



## How Cambridge International will award grades for the June 2020 exam series

During these unprecedented COVID-19 circumstances, Cambridge International has drawn on its wealth of assessment expertise to develop a valid, fair and effective approach to awarding grades for the June 2020 exam series.

The four-step process relies on evidence of student learning and provides an equal opportunity for ALL students to demonstrate their mastery of the content and skills for each course. The ultimate goal in developing our process has been to ensure safety for all stakeholders and fairness to all students.

We are asking schools to collaborate with us to make evidence-based decisions about grades for each candidate in each subject. Students will be assessed based on how well they master the standards expected as per Cambridge International's guidelines. We publish real examples of candidate work to show the standards required for each grade, as shown in examples for Cambridge International AS & A Level English Language and Biology found at: [www.cambridgeinternational.org/usa/june-2020](http://www.cambridgeinternational.org/usa/june-2020)

Cambridge International will conduct audit reviews of such evidence to ensure a valid and reliable process.

Students will receive a grade and diploma from Cambridge International (e.g. Cambridge AICE) as if they had sat for the exam. The grades and diplomas received this year will carry the same weight and prestige as those awarded in the past.

In developing this approach, we have engaged with different entities worldwide, including other awarding bodies, governments and universities.

### Learn more!

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### Valid, fair, and evidence-based process for awarding grades for June 2020 exam series

**STEP 1** Schools determine predicted grades for each candidate for each course, based on authenticated evidence of student performance which demonstrates student mastery of the content and skills.

These grades will be aligned to official standardized grading rubrics and compared to samples of graded student work from past years (e.g. June 2019).

**STEP 2** Schools determine a rank order of candidates within each grade for each course.

If there are 100 students in a given subject, with three different teachers, the teachers come together to determine a ranking within each grade band. If 15 students are estimated to earn a B, they are ranked 1-15. This information is to be used in Step 4 below.

**STEP 3** Head of school/principal confirms the predicted grades and rank orders. School sends them to Cambridge International.

The evidence used for predictions and ranking is retained by the school in preparation for any audit Cambridge International undertakes. In the event of an audit, evidence is sent to the UK and independently evaluated by examiners using the standardized rubrics.

**STEP 4** Cambridge International carries out a statistical standardization process that combines data from the school with historical local and global performance data in each subject, and determines final grades.

This alignment process will control for any possible inflation or deflation of student performance predictions, where schools may have over- or under-estimated that performance.