



Assessment 2021 – Special Consideration

The following summary of JCQ information provides details of which situations do or do not qualify for special consideration in summer 2021.

Which candidates are eligible for special consideration?

Candidates will be eligible for special consideration if their performance in an assessment being considered for their final grade was or is affected by adverse circumstances beyond their control.

For assessments in 2021 these include:

- temporary illness or accident/injury at the time of the assessment;
- bereavement at the time of the assessment (where whole groups are affected, normally only those most closely involved will be eligible);
- domestic crisis arising at the time of the assessment;
- serious disturbance during an assessment, particularly where recorded material is being used;

Those not applicable for summer 2021 include:

- failure by the centre to implement previously approved access arrangements (agreed access arrangements are being in all class assessments and where this isn't possible that assessment will not be included in the student's basket of evidence)
- accidental events at the time of the assessment such as being given the wrong examination paper, being given a defective examination paper or CD, failure of practical equipment, failure of materials to arrive on time; (as no formal examinations are being held)
- participation in sporting events, training camps or other events at an international level at the time of the assessment, e.g. representing their country at an international level in chess or football; (as no formal examinations are being held and students who miss an assessment will be given an alternative opportunity)

Candidates will **NOT** be eligible for special consideration if preparation for, or performance in an assessment is affected by issues including:

- long term illness or other difficulties during the course affecting revision time, unless the illness or circumstances manifest themselves at the time of the assessment;
- bereavement occurring more than six months before the assessment, unless an anniversary has been reached at the time of the assessment or there are on-going implications such as an inquest or court case;
- domestic inconvenience, such as moving house, lack of facilities, taking holidays (including school/exchange visits and field trips) at the time of the assessment;

- minor disturbance in the examination room caused by another candidate, such as momentary bad behaviour or a mobile phone ringing;
- the consequences of committing a crime, where formally charged or found guilty; (However, a retrospective application for special consideration may be considered where the charge is later dropped or the candidate is found not guilty.)
- the consequences of taking alcohol or recreational drugs;
- the consequences of disobeying the centre's internal regulations;
- the failure of the centre to prepare candidates properly for the examination for whatever reason;
- quality of teaching, staff shortages, building work or lack of facilities;

The full JCQ document can be found here: [A guide to the special consideration process](#)