
Awarding of A* grades for Applied GCEs (Double Award)

Please note that further guidance has been provided regarding the awarding of A* grades for Applied GCEs (Double Award).

This will affect the following qualifications:

Edexcel Advanced GCE in Applied Art and Design (Double Award)

Edexcel Advanced GCE in Applied Business (Double Award)

Edexcel Advanced GCE in Applied ICT (Double Award)

Edexcel Advanced GCE in Health and Social Care (Double Award)

Edexcel Advanced GCE in Travel and Tourism (Double Award)

The specifications for these qualifications will be updated and published on our website. The further guidance will be provided below and in the *Grading information* section of the specification. The revised pages of the specification are shown on the next page, with the additional information indicated with a side bar.

Award of A* grade

To be awarded a grade A* at GCE A level, a candidate must:

1. Achieve a grade A overall for the A level. This can also be described as achieving 80% of the total uniform marks.

AND

2. Achieve 90% of the combined uniform mark total for the A2 units.

For example:

For a six-unit A level, a candidate must achieve at least 480 of the 600 total uniform marks **and** 270 of the 300 combined uniform mark total for the A2 units.

Please note:

- i) The above rules are applied to the best available result for each AS and A2 unit; for each unit, this best available result may be achieved at the first or subsequent sitting.
- ii) Grade A* is **not** available at unit level or for AS qualifications.

Grading information

Mark bands

The assessments are designed to allow learners to demonstrate positive achievement and to have a positive experience in completing each assessment.

In line with the above, the criteria for assessing each assignment have been written so that a learner working at the lower end of the GCE ability range should be capable of meeting approximately 80 per cent of the band 1 criteria. This equates to approximately 40 per cent of the total credit available for the assignment.

Grading, aggregation and equivalence

The overall grade for:

- Advanced Subsidiary (Single Award) qualifications will be graded on a five-grade scale from A to E where A is the highest grade.
- Advanced Subsidiary (Double Award) qualifications will be graded on a nine-grade scale AA to EE, where AA is the highest grade.
- Advanced GCE (Single Award) qualifications will be graded on a six-grade scale from A* to E where A* is the highest grade.
- Advance GCE with Advanced Subsidiary (Additional) qualifications will be graded on a 10-grade scale from A*A to EE where A*A is the highest grade.
- Advanced GCE (Double Award) qualifications will be graded on an 11-grade scale A*A* to EE, where A*A* is the highest grade.

The mark bands used for internal assessment do not relate to pre-determined grade boundaries. Following each examination and moderation series, Edexcel will set the grade boundaries for internally and externally assessed units at an awarding meeting.

The raw mark boundaries will be converted to uniform marks on a scale of 0-100. The final grade for the qualification will be determined by aggregating the uniform marks for the units. The table below gives details of the uniform mark scales (UMS) used for the units and for the qualifications.

In Advanced Double Award, to gain Grade A*A* candidates must gain Grade AA on the qualification overall and at least 90% of the maximum uniform mark on the aggregate of the six A2 units. To gain Grade A*A, candidates must gain Grade AA on the qualification overall and at least 90% of the maximum uniform mark on the aggregate of the three best A2 units.

In Advanced with AS Additional, to gain Grade A*A candidates must gain Grade AA on the qualification overall and at least 90% of the maximum uniform mark on the aggregate of the three A2 units.

Unit results

The minimum uniform marks required for each grade:

Unit grade	A	B	C	D	E
Maximum uniform mark = 100	80	70	60	50	40

Candidates who do not achieve the standard required for a grade E will receive a uniform mark in the range 0-39.

Qualification results

Advanced Subsidiary (Single Award)

The minimum uniform marks required for each grade:

Qualification grade	A	B	C	D	E
Maximum uniform mark = 300	240	210	180	150	120

Candidates who do not achieve the standard required for a grade E will receive a uniform mark in the range 0-119.

Advanced GCE (Single Award)

The minimum uniform marks required for each grade:

Qualification grade	A	B	C	D	E
Maximum uniform mark = 600	480	420	360	300	240

Candidates who do not achieve the standard required for a grade E will receive a uniform mark in the range 0-239.

Advanced Subsidiary (Double Award)

The minimum uniform marks required for each grade:

Qualification grade	AA	AB	BB	BC	CC	CD	DD	DE	EE
Maximum uniform mark = 600	480	450	420	390	360	330	300	270	240

Candidates who do not achieve the standard required for a grade EE will receive a uniform mark in the range 0-239.

Advanced GCE with Advanced Subsidiary (Additional)

The minimum uniform marks required for each grade:

Qualification grade	AA	AB	BB	BC	CC	CD	DD	DE	EE
Maximum uniform mark = 900	720	690	630	600	540	510	450	420	360

Candidates who do not achieve the standard required for a grade EE will receive a uniform mark in the range 0-359.

Advanced GCE (Double Award)

The minimum uniform marks required for each grade:

Qualification grade	AA	AB	BB	BC	CC	CD	DD	DE	EE
Maximum uniform mark = 1200	960	900	840	780	720	660	600	540	480

Candidates who do not achieve the standard required for a grade EE will receive a uniform mark in the range 0-479.