



Dance ATAR course practical (performance) examination requirements

2023

Acknowledgement of Country

Kaya. The School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority) acknowledges that our offices are on Whadjuk Noongar boodjar and that we deliver our services on the country of many traditional custodians and language groups throughout Western Australia. The Authority acknowledges the traditional custodians throughout Western Australia and their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We offer our respect to Elders past and present.

Copyright

© School Curriculum and Standards Authority, 2017

This document – apart from any third party copyright material contained in it – may be freely copied, or communicated on an intranet, for non-commercial purposes in educational institutions, provided that the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority) is acknowledged as the copyright owner.

Copying or communication for any other purpose can be done only within the terms of the *Copyright Act 1968* or with prior written permission of the Authority. Copying or communication of any third party copyright material can be done only within the terms of the *Copyright Act 1968* or with permission of the copyright owners.

Any content in this document that has been derived from the Australian Curriculum may be used under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International \(CC BY\) licence](#).

Contents

Dance ATAR course practical (performance) examination	1
1. Reporting achievement.....	1
2. Candidates with an injury, illness or disability	2
3. Provisions for sickness or misadventure	2
4. Principles of external assessment.....	2
5. Criteria for marking.....	3
6. Venues.....	4
7. Country candidates travelling to Perth for examinations	4
8. Examination procedure.....	4
9. Statement of choreographic intent	5
10. Attire	6
11. Equipment.....	6
12. Technical assistance.....	6
13. Layout of the examination room and safe practice.....	7
14. Structure of the examination.....	8
15. Breach of examination rules	9
16. Key dates.....	9
Appendix 1: Personalised practical examination timetable.....	10
Appendix 2: Declaration of authenticity.....	11
Appendix 3: Statement of choreographic intent.....	12

Dance ATAR course practical (performance) examination

This document provides general advice to teachers, candidates and parents about the Dance ATAR course practical (performance) examination.

Where a Year 12 ATAR course has both a written and a practical examination, students are required to sit for both of these examinations. Students who do not sit an ATAR course examination and do not have an approved sickness/misadventure application for that course will not have the grades for the pair of units completed in that year contribute to the calculation of the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE).

The practical (performance) examination for the Dance ATAR course will be held during the period from **Saturday, 23 September to Sunday, 1 October 2023** (weekends and the public holiday included) at a metropolitan location and, if required, major country locations. Candidates must be available to complete their practical (performance) examination during this time. A *Personalised practical examination timetable* (Appendix 1) for each candidate will be made available from **Tuesday, 5 September 2023**. Examination timetables can be downloaded by schools/providers via SIRS and by students from the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority) [student portal \(https://studentportal.scsa.wa.edu.au/\)](https://studentportal.scsa.wa.edu.au/). Country candidates must sit their practical (performance) examination at the Authority's designated examination centre.

For the Dance ATAR course examination, the weightings are:

- Written examination 50%
- Practical (performance) examination 50%

1. Reporting achievement

Teachers are responsible for ensuring the practical (performance) examination requirements are met and making sure candidates are adequately prepared. Teachers must ensure they are using the current syllabus. Any further advice on matters related to the syllabus or assessment will be published in the [11to12 Circulars \(https://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/publications/circular-ecircular/11to12-circulars\)](https://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/publications/circular-ecircular/11to12-circulars), on the Authority website.

Teachers should also refer to the ATAR course examination information published in Section 6 of the [WACE Manual \(http://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/publications/wace-manual\)](http://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/publications/wace-manual), on the Authority website.

For all ATAR courses with a practical examination, for the pair of units, schools are required to submit to the Authority a:

- course mark out of 100 (weighted for each component)
- mark out of 100 for the written component
- mark out of 100 for the practical component
- grade for the completed pair of units.

2. Candidates with an injury, illness or disability

Candidates who have a permanent disability that could prevent them demonstrating their knowledge, understanding or skills in a standard practical examination may apply to be assessed under equitable access adjustments (special examination arrangements). Candidates with a long-term injury or illness that existed prior to the beginning of Term 3 can apply for equitable access adjustments to be examined in an alternative format if the injury or illness will affect their participation in the standard practical examination. Application is made on the form available at all schools and must be received at the Authority by **Wednesday, 26 July 2023**. These candidates will not be granted sickness/misadventure approval.

Additional application forms may be obtained on request or from the [Applications and Order Forms page \(https://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/forms/forms\)](https://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/forms/forms) on the Authority website.

3. Provisions for sickness or misadventure

Consideration may be given to candidates (with the exception of non-school candidates) suffering from a temporary sickness or misadventure close to or during the examinations. The candidate may submit a *Sickness/Misadventure Application*, if they believe their performance in an examination has been affected by the sickness or misadventure.

If a candidate misses or is not able to complete an examination session for health reasons, it is important that medical evidence be provided to verify the nature and severity of the illness/injury. In most cases, that will mean producing evidence from a medical professional who was consulted on the day of the examination or the day before.

Applications will be considered only if made on the correct form, available from examination centres and the Authority website (from September 2023) at <http://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/forms/forms>.

Applications that relate to the practical component must be submitted immediately following the practical examination.

Only one form should be used to cover all examinations for which the application is being made. The completed form and all supporting evidence must be received at the Authority by **4.00 pm Tuesday, 21 November 2023**.

A candidate with an injury or illness existing at the start of Term 3 is not entitled to apply for sickness/misadventure consideration on the basis of the existing injury or illness.

4. Principles of external assessment

The marking process preserves the anonymity of the candidate and their school. This requires that candidates and their work are identified only by their Western Australian student number (WASN).

The authenticity of the candidate's work for Performance 1 in the practical (performance) examination must be guaranteed. It is essential that:

- the main development of all work takes place in school time
- work completed away from school is regularly monitored by the teacher

- each candidate completes and signs a *Declaration of authenticity* (Appendix 2), a legal document witnessed by the supervising teacher and the school Principal to endorse the originality/authenticity of Performance 1
- a copy of the signed *Declaration of authenticity* is kept by the teacher on record at the school
- no other person is to work directly on any part of the candidate's submission
- the work is not submitted by the candidate for external assessment in any other ATAR course.

Teachers should monitor the student's work from the beginning to ensure that there is no plagiarism in the work that is to be submitted or performed for marking. If the teacher has been unsuccessful in working with the student to avoid plagiarism while monitoring the process of work, then the teacher **must** sign the *Declaration of authenticity* and attach a note to this effect to the declaration at submission time.

Non-school candidates are to complete the *Declaration of authenticity* in the presence of an authorised witness. A list of authorised witnesses can be found on the [Authorised Witnesses for Statutory Declarations page \(https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/authorised-witnesses-statutory-declarations\)](https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/authorised-witnesses-statutory-declarations) on the WA.gov.au website.

Markers apply a consistent standard to assess the candidate's performance. This requires:

- a marking key for the practical (performance) examination
- attendance at a marker training meeting prior to the commencement of marking
- trial marking of work to ensure a common understanding of the marking key
- the practical (performance) examination to be marked independently by at least two markers who then reconcile any differences between them
- the Chief Marker to ensure consistency throughout the marking by monitoring the marking process and reconciling significant differences where necessary.

5. Criteria for marking

Examination marks will be awarded in relation to the following criteria:

Marking criteria for Dance ATAR course practical (performance) examination

Performance 1 – Original solo composition

- Choreographic intent
- Organising the dance structure
- Presentation
- Performance qualities
- Safe dance practices and alignment

Performance 2 – Set solo

- Execution of technical dance skills
- Body alignment
- Interpretation of choreographic intent
- Musicality
- Presentation
- Performance accuracy

Performance 3 – Structured improvisation

- Ideas and movement choices in responding to task
- Confidence and commitment in performance

Interview

- Response
- Dance terminology and language

6. Venues

All candidates are required to travel to the allocated venue. Venues for the Dance practical (performance) examination will be located in the Perth metropolitan area and, if required, major country locations.

7. Country candidates travelling to Perth for examinations

Candidates from schools located less than 100 km from Perth are required to travel to the venue at their own expense.

Candidates from schools located more than 100 km from Perth:

- are not reimbursed for accommodation and/or meal costs
- must be accompanied by a chaperone approved by their school if required to stay overnight
- will be reimbursed for fuel up to \$200 (on production of receipts) where a candidate is close enough to drive (i.e. in the area south of Geraldton, west of Kalgoorlie and north of Albany).
Note: the *Fuel reimbursement form* can be accessed from the [Applications and Order Forms page \(https://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/forms/forms\)](https://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/forms/forms) on the Authority website. The form must be lodged by **Friday, 17 November 2023**.
- will have an airfare (and accommodation if required) arranged and paid for by the Department of Education (the Department) when required to fly to Perth. Note: parents/schools who pay for airfares will not be reimbursed. When travelling by air, the candidate will be met by an employee from the Department and will have transport to/from the venue organised by the Authority.

8. Examination procedure

On the day of the practical (performance) examination, the candidate **must** bring a signed hard copy of their *Personalised practical examination timetable* (Appendix 1) to their examination as proof of enrolment, along with a photographic ID for proof of identity. An image of their *Personalised practical examination timetable* on their mobile phone **will not** be accepted as proof of enrolment.

The candidate must report to a supervisor at the examination venue at the scheduled reporting time, i.e. 40 minutes before the scheduled examination time. Candidates who arrive 35 minutes or more after the scheduled reporting time will not be admitted to the practical (performance) examination and the examination cannot be rescheduled.

The scheduled examination time is the time at which the markers will invite the candidate into the examination room as shown in the candidate's *Personalised practical (performance) examination timetable*.

Candidates are required to give their signed *Declaration of authenticity* to the supervisor upon arrival at the examination venue.

Prior to the scheduled examination time, a supervisor takes the candidate to a warm-up area. There may be more than one candidate being supervised simultaneously in the warm-up area. The candidate's warm-up and focus activities at the examination venue must not interfere with the preparation or examination of others.

Candidates will be escorted by the supervisor to the examination room, where they sit outside until invited in by one of the markers.

Candidates **must not** wear or carry anything that identifies them, any school, club or achievements. Failure to do so will result in a breach of examination rules. The candidate is responsible for their personal belongings at all times.

The candidate must leave the examination venue once they have completed their examination and must not have contact with candidates waiting to be examined, or teachers, or other parties who are seeking feedback from the examination until all the examinations have concluded. Failure to do so may result in a breach of examination rules.

The candidate must bring the following items to the practical (performance) examination:

- a signed hardcopy of their *Personalised practical (performance) examination timetable* (Appendix 1)
- a signed *Declaration of authenticity* (Appendix 2)
- two copies of the *Statement of choreographic intent* (Appendix 3)
- music recording for Performance 1 on an MP3 player, laptop, mobile phone (in flight mode) or a USB (back-up) and speakers. The candidate must ensure there is a **10-second** period of silence recorded before their music commences, to allow time for the candidate to walk to the *start* position in the performance space. Candidates are to press play on their own device.
- backup copy of music recording (preferably on a USB) for Performance 1
- props – if they are an integral part of Performance 1 (e.g. hat, cane, scarf, chair)
- a water bottle, towel and photographic ID.

9. Statement of choreographic intent

The purpose of the *Statement of choreographic intent* is to outline the intention of the Original solo composition. The statement is to be **no more than 80 words** and must be printed on the Authority's official form.

The candidate is to provide succinct information in the statement, which may include artistic choices and key decisions made about the dance that will be performed. The candidate may include some diagrammatic information, but it is not necessary to describe the use of the spatial organisation or

the movement vocabulary used. This statement is **not** assessed; however, the information presented in the statement is critical to how the Original solo composition is viewed by the markers.

The candidate must hand **two** copies of the *Statement of choreographic intent* to the markers upon entering the examination room. The *Statement of choreographic intent* must not display any identifying names and is to be removed from any plastic folders before entering the examination room.

10. Attire

Candidates must wear appropriate dance attire to allow markers to see the full use of the body, be barefoot where appropriate (dancers foot thongs/footundeez® are permitted in the examination), and have their hair tied back. No costumes are to be worn.

Current fashion, street clothes, jewellery and inappropriate shoes, unless specifically part of the dance genre performed in Performance 1, often inhibit a candidate's capacity to complete the examination requirements and are to be avoided.

11. Equipment

The following items will be provided in the examination room for the candidate to use, if required:

- a sound system with an AUX cable for candidates to attach their mobile phone (in flight mode), MP3 player and/or laptop
- power supply for candidates to set up their own sound equipment
- music recording for Performance 2 – the Set solo in the contemporary genre
- one chair – to be used in the Interview
- paper and pencil.

The candidate is not permitted to bring any scenery or costumes, or use any projections in the performance. Props that form an integral part of the performance (e.g. hat, cane, scarf, chair) may be brought in; however, the candidate is limited to what the candidate alone can carry and set up in one minute.

12. Technical assistance

Candidates can have a technical assistant to operate the sound equipment for Performance 1 only. The dance teacher of a candidate or a person who is a practical examination marker in 2023 **cannot** act as a technical assistant.

The technical assistant:

- must ensure that nothing they wear or carry can identify them, any school, club, or achievements. If this does occur, the candidate will be referred to the Breach of Examination Rules Committee
- can only communicate with the candidate when conducting a sound check during the 60 seconds preparation time (they cannot prompt, applaud, cheer or comment during the performance)

- can carry and set up the sound equipment only (that is, they may not carry in any props)
- must leave immediately after the completion of Performance 1 and take the sound equipment with them.

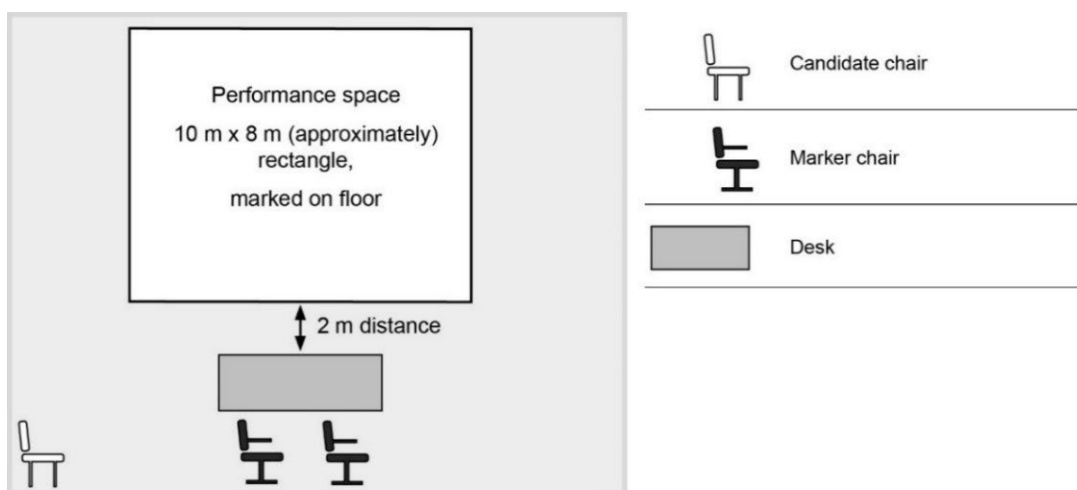
13. Layout of the examination room and safe practice

All examination rooms will be set up in a consistent manner in terms of sound equipment and the placement of the markers as shown in the diagram below. Any mirrors will be covered and the floor will be suitable for dance.

It is the candidate's responsibility to ensure that their performance is safe and that the examination space is left clean and clear for the next candidate.

- Candidates must not involve the markers in any confrontational or intimidating practice during the examination.
- Candidates must not access unauthorised personal items during the examination.
- Candidates must not use unsafe props and/or practice (for example, no naked flames, breaking/broken glass, guns, knives or other weapons, including replica weapons).
- Candidates must not use liquids in the performance area.
- Candidates are asked to carefully consider the props they use. Where there are reasonable grounds for the markers to feel that these safety guidelines have been breached, they will instruct the candidate to stop the performance and the breach will be reported to the Chief Marker. The candidate can be removed from the marking process at the discretion of the Chief Marker. If candidates are unsure about the suitability of props, they must check with the markers on entering the examination room.
- Candidates must have all mobile phones they bring into the examination in flight mode.

Examination room layout



Note:

- candidates are required to work within the marked performance space
- a small table with a sound system for the candidates to use for Performance 1 will also be available in the room.

14. Structure of the examination

Examination	Time
Performance 1 – Original solo composition 35% of the practical (performance) examination	Preparation: 60 seconds Performance duration: 1.5–3 minutes
Performance 2 – Set solo 35% of the practical (performance) examination	Preparation: 90 seconds Performance duration: 2–4 minutes
Performance 3 – Structured improvisation 20% of the practical (performance) examination	Preparation: 7 minutes Performance duration: 30 seconds–2 minutes
Interview 10% of the practical (performance) examination	Up to 4 minutes

The candidate is allowed 60 seconds from entering the room to the commencement of Performance 1 (Original solo composition). This preparation time can include familiarisation with the space. The markers will inform the candidate of the time limit as they enter the room and will ask the candidate to declare any props. The candidate will set up their own device and test that it works.

- **Performance 1: Original solo composition:** if the candidate's performance is still in progress after 3 minutes it will be stopped.

Transition between Performance 1 and 2: the candidate is allowed up to 90 seconds to prepare for Performance 2. This preparation time can include familiarisation with the space.

- **Performance 2: Set solo:** the candidate will perform the set solo, which is in the contemporary genre.

Transition between Performance 2 and 3: the markers will provide a task for Performance 3: Structured improvisation. The candidate will have 7 minutes to prepare a structured improvisation, which is based on Performance 1 and/or Performance 2. During this time, the candidate will be provided with paper and pencils to use for planning, if required. Planning **must** take place in the marked performance space. Planning notes will be collected from the candidate, but will not be included in the marking process.

- **Performance 3: Structured improvisation:** if the candidate's performance is still in progress after 2 minutes it will be stopped.

Transition between Performance 3 and interview: the candidate will then be invited to bring a chair to the line at the front of the performance square and sit in preparation for their interview.

- **Interview:** the candidate will be asked up to three questions.

15. Breach of examination rules

An alleged breach of examination rules will be referred to the Breach of Examination Rules Committee. Further information related to examination breaches can be found on the [Rules of conduct for Year 12 ATAR course examinations page \(https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/assessment/examinations/rules-of-conduct-for-atar-course-examinations\)](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/assessment/examinations/rules-of-conduct-for-atar-course-examinations) on the Authority website and in Part II of the *Year 12 Information Handbook*, published in July.

A breach of one of these rules can result in cancellation of part or all of the practical raw examination mark.

16. Key dates

Thursday, 20 July 2023

Last date for withdrawal of enrolment from ATAR courses with a practical examination component

Wednesday, 26 July 2023

Last date for the Authority to receive completed application forms for alternative format ATAR course practical examinations

Tuesday, 5 September 2023

Personalised examination timetables can be downloaded by schools/providers via SIRS. Students can access their personalised examination timetables via the student portal

Saturday, 23 September to Sunday, 1 October 2023

Dance ATAR course practical (performance) examination

Appendix 1: Personalised practical examination timetable



Government of **Western Australia**
School Curriculum and Standards Authority



Personalised practical (performance) examination timetable 2023 Dance

WA student number:

X	X	X	X	X
---	---	---	---	---

X	X	X
---	---	---

Candidate: Sample Candidate

School name: Sample School School code: XXXX

Examination details

Course: Dance

Date: Day, Date Month Year

Reporting time: 12:05 pm

Examination time: 12:45 pm

Venue: Sample Venue
(Re-check on the day prior to the examination)

Reporting location: Sample Location

Refer to the map on the following page

These examination details are final and no changes can be made.

Candidates, staff and visitors are required to comply with all venue specific requirements.

Students who are unwell must complete and submit a *Sickness/Misadventure Application Form*, with supporting evidence, to the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority). If you are a non-school candidate for this course, there is no option to apply for Sickness/Misadventure.

Candidates who arrive 35 minutes or more after the scheduled reporting time will not be admitted to the practical (performance) examination. The examination cannot be rescheduled. At the reporting time, candidates must submit a completed *Declaration of authenticity*. Failure to submit the completed declaration may result in a breach of examination rules.

Candidates **must not** wear or carry anything that identifies either them, any school, club or achievements. Failure to do so will result in a breach of examination rules.

Candidates are required to sign this timetable prior to the examination. This signed timetable must be shown to the supervisor, with photographic ID, when registering at the examination venue for the practical (performance) examination. Digital copies of your timetable, e.g. on a mobile telephone, are **not** permitted.

Candidates **must not** contact the venue about the examination arrangements. Any queries must be directed to the Authority on 9273 6377.

SignatureDate

Emergency contact for candidates: Phone 0434 734 248

Appendix 2: Declaration of authenticity



Government of **Western Australia**
School Curriculum and Standards Authority



ATAR course practical (performance/portfolio/production) examinations 2023 Declaration of authenticity

ATAR course: (circle one course)

DAN	DES	DRA	MDT	MPA	VAR	MUS (Composition Portfolio examination only)
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	--

This form must be completed by candidates enrolled to sit an examination for the above courses only. Failure to submit a completed *Declaration of authenticity* could result in a referral to the Breach of Examination Rules Committee.

Candidate declaration

Name: _____ School code: _____

WA student number:

--	--	--	--	--	--

As a candidate for the practical (performance/portfolio/production) examination, I declare that:

- I have completed all the work contained in this submission through the duration of the ATAR course being examined
- none of the work performed or submitted was worked on directly by a teacher or any other person or company except those acknowledged, if appropriate, in the references or acknowledgements section or form
- none of the work in this examination was submitted for external assessment in any other ATAR course examination
- all documentation submitted is accurate
- I will submit this declaration in accordance with the instructions in the course practical examination requirements document.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Principal and teacher declarations

This section is to be signed by the school principal and the candidate's teacher.

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge, the work performed or submitted:

- has been completed by the candidate throughout the duration of the ATAR course being examined
- has been developed mainly in school time, and any work away from school was regularly monitored
- has not been worked on directly by a teacher or any other person or company and, if applicable, work has been formally referenced or acknowledged
- has not been submitted for external assessment in any other course or program
- has been checked, meets the practical examination requirements and a copy of this form has been kept as an official school record
- is in working order, i.e. appropriate USBs, DVDs and CDs are formatted correctly.

	Teacher	Principal
Name:		
Signature:		
Date:		

Non-school candidates

An authorised witness needs to witness your signature and complete this section. For a list of authorised witnesses see <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/authorised-witnesses-statutory-declarations>.

Authorised witness

Name: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Appendix 3: Statement of choreographic intent



Government of **Western Australia**
School Curriculum and Standards Authority



Dance ATAR course practical (performance) examination 2023

Statement of choreographic intent

WA student number:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Instructions to candidate

This statement should outline the intention of the Original solo composition. As a candidate of this examination, you must provide succinct information about the dance being presented, which may include artistic choices and any key decisions made.

You may include some diagrammatic information; however, it is not necessary to describe the use of spatial organisation or the movement vocabulary used. **The statement is not assessed**; however, the information presented in the statement is critical to how the Original solo composition is viewed by the markers.

Do **not** name your parent, teacher or any school in your statement.

The statement is to be no more than 80 words and must be typed using 11 point Arial font. Use the space provided below to write your statement.

You must make **two** copies of the statement and hand a copy to each marker when you enter the examination room.

SAMPLE