STANDARDISING GRADES SUMMER 2020

Despite the cancellation of the summer examinations due to the COVID-19 pandemic this year, most students will still receive calculated grades this summer.

This year your grades will be based on Centre Assessment Grades and Rank Orders which have been submitted to us by your teachers/lecturers. These were based on a combination of factors including mock examinations, completed non exam assessments and other assessed pieces of work. Grades were then quality assured by headteachers at your school/college before being submitted to us.

To ensure that standards are maintained, we will be standardising your grades using a statistical process which has been developed by Ofqual, which regulates all qualifications in England.

What is standardising?

Each year we maintain standards through setting similarly challenging assessments, monitoring the standard of marking to ensure it is accurate and consistent, and deciding on grade boundaries to ensure that standards are comparable from year to year. As this year you have not had the opportunity to sit your assessments, we will be adopting a statistical process which will ensure that we maintain grading standards. Through this process, you can be assured that you are receiving a fair grade, which is at a consistent standard to previous and future years.

What information will be used?

Using a statistical approach developed by Ofqual, our expert staff will be considering the following factors:

- Past results from your school/college
- Prior attainment information for you and your fellow students
- National results for each subject from previous years

These factors, along with information provided by your school/college, will be used to ensure grades are awarded fairly and will be of equal value to those awarded to students in previous years.

Will my grades be different to what was submitted by my teachers/lecturers?

As no specific nationally agreed standard process was put in place for teachers/lecturers to follow when calculating their assessment grades, in some cases those grades might be too high or too low. Our standardising approach will address these issues which may mean your final grade might be higher or lower than your Centre Assessment Grade.

What if I'm not happy with my results?

If you are unhappy with your results, you should to speak to the Exams Officer within your school/college, who may be able to appeal on your behalf. Further information is available on our fact sheet on Appeals.