Grading of Certificates (Major, Special Purpose and Supplemental Awards – Level 4 to 6 FE&T)

Context

*The grading classification of Pass, Merit and Distinction will apply to **all award types** within the Common Awards System at levels 4 – 6.*

In addition to component grades being displayed on component certificates and transcripts, the grade for major, special purpose and supplemental awards will be printed on the certificate parchments.

Grading Algorithm

- *The grade for the award[1] is calculated on the basis of the **weighted average of the grades achieved in the components** used to achieve the award.*

- *The credit value for each component determines the relative weighting of that component in the context of the award.*

- *The grade achieved by the learner for each component is Pass, Merit, or Distinction. A component can also be achieved by exemption if being combined with assessed components to achieve a major award.*

- *For the purpose of calculating the weighted average a numerical value is applied to each of the grade classifications, as follows: Pass (1), Merit (2), Distinction (3). For a component gained by exemption a value of 1 is applied i.e. it is treated as if a Pass.*

- *The weighted average is calculated by the sum of the products of each component's credit value (CV) and grade value (GV) divided by the total credit value of the award. See below.*

- *The following additional rules will apply in calculating the weighted average grade;*

    i. *The weighted average will be calculated to two decimal places and then **rounded to the nearest whole number** i.e.*

        a. *Averages of 1.50 and 2.50 upwards are interpreted as Merit or Distinction respectively.*

        b. *Averages of 1.49 and 2.49 downwards are interpreted as Pass or Merit respectively.*

    ii. *The whole number is translated back to the appropriate grade for the award i.e. 1 = Pass, 2 = Merit, 3 = Distinction.*

Award Grade	**=**	$\dfrac{(CV1 \times GV1) + (CV2 \times GV2) + (.....CVn \times GVn)}{\textit{Total Credit Value}}$

See worked examples over

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[1] Award should be read to mean one of Major, Special Purpose or Supplemental award types

Grading of Major Award - Worked Examples

6M2007 **Early Childhood Care and Education** **Level 6** **Major** **Credit Value 120**

Example 1

Component	Title	Value	Grade	GV	CVxGV
6N1942	Child Development	15	D	3	45
6N1944	Early Childhood Curriculum	15	D	3	45
6N1945	Childhood Social Legal and Health Studies	15	M	2	30
6N1946	Work Experience	15	E	1	15
6N1950	Communications	15	E	1	15
6N1932	Early Learning Philosophy	15	D	3	45
6N1933	Early Learning Environment	15	D	3	45
6N1935	Early Childhood Literacy and Numeracy	15	P	1	15
		120			**255**

Weighted Total	**255**
Award Credit Value	**120**
Answer to 2 decimals	**2.13**
Rounded to nearest whole number	**2**
Award Grade	**Merit**

Example 2

Component	Title	Value	Grade	GV	CVxGV
6N1942	Child Development	15	P	1	15
6N1944	Early Childhood Curriculum	15	P	1	15
6N1945	Childhood Social Legal and Health Studies	15	M	2	30
6N1946	Work Experience	15	E	1	15
6N1950	Communications	15	P	1	15
6N1932	Early Learning Philosophy	15	P	1	15
6N1933	Early Learning Environment	15	P	1	15
6N1935	Early Childhood Literacy and Numeracy	15	P	1	15
		120			**150**

Weighted Total	**150**
Award Credit Value	**120**
Answer to 2 decimals	**1.13**
Rounded to nearest whole number	**1**
Award Grade	**Pass**

Example 3

Component	Title	Value	Grade	GV	CVxGV
6N1942	Child Development	15	D	3	45
6N1944	Early Childhood Curriculum	15	D	3	45
6N1945	Childhood Social Legal and Health Studies	15	D	3	45
6N1946	Work Experience	15	D	3	45
6N1950	Communications	15	E	1	15
6N1932	Early Learning Philosophy	15	D	3	45
6N1933	Early Learning Environment	15	D	3	45
6N1935	Early Childhood Literacy and Numeracy	15	M	2	30
		120			**315**

Weighted Total	**315**
Award Credit Value	**120**
Answer to 2 decimals	**2.63**
Rounded to nearest whole number	**3**
Award Grade	**Distinction**

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