schemes, examiners reports, exemplars and sample marked learner work, examinations, marking, standardisation, results and our free Access to Scripts and ResultsPlus services. Plus for vocational qualifications, BTEC Authorised Assignment Briefs, the BTEC Assignment Checking Service, quality assurance of our vocational qualifications (via standards verifiers and external examiners).

As you know, for 2020 the summer exams have been cancelled, but the grades and results for which students have worked so hard, will still be awarded. We have put new processes in place to ensure that students receive the grades that are accurate and fair so that they are able to progress to their next stage.


As we work to understand the costs and potential savings on qualification fees, here's a reminder of some of the additional areas of centre support that we have been investing in through this exceptional period.

Additional support and services for summer 2020


Grade characteristics and support for rank ordering

For many of you Centre Assessment Grading and rank ordering will have been a new process, so we produced subject [Grade characteristics documents](#) with specific guidance around grades 4 and 7 for GCSE and International GCSE and grades C and A for A level. Grade characteristics for individual International A level units can be found in the unit [exemplars](#).



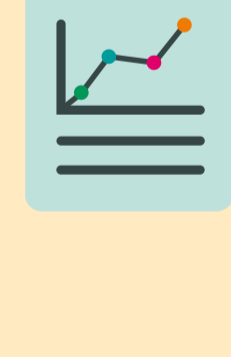
New Grade submission system

We developed a brand-new Centre Assessment Grade submission and rank ordering system, available via Edexcel Online, along with [guidance and videos](#) on how to upload your data.



Quality Assurance and Standardisation of Centre Assessment Grades

We're working with Ofqual and other awarding organisations on the process for quality assurance and standardisation of Centre Assessment Grades and we'll provide more information over the coming weeks. You can take a look at the [Ofqual infographic](#) that provides details of the process for awarding GCSE, AS and A levels this summer and [our infographic for BTEC qualifications](#), where we are calculating results.



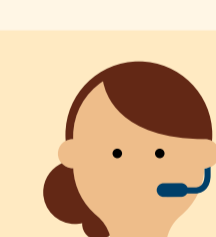
Guidance and support for teachers, Exams Officers and Quality Nominees

We've provided information and regulatory guidance for Exams Officers and Quality Nominees. Live online briefing sessions and support materials to help with the preparation and submission of Centre Assessment Grades and rank orders as well as continuing and adapting assessment for some of our vocational qualifications.




Sector-specific guidance on continued teaching and assessment of many of our vocational qualifications

For those of you delivering our competency, licence to practise and apprenticeship related qualifications, we have created sector-specific guides on how to continue and adapt assessment during this period. Whilst for our BTEC qualifications, we have created sector guides to support continued teaching and learning during this period.




Customer services and expert support

Our expert Subject Advisors and customer services team have been working even harder to solve an unprecedented volume of queries and support customers in these unusual circumstances.




Results days and awarding of grades

We'll be providing support for teachers, students and parents throughout the results period, so you know what to expect and how to support students with their next steps.



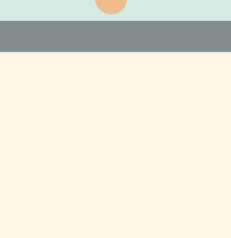
Supporting our Assessment Associates

Our Assessment Associates (examiners and standards verifiers), many of whom are teachers currently working in schools, are extremely important to us. We value their commitment and loyalty year on year and we have made a goodwill payment to them in order to support our education community, despite the summer exams being cancelled.




Online network events

(format and availability may vary by country and region) Our online network events have been extremely popular, providing great CPD opportunities for teachers to keep up to date with the latest information, to network with colleagues and share resources and planning tools. We've also provided support for teachers so they can continue to deliver our qualifications even though students are not currently in a school or college environment.



Live and recorded online lessons

We've been providing [live online lessons](#) for GCSE Mathematics, GCSE Science, GCSE English.



Thank you

During these extraordinary times, with the closure of schools and colleges and the cancellation of exams this summer it remains our overwhelming priority to support teachers and students throughout this unusual situation.

Whilst exams have been cancelled, we've worked swiftly to provide you with the support you need to continue teaching and engaging your students, as well as navigating the complex journey to ensure we put everything in place so that all students can be awarded their grades.

We'd like to thank you for your patience during this time, and to reassure you that as soon as we have a full understanding of the impact of the cancellation of the 2020 exam series on our different qualification suites, we remain fully committed to passing on any savings, where they exist, to you, our customers.