

# Circular S/IF/75/19

November 2019

To: The Principals of Post-primary Schools and Directors of Further and Higher Education

For circulation to: Head of Department and Teachers of GCE Health & Social Care

## GCE Health & Social Care (Double Award)

### 12 unit award (A9814)

Clarification on the criteria for awarding candidates grades A\*A\* and A\*A, as agreed with the NI Regulators. There has been a slight change to the criteria for awarding candidates grades A\*A\* and A\*A in the 12 unit double award A level.

The change is to ensure that at least one uniform mark (UMS) from an externally assessed unit is included when deciding if a candidate is eligible for these top grades. The UMS boundaries for grades AA to EE are unaffected.

#### Subject Level UMS Boundaries:

Grade	A*A*	A*A	AA	AB	BB	BC	CC	CD	DD	DE	EE
UMS % Boundary	No fixed % (see below)		80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	45%	40%

An **A\*A\* grade** will be awarded to candidates who have met both of the following criteria:

- achieved an AA grade at A level which is 80% of total UMS; and
- achieved 90%, or more, of UMS on the aggregated total of all their A2 units.

An **A\*A grade** will be awarded to candidates who have met both of the following criteria:

- achieved an AA grade at A level which is 80% of total UMS; and
- achieved 90%, or more, of UMS on the aggregate of the best **externally assessed unit** and the best two of the other A2 units but not achieving A\*A\*.

This change applies to GCE Double Award Health & Social only. A full list of the externally assessed units are available from the specification.

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