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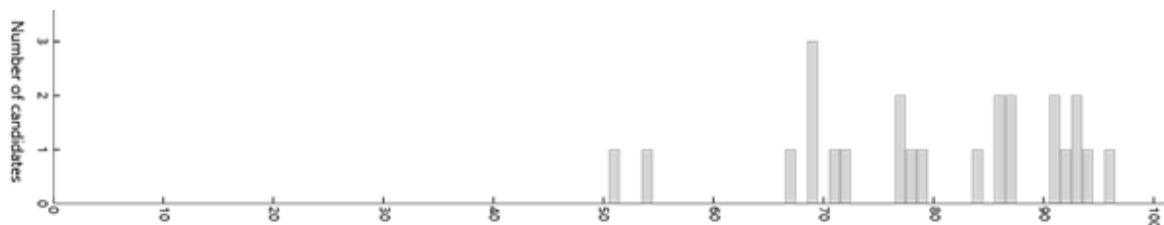School Curriculum and Standards Authority

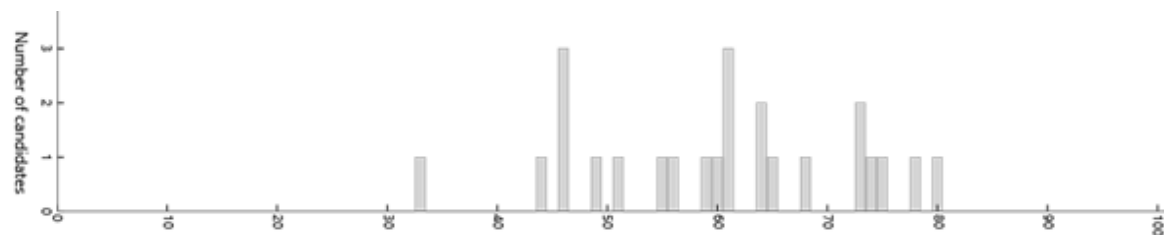**Summary report of the 2020 ATAR course examination:**
Aviation

Year	Number who sat all examination components	Number of absentees from all examination components
2020	24	0
2019	25	1
2018	17	0
2017	20	0

The number of candidates sitting and the number attempting each section of the examination can differ as a result of non-attempts across sections of the examination.

Examination score distribution–Practical

Examination score distribution–Written

Summary
The Aviation ATAR course was examined in two parts: a 20 minute practical examination and a two and a half hour written examination. In the practical examination, candidates performed very well with a mean of 79.63%. This was lower than 2019 due to the adjusted weightings of each section. The mean of 60.11% for the written examination was slightly lower than the mean for 2019. The written paper appeared to be an appropriate length and level of difficulty, as the majority of candidates attempted all questions.

Practical examination

Attempted by 24 candidates	Mean 79.63%	Max 95.68%	Min 50.65%
Section means were:			
Take-off and climb	Mean 85.98%		
Attempted by 24 candidates	Mean 17.20(/20)	Max 20.00	Min 12.73
In-flight manoeuvres (turns, stall)	Mean 86.76%		
Attempted by 24 candidates	Mean 21.69(/25)	Max 25.00	Min 14.71
Use and interpretation of navigation aids	Mean 69.64%		
Attempted by 24 candidates	Mean 17.41(/25)	Max 25.00	Min 7.14
Descent and landing	Mean 77.78%		
Attempted by 24 candidates	Mean 23.33(/30)	Max 30.00	Min 12.50

Written examination

Attempted by 24 candidates	Mean 60.11%	Max 80.23%	Min 32.97%

Section means were:

Section One: Multiple-choice	Mean 68.54%		
Attempted by 24 candidates	Mean 13.71(/20)	Max 17.00	Min 10.00
Section Two: Short answer	Mean 58.00%		
Attempted by 24 candidates	Mean 46.40(/80)	Max 63.23	Min 20.97

General comments
Practical
Revised weightings in the practical examination worked well to differentiate between candidates. This also resulted in the mean being slightly lower than in 2019. All section means were either slightly lower or similar to those in 2019. Overall, candidates were well prepared for this examination. Accuracy of information provided by candidates to markers during the examination was one of the weaker areas, as demonstrated by a lower mean for *Use and interpretation of navigation aids.*

Written
Candidates showed a wide range of knowledge in the written examination. Overall, candidates scored more highly in the Multiple-choice questions compared to the Short answer questions. In questions requiring more detailed explanations, candidates generally did not achieve as highly. This demonstrates the need for candidates to explain their answers more clearly, while aligning their answers more closely to the question being asked.

Practical examination
Advice for candidates
- There is a need for accuracy when providing information to the markers.
- Reread SOPs prior to the examination to ensure all procedures are followed.

Advice for teachers
- Remind students that visual approaches should not be flown based on PAPI or other aids.

Written examination
Advice for candidates
- Ensure each question is read closely.
- Answer each question according to what is being asked rather than trying to use a pre-prepared answer.

Advice for teachers
- Provide your students with opportunities to practice reading and interpreting unseen and unfamiliar questions.

Comments on specific sections and questions
Practical examination
Overall, a high standard was achieved in the practical examination.

Written examination
Section One: Multiple-choice (20 Marks)
Overall, candidates performed well in this examination, with a small number finding it quite challenging. A higher mean than 2019 indicates that candidates were better prepared this year. Candidates found Questions 3 and 11 (with means of 25% or less) the most difficult. The easiest Questions were 2, 7, 12 and 18, with means of 92% or above.

Section Two: Short answer (124 Marks)
A range of candidate performance was evident in this section. The mean achieved in 2020 (58.00%) was lower in this section than in 2019 (mean of 62.60%). Those questions requiring explanations that were more detailed generally resulted in lower means. This was demonstrated in Question 50, which required candidates to discuss the effects of low-cost airline carriers, where the maximum mark achieved was only 5.5 out of 8.