

Appeals 2023

What you need to know

National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher



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Appeals 2023 overview

When you receive your results, if you're concerned about a grade you can consider appealing against it.

This booklet tells you everything you need to know about appeals in 2023, including:

- opening and closing dates;
- how the appeals service is different from last year;
- when you might want to appeal; and
- what happens after you appeal.

There is also information for anyone who might act on your behalf, such as a parent or carer.

If you're not sure about any of the information in this booklet, speak to your teacher or lecturer. You might also want to share this information with your parent or carer.



What is the Appeals 2023 service?

Appeals 2023 is a free service and is available from results day (Tuesday 8 August).

You can appeal or, if you prefer, you can ask your parent, carer, school, college or training provider to appeal for you.

If you are thinking about appealing, you should discuss it with your teacher, lecturer or another member of staff to see whether it is in your best interests. However, you have the final decision on whether to appeal.

To stay up to date on appeals in 2023, visit our website at www.sqa.org.uk/appeals.





If you appeal your grade, a senior marker will carry out a marking review of your SQA-marked assessments. This is different to last year's appeals service as alternative assessment evidence will not be considered.

A **marking review** is not a re-mark of your exam. It is a check to make sure that:

- all parts of your SQA assessments have been marked;
- the marking is in line with national standards;
- the marks given for each answer have been added up correctly; and
- the correct result has been entered on our system.

After your appeal is reviewed, your grade could go up, stay the same, or go down.

Who can appeal?

You can appeal if you are concerned about a National 5, Higher or Advanced Higher grade on your certificate.

Things to think about before you appeal:

- Is the grade on your certificate in line with your estimate?
- Have you discussed the grade with your teacher or lecturer?
- Is the grade unexpected?



There are a few circumstances where you cannot appeal.
You will not be able to appeal if:

- your course award has been cancelled due to rule breaking (known as malpractice);
- you have been through the Examination Exceptional Circumstances Consideration Service (see page 10); or
- you have received a grade A.

The service deals with grade changes only, not band point movements within a grade (so, you cannot move from, for example, grade A band 2 to grade A band 1).

If you have a conditional offer and need a grade A band 1 for a place at university or with an employer, please speak to your school or college.

Because the following courses are fully assessed by schools, colleges or training providers, you cannot appeal your grade in them.

- National 5 Practical Electronics
- National 5 Practical Metalworking
- National 5 Practical Woodworking



How do I appeal?

Appealing directly

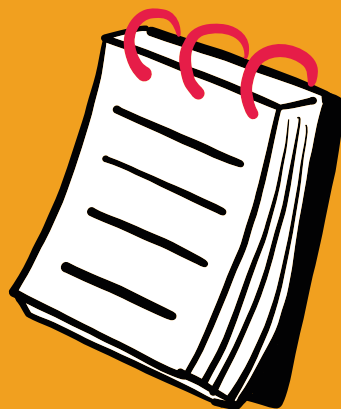
You can appeal directly by going to sga.org.uk/appeals. If you prefer you can ask your parent or carer to do this for you.

The appeals service opens at 9 am on Tuesday 8 August. You will be asked to sign up for the service and will need an email address. We will then email you asking you to verify the address and create a password.

This service is not linked to MySQA and you need to register separately for it.

To register, you will need to provide:

- your name;
- your date of birth; and
- your Scottish Candidate Number (shown on your certificate).



Once you have registered, you can:

- submit (make) an appeal; and
- withdraw an appeal if you change your mind.

The deadlines for submitting appeals are as follows.

- Priority appeals (see page 10) – 11.59 pm on Tuesday 15 August
- All other appeals – 11.59 pm on Tuesday 29 August



Asking your school, college or training provider to appeal for you

You can ask your school, college or training provider to appeal for you. When you receive your results, speak to your teacher or lecturer if you would like them to appeal on your behalf.

The deadlines for your school, college or training provider appealing on your behalf are as follows.

- Priority appeals – 5 pm on Monday 21 August
- All other appeals – 5 pm on Friday 1 September

Examination Exceptional Circumstances Consideration Service

If your school, college or training provider made a request for the Examination Exceptional Circumstances Consideration Service (EECCS) for you, your grade awarded by SQA will be based on:

- your attempted or completed SQA assessment (where the marking was reviewed by a senior marker); or
- the alternative evidence provided by your school, college or training provider; whichever is higher.

You cannot appeal that grade. Please contact your school, college or training provider if you are concerned about a grade awarded under the EECCS.

Priority appeals service

We can prioritise your appeal if you have a conditional offer for university, college or training this year, or an employment opportunity depends on your grade.

Priority appeals must be approved by your school, college or training provider. You can tell us that you need a priority appeal when you appeal. If you ask your school, college or training provider to appeal on your behalf, please tell them that you have a conditional offer or an employment opportunity that depends on your grade.

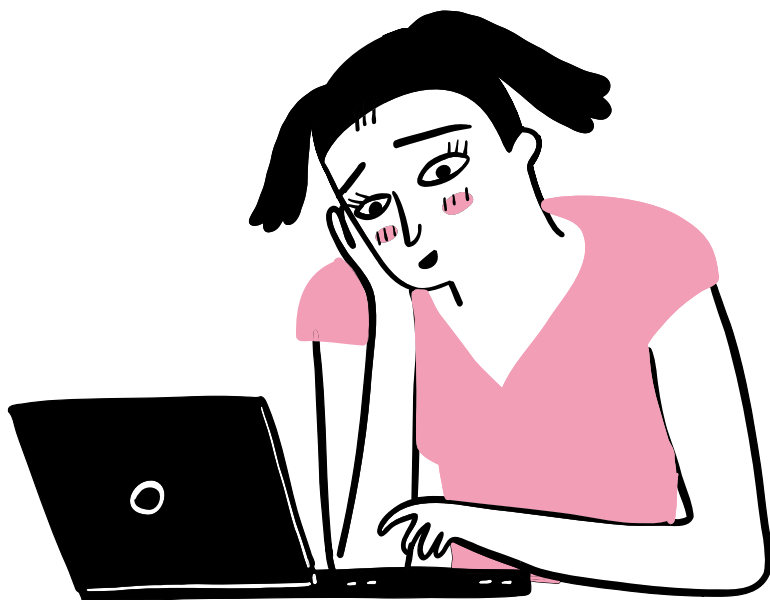
Outcome of appeals

Following an appeal your grade can go up, stay the same or go down. So it is important to understand whether an appeal is in your best interests. We recommend that you discuss your decision with your teacher or lecturer, or another member of staff.

We will send the outcome of your appeal to your school, college or training provider. If your grade changes, we will issue you with a new certificate.

We will confirm the decision on priority appeals by
Monday 4 September.

The marking review for Appeals 2023 is final – once you have a revised grade or we have confirmed that your grade is correct, you will not be able to appeal it again.



Withdrawing an appeal

If you change your mind and no longer want to appeal your grade, you can withdraw your appeal by the following dates.

- Priority appeals – 11.59 pm on Tuesday 15 August
- All other appeals – 11.59 pm on Tuesday 29 August

Contact your school, college or training provider to withdraw any appeals they have submitted on your behalf.

Your appeal will go ahead unless you, or your school, college or training provider, withdraw it.



Appeals 2023 timeline



Tuesday 8 August – results day

Your results will arrive by post, and by text or email if you signed up to MySQA. The appeals service opens at 9 am.



Tuesday 15 August – the last date you, or your parent or carer, can submit a priority appeal.



Monday 21 August – the last date you can ask your school, college or training provider to submit a priority appeal on your behalf.



Tuesday 29 August – the last date you, or your parent or carer, can appeal.



Friday 1 September – the last date you can ask your school, college or training provider to appeal for you.



Monday 4 September – the date we send decisions on priority appeals to schools, colleges and training providers.



October 2023 – the date we issue the decisions of all other appeals. We may need to issue our decisions later than this, depending on how many appeals we receive. We will tell your school, college or training provider if this happens.



Information for parents and carers

If you are appealing on behalf of your child, please note the following.

- You must get your child's permission before you appeal.
- If you are appealing on behalf of more than one child, you will need to register for the service with a separate email address for each child.
- Your child should understand that their grade can go up, stay the same or go down.
- Your child should understand that they cannot also appeal separately.

Learner support

A telephone advice line will be available from 8 to 11 August.
You can call us for advice on the content of your certificate.

The advice line number will be given in the information leaflet issued with your certificate.

Useful links

For help or any questions you may have about your next steps and options, visit one or more of the following websites.

SQA.org.uk

e-sgoil.com

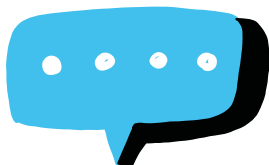
ucas.com

mindyertime.scot

myworldofwork.co.uk/pupils/results-help

myworldofwork.co.uk/schoolleaverstoolkit

whocaresscotland.org





Got a question?

0345 279 1000

www.sqa.org.uk/appeals



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