VTCT Performance Table Qualification Webinar – FAQs

When will Ofqual make a definitive decision?

We expect Ofqual to release the findings of the consultation and share the next steps in the near future. VTCT will share any information received from Ofqual with our Centres as soon as we are able to.

What is the timeline for inputting results and claiming?

The VTCT deadline for submitting learner profiles as part of Phase 1 of the data collection is Thursday 28 May. The deadline for submission of centre estimated grades is Friday 12 June.

Can photos and videos of learners completing ranges and assessments be used as evidence?

Estimations are based on the most reliable sources of trusted evidence. The assessor would need to be assured of the authenticity and reliability of any assessments conducted at home. It may be that it supports the estimation process rather than being used as evidence to cover assessment criteria.

Will the evidence used to estimate the grades need to be submitted to VTCT?

VTCT may request centres to upload evidence to support their estimated grades, during the standardisation and quality assurance process. It is important that centres are responsive to requests made during this period in order for results to be published on time.

Can we estimate a 'fail' grade for our learners?

Yes, you will have access to all the grades available for the assessment component, from a fail up to a distinction. Learners are able to use the contingency windows to re-sit any assessments estimated as a Fail.

Where do I find the Grade estimation tool for the AM20530 Technical Award?

The table to check overall qualification grade can be found within the qualification specification on the VTCT website: https://qualifications.vtct.org.uk/finder/qualfinder/qual.php?qual=AM20530

If there is grade estimation for Technical Award AM20530, do I need to delete evidence already uploaded and marked for the May 2020 assignments?

We recommend that any evidence already uploaded is left in the system. This could be used in the quality assurance process. In the next webinar we will tell you about scheduling and submitting estimated grades.

How will students due to re-sit a Technical Award exam in May be assessed?

Learners may already have banked assessments and previous attempts that can be used to help inform the grade estimation for the exam component. This will need to be based on the most trusted sources of evidence that you have and the principles set out in the webinar.

I have submitted the last assignment - do I need to do anything as I am waiting for the results in July?

Assignments submitted for the Technical Award in the summer 2020 assessment series have not been through our external moderation process and therefore not classed as completed units. Your centre would need to decide whether you wish to estimate for these units or delay, based on the principles set out in the webinar.

Will we be required to rank learners at campus level or across the whole college? Per unit or the final grade?

The rank order will be required at campus/site level and for the individual assessment components for those being estimated.

Can you provide grade boundaries for the external exam?

We do not plan to release grade boundaries for summer 2020 as no examinations have been sat and awarded; these are variable grade boundaries and are agreed at the awarding of each assessment series. Centres have been asked to estimate grades and not marks.

Will learners taking a qualification over 2 years be able to complete the qualification normally over time rather than having estimated grades?

These learners will be classed as 'in flight' and the decision rests with the Centre. Estimated grades may be used where necessary to prevent undue pressure on the learner in the second year.

If we delay learners on Technical Levels, will they be expected to complete service portfolios?

If learners are delayed they will be expected to complete all qualification requirements as normal when they return to college.

Can Technical Certificate learners be registered for level 3 if they are delayed?

It is the Centre's decision whether to allow learners to register on the next level of qualification.

Will there be any grade allowances made for students who have to sit extra exams next year?

VTCT will wait for Government advice on learners taking assessments next year and confirm whether any special allowances will be deployed.

What will happen where learners of Technical Certificates and Technical Levels have not had sufficient employer engagement?

VTCT will take a pragmatic approach and we expect that there will be a requirement for a Centre declaration. Further guidance will be issued in due course.

Can additional people have logins where there is job share of Exams Officer work?

Please contact customersupport@vtct.org.uk to discuss any requirements and logins for phase 1 data collection.

Can we tell learners about the process?

There has been clear direction from Ofqual that there is a need for transparency about the process of grade estimation. Sharing the process will help to relieve some of the anxiety that learners will have. The process can be shared but teachers must not share estimated grades with learners or parents/carers prior to the release of results.