

Indicative Pass Marks

Functional Skills English and Maths (4748)

Version 7.0

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For external use

Document revision history

Version	Summary of change	Approval date
1	Document created	
2	Indicative pass mark changed for Reading L1 and L2 and Writing L1 and L2	February 2020
3	Cover added to Document	December 2021
4	Indicative pass mark reviewed and amended for Reading L1	January 2022
5	Indicative pass mark changed to pass mark range	February 2023
6	Indicative pass mark range reviewed range amended for Mathematics L1 and L2, Reading and Writing unchanged	September 2023
7	Indicative pass mark range reviewed. Range amended for Reading L2 Range amended for Maths L2	March 2024

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How does City & Guilds decide on the pass mark for each Functional Skills assessment version?

Our Functional Skills assessments are designed to measure whether or not a candidate has met the requirements of a particular Functional Skills qualification. They are awarded on a pass/fail basis and are **criterion-referenced**. This means all who take an assessment and demonstrate that they can meet the required standard are awarded a pass. Our assessments are not **norm-referenced**, and therefore there is no requirement for a set number of candidates to pass.

Each test version that is set live by City & Guilds will have gone through a rigorous quality process, which has been ratified by the regulator; Ofqual. Every test version is written against a very clear test specification to ensure that the content is appropriate and in line with the subject content statements outlined by DfE. Due to the complex nature of the tests and the underlying contexts which underpin each version, we acknowledge that some versions may end up being slightly more or slightly less challenging than others and so we always set a pass mark for that version based on a thorough review of the statistics and candidate responses. This process is known as Awarding. The aim of Awarding is to ensure that the pass mark is fair for all candidates sitting the test.

During Awarding we work with our subject matter experts to scrutinise each test and compare candidate responses against the pass descriptors. We also compare the pass marks for the current test version against other versions of the test to ensure a comparable standard over time.

City & Guilds provides a range of support materials; including sample tests which help candidates to prepare for the assessment. It is important to note that a sample test only provides a snapshot of the content of the test, and that candidates should be prepared using a range of sample tests to ensure they are fully prepared against the full breadth of subject content.

Pass Marks

The following figures represent the current pass mark range for the tests.

These may be updated as new tests are added to the bank of papers.

Level	Subject	Marks Available	Pass Mark Range
Level 1	Mathematics	60	31-32
Level 2	Mathematics	60	29-31
Level 1	Reading	30	17-20
Level 2	Reading	30	17-20
Level 1	Writing	54	30-31
Level 2	Writing	54	31-32

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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.

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