

Exam Delivery Guidance

Guidance for centres on exam administration, invigilation and the return of exam materials

Dated examinations

Internal and external use

Agenda

- Aims of this webinar
- Preparing for the exam
- Invigilation, certificates and exam stationery
- 4. After the exam: returning scripts
- Resources available for support





Importance of following exam guidance

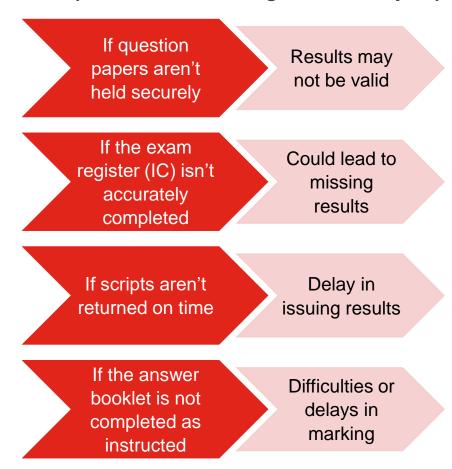
With this webinar, we hope to support you to ensure:

- exams are completed under JCQ / City & Guilds requirements
- we can authenticate candidates' work
- malpractice is avoided

If these requirements are not adhered to, it could mean that:

- candidate scripts are not marked
- results are incorrect or cannot be issued on time

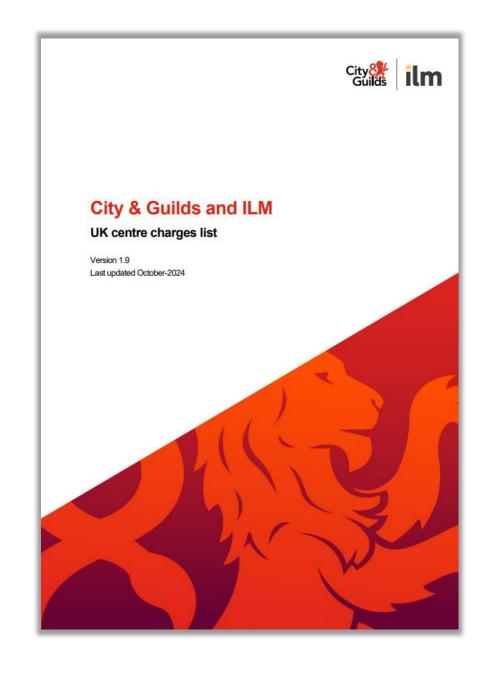
Potential consequences of not meeting exam delivery requirements



Additional centre charges

Additional centre charges are applicable for a number of reasons, including requests for emergency question papers, late return of scripts, insufficient postage for return of scripts, and re-marks of cohorts for the purposes of moderation.

You can find our full centre charges list here: City & Guilds Centre Charges List



Exam resilience and contingency guidance

- 'Our 'Emergency Situations Affecting Assessment Delivery' (version 3.2) covers important information on emergency situations affecting assessment delivery.
- Centre staff and all those involved in the administration of examinations must be familiar with this guidance, and steps that you should take in the event that a timetabled examination cannot go ahead, especially due to severe weather or public health incidents.
- Centres must have a robust contingency plan in place which covers all aspects of assessment delivery and administration in the event of a serious national, widespread disruption to assessments.
- Please ensure you familiarise yourself with the City & Guilds guidance, and the guidance published by Ofqual in 2023 and 2024 respectively.

City ilm

Emergency Situations affecting assessment delivery



City & Guilds guidance



Guidance

Guidance on collecting evidence of student performance to ensure resilience in the qualifications system

Published 21 September 2023

Applies to England

Ofqual guidance, 2023

Guidance

What schools, colleges and other centres should do if exams or other assessments are seriously disrupted

Updated 7 May 2024

Applies to England, Northern Ireland and Wales

Ofqual guidance, 2024



Review the packages of exam material you have received



Qualifications

- ➤ These instructions apply to all **dated** examinations, including T Level and Technical Qualifications.
- We use Parcelforce to dispatch all packages of exam materials.
- ➤ Upon receipt of question papers and any other exam materials, it is the centre's responsibility to ensure these are signed for at the point of delivery.
- ➤ It is important to check the contents against the accompanying delivery note.
- ➤ From then on, materials must be transported immediately to your centre's secure storage. Centres must be able to demonstrate secure movement and secure storage of question papers and confidential materials.

Review the packages of exam material you have received

Exam supplements

Exam materials will be packed in this order:

- > The **Delivery Note** will be at the top
- > This will be followed by the **Exam Stationery** (Invigilation Certificates)
- > Then the yellow return labels and return bags will be packed



Candidate Barcodes

Candidate barcodes are placed on top of the exam supplements, separate from the Invigilation Certificates. This is to make it easier for you to locate the correct candidate barcodes to go with the relevant Question Papers.

Question papers

The Question Papers will be in security bags, with the exams details visible through the security window. The exam material and candidate barcodes for cohorts are placed on top of the relevant Question Papers and everything is banded together.



Preparing for the exam – review the materials you receive

- Consider using the resources provided by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) a useful Materials Receipt Log can be downloaded to use or adapt which, and is available on their website.
- For Multiple Choice exams, it is essential that an additional check is carried out to ensure that the **exam date** and **centre number** printed on the Invigilation Certificate for the multiple-choice exam (MC) and multiple-choice answer sheets (MA) match.

Any discrepancies / mismatches **must** be reported immediately using the contact details provided below:

01924 930 800

customersupport@cityandguilds.com

Lines are open: Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., UK time



Non-receipt of exam materials

If you have not received the materials you were expecting (i.e. the materials for which you have received an order confirmation), please report this immediately using the contact details above.

Remember that the sealed exam bags **must be stored securely** until the day of the exam.

Conducting exams: overview

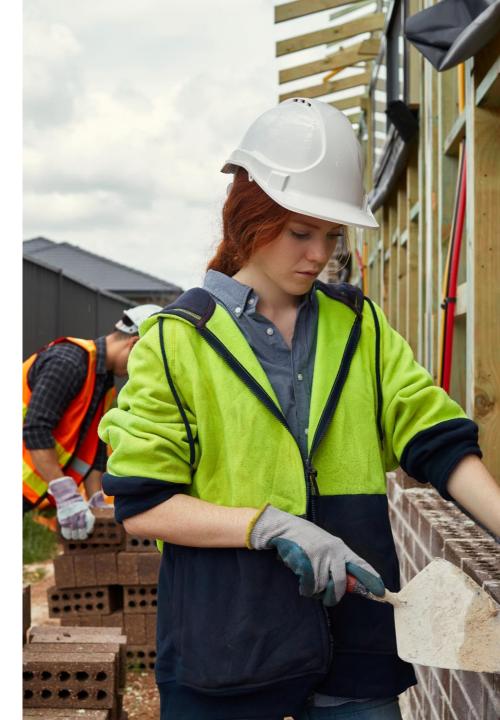
Exams must be conducted in accordance with the Joint Council for Qualification's Instructions for Conducting Examinations.

These instructions must be followed by all centre staff involved in the administration of exams. This includes:

- heads of centre
- SLT members
- Exams Officers and Exam teams
- invigilators
- communication professionals, language modifiers, practical assistants, prompters, readers, and scribes

This document can be found at <u>JCQ - Instructions for Conducting Examinations</u>.

Centres must ensure the correct invigilation processes are adhered to and must immediately alert City & Guilds to any suspected malpractice within exams. Please refer to our guidance on Managing Cases of Suspected Malpractice in Examinations and Assessments.



Conducting exams: rules and regulations



Dated, timetabled examinations

City & Guilds' exams for Technical Qualifications and T Levels are Dated Entry (timetabled) exams which must be conducted at the date and time which appears on the exam timetable and on the exam paper.

It is vital the usual JCQ regulations are adhered to, including:

- Maintaining the security of exams by ensuring they start at the awarding body's published start times of 9:30 am for morning exams, and 1:30 pm for afternoon exams. JCQ guidelines allow centres in the UK to vary their start times by 30 minutes earlier or later than the published start time without the need to complete any paperwork
- To avoid any possible breach of security, late arrival candidates or early departing candidates must be supervised as if the awarding body's published start time had been in place
- Candidates who have taken an exam earlier than the awarding body's published start time must be kept under centre supervision until one hour after the published start time for that exam
- Centres must ensure question papers used by those candidates are kept in the centre's secure storage facility until one hour after the awarding body's published start time for that exam
- Candidates who take an exam later than the awarding body's published starting time must be kept under centre supervision from 30 minutes after the published start time for that exam until they begin it

Conducting exams: very late arrivals

- A candidate who arrives after the start of the exam may still be allowed to sit the exam; this is entirely at the discretion of the centre.
- A candidate will be considered **very late** if they arrive for the exam **more than one hour after** the awarding body's published starting time for an exam (i.e. after 10:30 am for morning exam and after 2:30 pm for afternoon exam).
- A candidate who arrives very late and is permitted by the centre to sit the exam must still be allowed the full time for the exam.
- Where a candidate arrives **very late** for an exam, centres must send the script to City & Guilds in the normal way and then submit our **very late arrivals** form. You can find this on our website within the Conducting Examinations tab on our Centre document library, or on our Exams Support Hub.



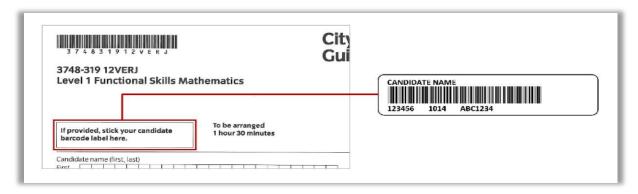
All centre staff involved in the preparation and delivery of exams, including exams staff and invigilators, must ensure that the administrative processes around exams are supported effectively, and the instructions on the front of the exam script are followed, including:

- Candidates must use a pen with black or dark blue ink only
- The pre-printed barcodes on the front page of the exam paper must not be defaced as this may result in the paper being voided
- Question papers for absent candidates must not be given to any other candidate
- Invigilators must ensure that the correct examination paper is given out to the right candidate
- For written exams, candidates must write their responses on the answer booklet
- For multiple-choice exams, please use the pink multiple-choice answer sheet only
- Any answers written on the wrong document (i.e. the source documents or multiple-choice question papers) will **not** be marked



Before the exam starts:

- Place the candidate barcode sticker onto the front of the answer booklets.
- Stick this carefully within the border of the candidate space on the front of the answer booklet as outlined in the image below:



- Answer booklets are scanned when they are received back at City & Guilds, so it is very important that the barcode is attached correctly onto the answer booklet. Please be aware that if the label is incorrect, applied in the wrong area, or if it is not straight, this will cause an error once scanned and this will delay the marking process
- Hand out the scripts to the specified candidate named on the question papers. For multiple-choice exams, the candidates' details will be pre-printed on the answer booklets (MA)
- Please take care to ensure that the correct candidate is using the correct matching answer booklet
- > **DO NOT** photocopy any packet labels or candidate labels
- DO NOT put a barcode label on a question paper which is not being used
- > DO NOT return unused question papers or scripts for candidates who were absent; these must be securely destroyed



Invigilation certificates and exam stationery

Invigilation certificates and exam stationery



Invigilation certificate

- ➤ The Invigilation Certificate (IC) or multiplechoice Invigilation Certificate (MC) is the exam attendance register. You must indicate to us whether every candidate is present or absent by marking this within the relevant column on the IC or MC.
- For any candidate marked as present, there must be an accompanying multiplechoice answer sheet (MA) or completed question paper (script).
- All Invigilation Certificates must be signed by the invigilator.
- All forms must be completed in block capitals using black or dark blue ink
- All data provided must be kept within the boxes on the Invigilation Certificates.

Pre-printed data

Centres must not make any manual amendments or annotations to the preprinted data on the Invigilation Certificates (IC/MC).

Any discrepancies between the materials you expected and those you received must be reported to the City & Guilds Customer Support team using the details below.

Phone:

01924 930 800

Email:

customersupport@cityandguilds.com

Example 1 – New Invigilation Certificate (IC) for a written exam

12:30

Pre-printed text

Contains centre and assessment details, Please do not write here or alter text in any way

Candidate Details

List of candidates that have been entered for the examination. 18 candidates per page

Externally marked exam invigilation certificate

999990 City & Guilds Test centre Qualification 8030-22 Technician Diploma in Engineering

Assessment

8030-210 Engineering fundamentals 2

09:30

End time

Use BLOCK CAPITALS and BLACK or BLUE only Enrolment number Candidate name Result Performance codes nur Invigilator I confirm that this exam was carried out in ABC1234 John Smith accordance with the JCQ Instructions for Conducting Examinations (ICE), or local exam EFG5678 Jason Doe regulations and instructions where applicable. Name (BLOCK CAPITALS)

Exam version

Where this exam is marked external to e-marking platform, Examinar must complete the section below:

Examiner Examinar number

MARKET MARKET

Additional condidates as authorised by City & Guilds

Centre

Exam date Tues 05 Mar 2025

Additional Candidates Space provided for two additional candidates per page

Examiner

For examiner use. Please do not write here or alter text in any way

ENRNNNN RICHARD BILLY Perticular M 15 0 1 2 0 0 0

4050 v2.0

Centre cohort reference Centre cohort ref INVIGILATOR'S NAME Invigilator Signature ____05/03/2025

City & Guilds delivery reference

06050004050

City & Guilds only

Exams officer

No. of pre-provided conditioning present on this page.

Exam's officer Signature ____05/03/2025

Please return original top and middle copies with condidates'

completed work to the address below instendiately following the examination, (even if no condidates were present). Storetec Services Ltd C/O: City & Guilds

Unit 4, Sidings Business Park

Freightliner Road Hull, HU3 4XA

Date of descent

any way

Pre-printed text

Contains centre and

assessment details,

Please do not write

here or alter text in

Invigilator and **Exam officer** details

Centres to add the invigilator full name in block capital, sign and date. Plus, the date of dispatch along with signature form the Exams officer.

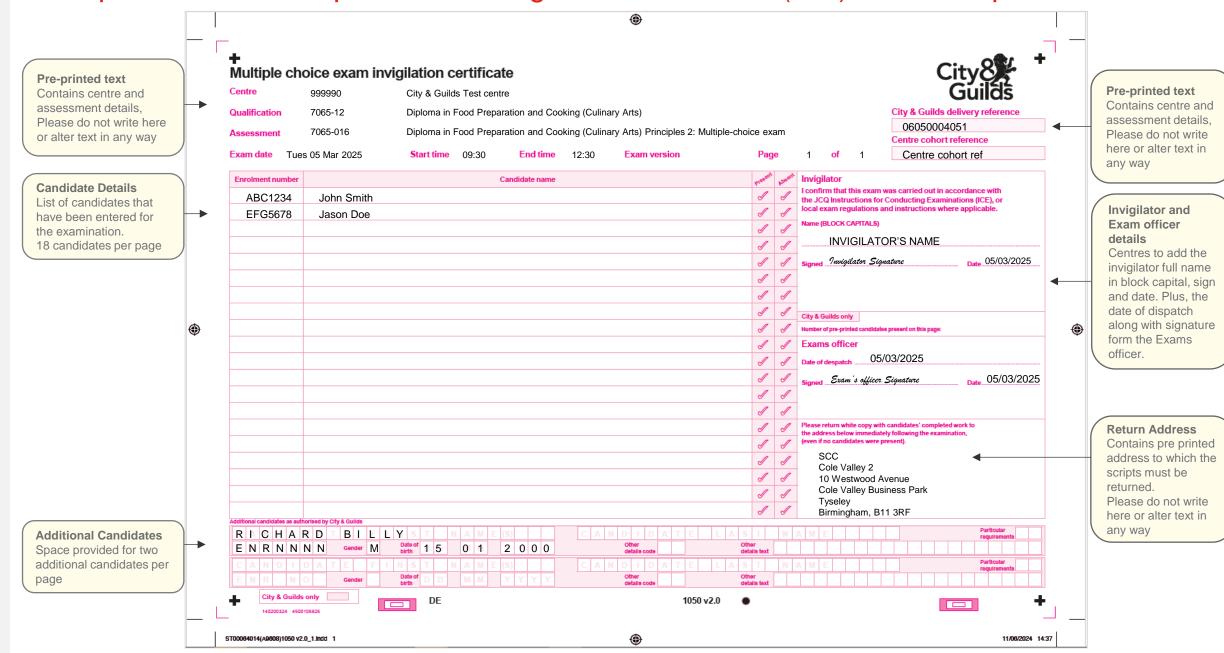
Performance codes

For examiner use. Please do not write here or alter this text in any way

Return Address

Contains pre printed address to which the scripts must be returned. Please do not write here or alter text in any way

Example 2 – New multiple-choice Invigilation Certificate (MC) for a multiple-choice exam



Checklist for completing your Invigilation Certificate



Please remember to:

- Make sure the Invigilation Certificate is signed and dated by the invigilator
- Make sure only the pre-printed stationery which we provided, has been used
- ➤ Make sure the Invigilation Certificate (IC) is accurately completed, ensuring that the **present/absent** column has been completed by clearly marking the appropriate box. Ensure **each candidate** has a **present/absent** mark indicated by a tick.



Please do not:

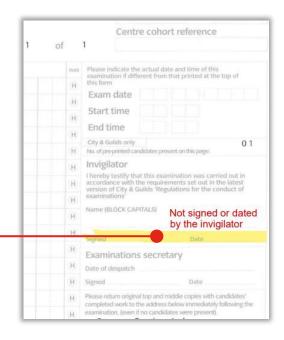
- Cross out any of the pre-printed details on the Invigilation Certificate (IC/MC), as this will cause delays in processing the exam material
- Use a red pen when completing the IC
- > Substitute candidates under any circumstances (i.e. don't cross out the name of an absent candidate and enter the name of another candidate)
- > Photocopy multiple-choice answer booklets (MAs).

Examples of errors on an Invigilation Certificate



No invigilation signature or date

This must be completed on every IC.



No confirmation of candidate attendance

No tick to confirm if this candidate was **present** or **absent**. This will delay the processing of these exam scripts.

Anomalies in confirming candidate attendance

An extra tick has been provided here, but with no candidate name. This will need to be queried with the centre.

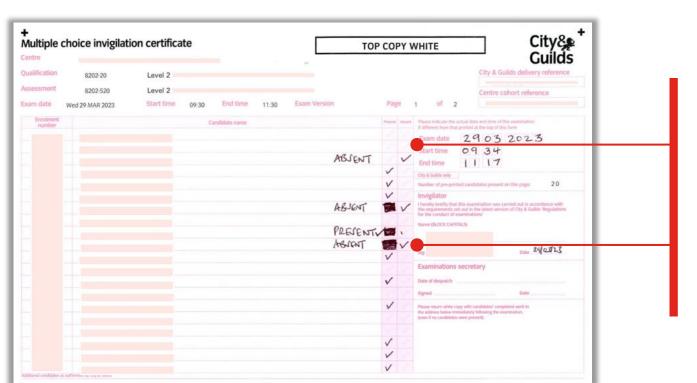




What not to do: inaccuracies on the Invigilation Certificate

The Invigilation Certificate (IC) is the exam attendance register.

- If this is not completed with accuracy, City & Guilds cannot determine if candidates were present or if a script is missing.
- In situations such as this, City & Guilds will need to contact the centre, who will be asked to go back through their paperwork to confirm a candidate's attendance or absence.
- This will cause a delay to marking and potentially a delay to the release of results for all candidates.



- This centre has not ticked to indicate whether several of their candidates were present or absent.
- Errors were also made on other candidate rows and the invigilator had to correct the location of the ticks.
- These will not be picked up by our scanning systems and will require manual intervention.

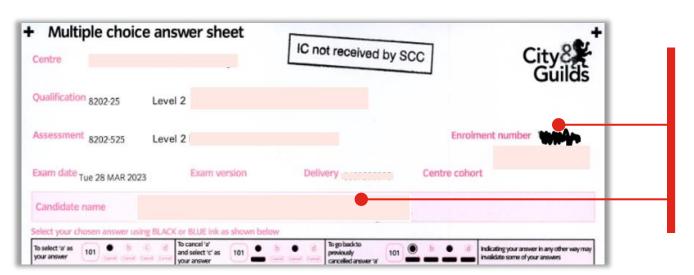


What not to do: repurpose an answer sheet for the use of another candidate

Multiple-choice answer sheets (MA) are pre-populated with individual candidate details as per the bookings made by a centre. If a candidate is absent, it is very important that you **do not** utilise their MA for a different candidate.

If you do not have an MA for any of your candidates, **do not** photocopy the existing MAs or utilise spare MAs. This will lead to:

- The release of a result against the wrong candidate (the candidate whose data is pre-printed on the MA will receive the result, not the candidate who was manually added). It could also mean that the result is not released at all, as the photocopied MA does not contain the relevant key information needed for City & Guilds to proceed with marking (such as learner enrolment numbers)
- A delay to results being released for the affected candidates and potentially the rest of your cohort. Corrections can only be made if/when we notice
 the errors.



This centre has crossed out the enrolment number of the original candidate and entered the details of a new candidate. Note that we must anonymise this information, and it is therefore not fully visible.

This answer sheet for the additional candidate will not be scanned into the marking system.

If the MA does successfully scan, their result will likely be released against the original candidate.



Please contact our Customer Support team if you believe you have not received the examination material you were expecting.



What not to do: candidates failing to follow instructions on Multiple-Choice answer sheets

- ➤ The Multiple-Choice answer sheets (MA) must be completed by filling the circle with black or blue ink instructions are provided on the sheet for each candidate.
- If the candidate needs to change their answer, they can shade in the cancel box under their answer and shade an alternative answer. Candidates must not put rings or lines around answers rather than filling the circle as instructed on the MA.
- Invigilators must make exam instructions clear to candidates to avoid such errors.
- Only the multiple-choice answer sheets (MA) must be used to answer questions.
- The exam invigilator must ensure candidates use the MA and **do not** enter answers into the question paper, as **this** will result in the candidate answers being lost, as the multiple-choice question books are shredded upon receipt.
- This will cause a delay or lack of results being released for the affected candidates.





What not to do: affix the candidate barcode label in the wrong place

Candidate barcode labels must be affixed onto the front of the answer booklets within the designated space. If this is not correctly placed, this will lead to:

- Delays in the exam being scanned into our system.
- Delays to marking
- Delays to results being released for the affected candidates and potentially for your entire cohort.



- This candidate barcode label has been affixed to the wrong area of the script.
- It should have been placed in the correctly designated space.
- This will result in a delay when scanning into our systems and therefore a delay to marking.



After the exam: returning scripts

Returning your scripts to City & Guilds – packaging scripts



Important

It is a centre's responsibility to ensure that all details required on exam documents are completed in full and that the information provided is correct. Incomplete or inaccurate data, or incorrectly completed forms, will inevitably cause a delay in processing and may affect the release of results. Please ensure exam scripts and other material are kept secure at all stages of the exam process.

- Once the exam has finished, please ensure all present candidates' exam scripts and their Invigilation Certificates (IC) or present candidates' multiple-choice answer sheets (MAs) and their multiple-choice Invigilation Certificates (MC) are packaged together and placed inside the grey City & Guilds plastic envelope. It is important that you do not mix ICs and scripts from different examinations.
- For multiple-choice exams please ensure that all present candidates' answers are only on the pink multiple-choice answer sheet.

 Any candidates who use the question booklet by mistake will not have their work marked.

Returning your scripts to City & Guilds – postage



Important

It is a centre's responsibility to ensure that all exam material and completed exam scripts are kept secure at all stages of the exam process. The exam material and completed exam scripts must be returned on the same day, after candidates have sat the exam, and centres should ensure these are posted using a secure courier.

- The **correct UK return label** must be placed in the centre of the grey plastic envelope. Please **only** return the grey envelope to the address provided and nowhere else.
- The grey plastic envelope must be sealed.
- The centre number, assessment number, and number of scripts (of present candidates only) must be clearly written in the box on the top left. Please do not send back any unused / absent candidate question papers, answer booklets, or source books you must destroy these securely.
- > Please note there is no pre-paid postage label supplied: it is the responsibility of the centre to pay and track delivery via a courier.

Important: Using a reputable courier

Centres should be returning their exams scripts using a reputable postage service that ensures a signature on delivery and tracking.

Our recommendation is to use couriers such as Parcelforce or Royal Mail with special, tracked signed-for deliveries where possible, or similar services. Please ensure discussion and agreements are in place with your post rooms to follow these instructions

Please note: Centres must avoid using parcel shops including the post office and we encourage you to know what service you are being offered when dispatching from a parcel shop. Using non-reputable couriers or parcel shops can lead to a higher likelihood of packages being lost in transit.

Returning your scripts to City & Guilds



Enter details onto the envelope

Write your centre number, assessment number, and number of candidate scripts you have enclosed within the grey plastic envelope.

Affix the return sticker

Use the correct pre-printed **yellow** return sticker and stick it in the space in the centre of the grey plastic envelope.

Important

All completed exam scripts must be returned to City & Guilds on the same day, after candidates have sat the exam.

Any centres whose scripts have not been received by City & Guilds after five working days (unless already discussed with us) will be subject to compliance review.

Please note: the yellow sticker is **not** a pre-paid service; you will still need to provide tracking via a courier company when dispatching your exam scripts.

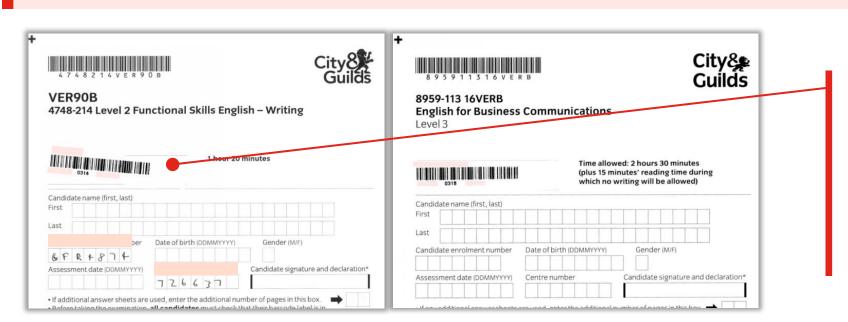


What not to do: returning scripts blank

For Dated Entry examinations, centres **must not** return unused question papers or scripts to City & Guilds for candidates who were absent. **These should be securely destroyed within the centre.** Please be aware that this is different to the on-demand process for Functional Skills.

If blank scripts are received:

- City & Guilds will need to contact the centre who will be asked to go back through their paperwork to confirm the candidate's attendance or absence, particularly if the Invigilation Certificate does not match what was returned
- If an absent candidate's barcode is affixed to the blank script, the script may be processed, and the candidate may get a zero mark instead of being marked "absent". This will affect the number of resit attempts the candidate has available and will potentially impact a centre's ability to make bookings for the next series
- There may be a delay to the release of results.



In this example, the centre has returned blank scripts but with barcodes affixed.

These will be automatically scanned in for marking but will require follow up from City & Guilds, which will cause a delay to marking and the release of results.

Script Return Tracking Form

To help us ensure your candidate scripts are on their way to us, we provide an online form for you to input your tracking details.

Once the exams have been packaged up, please use the Script Return Tracking form to send us the details, which we can monitor to ensure the scripts are received.

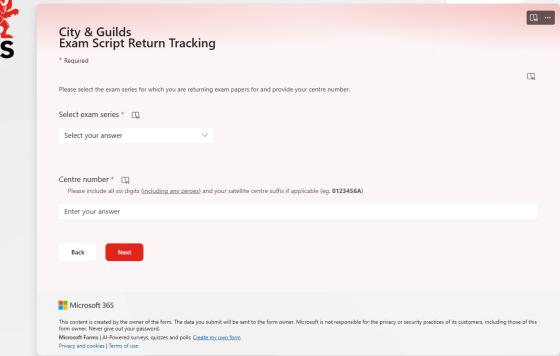
A link and QR code to take you to this form will be sent out with exam materials.

You will also receive an email containing the link.

Completing the form is simple:

First of all, choose the exam series (e.g. Spring 2025) Enter your centre number.

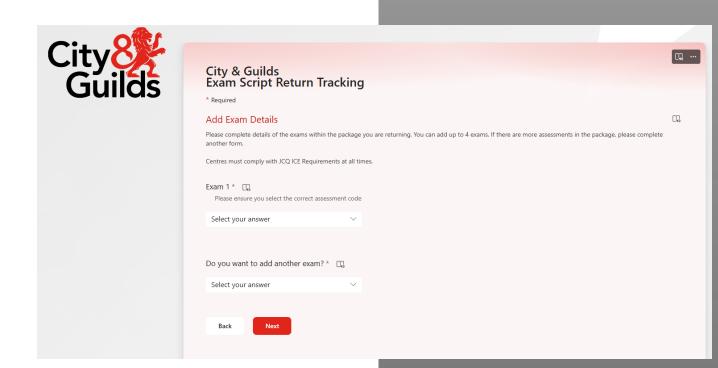




Script Return Tracking Form

There's a chance that you might be returning more than one exam to us with your courier, so you can enter the details of up to four assessments:

Add the assessment number of the exam scripts you are sending Choose "yes" or "no" if you need to add more exams.



Script Return Tracking Form

Add the courier's name.

Provide the date on which you have dispatched the scripts back to us.

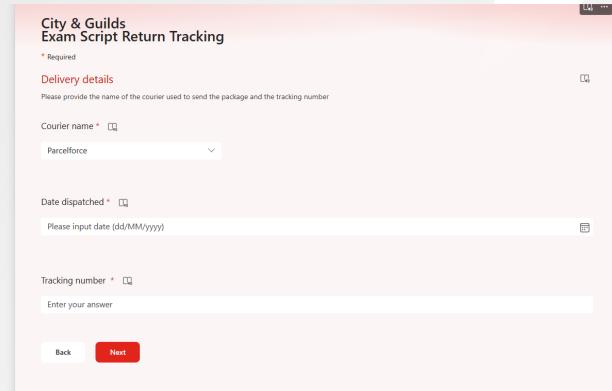
Enter the tracking number.

You'll then be taken to the final page of the form, where you'll be asked if you want an email confirming this information back to you.

If you'd like that email, enter your email address, and then "submit" the form to us.

We will be able to monitor the progress of your exam script return with the courier directly and we won't need to keep contacting you to check in with you about your exam script returns.







Please do not return the examination material late

All completed exam scripts must be returned to City & Guilds on the same day, after candidates have sat the exam. Failure to do this will impact learners as marking will be delayed and there will likely be a delay to the release of results. Any centre whose scripts have not been received within five working days will be subject to compliance review.



Please ensure scripts are returned to the correct address

The return addresses are on labels provided with the grey return bags. Addresses can also be found on the Invigilation Certificates. Please ensure your post room sends exam materials back to the correct address. If you do not have a return label, you can manually add the address.

If scripts are returned to the incorrect address, this will lead to:

- Late marking of the scripts, and therefore a delay to the release of results for your centre
- Additional centre charges.



Please always send scripts via tracked delivery

All exam material must be returned via a courier, with tracking. City & Guilds do not supply pre-paid postage labels; it is the responsibility of the centre to pay and track delivery. It is more likely for your exam material to be lost in transit when not tracked, and with no paper trail to locate it.

- If there is a tracking reference number, there is more likelihood of locating any lost scripts, and this ensures the courier bears responsibility for finding the material.
- City & Guilds cannot confirm receipt of exam material if it is not sent via a tracked courier.
- If the exam material goes missing in transit, the impact will be a delay to marking and release of results.

Exam materials return addresses

Please only return your exam stationery and material by using the pre-printed address on return labels.

The addresses are provided below for your reference.

The return address can also be found on the bottom right of the Invigilation Certificate.

For multiple-choice exams:

SCC
Cole Valley 2
10 Westwood Avenue
Cole Valley Business Park
Tyseley
Birmingham
B11 3RF

For written exams:

Storetec Services Ltd
C/O: City & Guilds
Unit 4, Sidings Business Park
Freightliner Road
Hull
HU3 4XA



Please do not return exam materials to any other address. If you are unsure, contact Customer Support.

01924 930 800 customersupport@cityandguilds.com Lines are open: Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

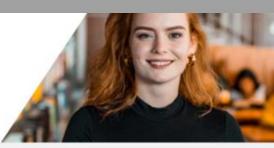




Resources: Exams Support Hub

- Guidance and material for Exams Officers can be found on our website within the <u>Exams Support Hub</u>.
- You will find all the essential information you need at every stage of the exam and assessment cycle, from key dates and registering learners to conducting exams, returning papers, and results support.
- There are also links to further resources for Exams Officers from our regulators.

Exams Support

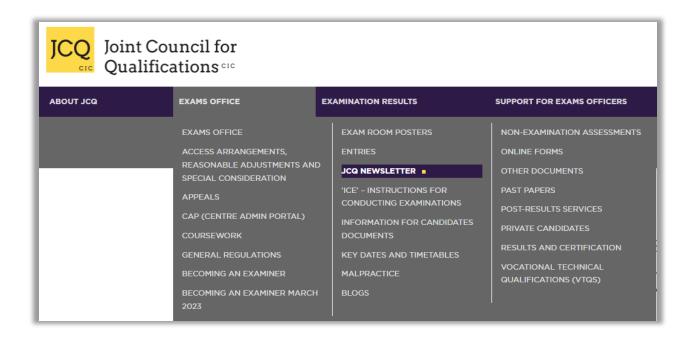


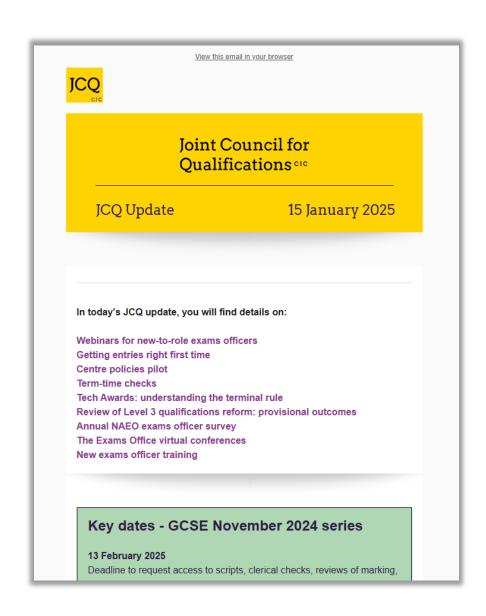


JCQ newsletters

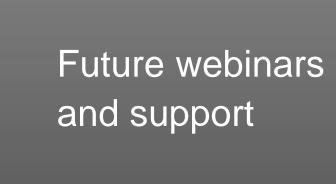
- ➤ Every month, JCQ publishes a newsletter to subscribers, keeping them informed of key JCQ news and updates communicated on behalf of the exam boards.
- ➤ Subscribing to these newsletters is a great way to find out about the publication of JCQ documents which exam centres require for the administration of exams and assessments, and any changes made to awarding methods.

https://www.jcq.org.uk/









About City & Guilds

Since 1878 we have worked with people, organisations and economies to help them identify and develop the skills they need to thrive. We understand the life changing link between skills development, social mobility, prosperity and success. Everything we do is focused on developing and delivering high-quality training, qualifications, assessments and credentials that lead to jobs and meet the changing needs of industry.

We work with governments, organisations and industry stakeholders to help shape future skills needs across industries. We are known for setting industry-wide standards for technical, behavioural and commercial skills to improve performance and productivity. We train teams, assure learning, assess cohorts and certify with digital credentials. Our solutions help to build skilled and compliant workforces.

Giltspur House 5-6 Giltspur Street London EC1A 9DE

customersupport@cityandguilds.com

01924 930 801

www.cityandguilds.com



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