



Alternative format practical examinations for ATAR course examination candidates with long-term injury or illness 2020

School Leaders, Teachers of Physical Education Studies and Dance

Candidates with long-term injury or illness preventing participation in a standard practical examination should sit a special format practical examination.

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Contact

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Candidates with an injury or illness existing at the start of Term 3 should apply to be examined in an alternative format, if the injury or illness will affect their participation in the standard practical examination of any course. **There will be no sickness/misadventure consideration for candidates on the basis of an injury or illness existing at the start of Term 3.**

The alternative format examination will be designed to assess the same aspects as the standard practical examination. An alternative, but equitable, marking key will be developed for these candidates.

Application is to be made by the school on the *Application for Special Examination Arrangements* form, received by all schools in February. The application is to be supported by appropriate medical information. The school will be advised of the outcome of the application. It will be the responsibility of the school to communicate the decision to the candidate.

Candidates will be expected to report at the designated time and location for completion of an alternative format practical examination. The scheduling of these examinations will coincide with the standard practical examinations for that course.

Candidates studying Physical Education Studies or Dance are the most likely to need special arrangements; however, candidates in any course with a performance or interview component may be eligible.

Where the nature and duration of the candidate's condition is definite and known early (e.g. an elective knee reconstruction), the application should be made by the deadline of **Thursday, 2 April 2020**. Where the injury or illness occurs after that date, application should be made as soon as it is known that the candidate will be unlikely to participate in the standard format of the practical examination. Unless a candidate with an injury or illness existing as of the start of Term 3 can be guaranteed to recover sufficiently to sit the standard practical examination, the school should apply for the student to sit an alternative format practical examination. The last date for application is **Wednesday, 29 July 2020**.

Failure to submit an application will jeopardise the candidate's completion of the examination requirements for that course. It may also impact on their achievement of the WACE and affect their ATAR. Completion of the alternative format practical examination by a candidate with a long-term injury or illness is not discretionary. Failure to complete the practical examination due to long-term

injury or illness will mean that the candidate will **not** have their school grade for that ATAR Year 12 course count towards meeting any of the WACE requirements.

As this is the eighth year of operation for this requirement, no leniency will be provided for candidates or schools not following the required process. In recent years a number of candidates did not achieve a WACE as a direct result of ignoring this requirement.

Relevant staff should note this information and plan a reminder for the end of Term 2 to allow applications to be prepared in time for submission to the Authority by the deadlines.

It is advisable that this information be included in the school newsletter for parents and students at the start of Term 3.