



Ref.: CE/31/2009(D)

CE

28 July 2009

Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination 2009
Examination Circular No. (5) 2008/2009

Release of Examination Results

1. The results of the 2009 Hong Kong Certificate of Education (HKCE) Examination will be released on **Wednesday, 5 August 2009**. School principals are requested to send a member of their staff to collect the following documents from the Authority's office at **14/F, Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong** during office hours (7:00 am - 5:00 pm) on that day:

- (1) Results Notices;
 - (2) School Results List;
 - (3) Analysis of School Results (own school);
 - (4) Analysis of Results of Candidates;
 - (5) Application for appeals (Form CE030);
 - (6) Record of payment – Appeal Applications (Form CE038);
- } (specimens attached)

Your staff member should bring the attached collection slip duly completed.

2. Schools using WebSAMS will receive the password for decrypting the examination results files in the system when the documents mentioned in paragraph 1 are collected. The results file sent to each school will only contain the results of the candidates of that school.
3. The Results Notices are printed on perforated slips and should be distributed to individual candidates without delay. The School Results List, Analysis of School Results and Analysis of Results of Candidates are provided for the information of schools. The performance of candidates in the 2009 HKCE Examination will be recorded as follows:
- (1) Except for the subjects of Chinese Language, English Language and French, the performance of candidates in individual subjects will be recorded in terms of six grades, namely, A, B, C, D, E and F, of which A is the highest and F the lowest. Achievements below grade F will be designated as "UNCL" (unclassified).
 - (2) The subjects of Chinese Language and English Language will be recorded in terms of levels, namely, 5, 4, 3, 2 and 1, of which Level 5 is the highest and Level 1 the lowest. Performance below Level 1 will be designated as "UNCL" (unclassified). Level 5 candidates with the best performance will have their results indicated by the symbol*.
- Note:** With effect from 2007, standards-referenced reporting has been adopted for Chinese Language and English Language. Enclosed please find the explanatory note for Standards-referenced Reporting (specimen at *Annex IA*) for your information. The explanatory note has also been posted on the HKEAA website (www.hkeaa.edu.hk→HKCEE→Marking and Grading→Standards-referenced Reporting) for the information of candidates.
- (3) The subject of French is examined on question papers of the International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) Foreign Language French Examination of the University of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE). Achievements in this subject are graded by CIE and are indicated by the following: A*(a*), A(a), B(b), C(c), D(d), E(e), F(f), G(g) and UNGD (ungraded).

- (4) For the following subjects, profile grades/levels (Grades A to F or Levels 5* to 1) will be recorded for the components besides the overall grades/levels:

Chinese Language	Home Economics (Food, Home and Family)
English Language	Computer and Information Technology
Design and Technology	Physical Education
Design and Technology (Alternative Syllabus)	Putonghua
Electronics and Electricity	Science and Technology
Graphical Communication	Technological Studies
Home Economics (Dress and Design)	

Please refer to the “Notes on Interpreting the Profile of Results” (*Annex 1B*).

4. School principals are requested to inform candidates that subjects with unclassified results (UNCL) or grade G for French will only appear in the Results Notice and will not be recorded on the certificate. If their results in a practical subject (e.g. Physics, Chemistry, Biology) are “unclassified” and they wish to resit the same subject as private candidates in a future Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination (HKCEE), they should keep their Results Notices which serve as documentary evidence of their having taken the subject in the HKCEE.
5. In view of the swine flu pandemic, appropriate crowd control measures will be taken on 5 August 2009 during the distribution of results notices and other documents. To cater for this arrangement, please ask your staff member collecting the documents to wear a mask.

Bad Weather Arrangements

6. If Typhoon signal No. 8 is hoisted or Black rainstorm warning is issued at or before 5:00 am on Wednesday, 5 August 2009, the release of results to schools will be postponed.

If Typhoon signal No. 8 or Black rainstorm warning is lowered at or before 11:00 am, the Authority will resume its operation immediately. Schools may send their staff to collect the Results Notices at the Authority’s office at **14/F, Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong** 2 hours after the signal is cancelled.

If Typhoon signal No. 8 or Black rainstorm warning is lowered after 11:00 am, the release of results to schools will be postponed by one day (i.e. the results will be released on 6 August 2009).

Schools and candidates are advised to listen to radio or television broadcast for the Authority’s announcement.

Application for Rechecking of Results

7. **Candidates may apply for rechecking only and/or full appeal (i.e. rechecking and remarking) for up to a total of four subjects.** From 2009, full appeal applications may be made on a subject or component basis for Chinese Language, English Language and Putonghua. For applications on a component basis in these three subjects, the scripts and score sheets of other components of that subject will also be re-checked for technical errors. Appeal for one or more components of a subject is counted as one subject. Applications for full appeal for other subjects and for rechecking only will remain status quo, i.e., on a subject basis.
8. Applications for full appeal and/or rechecking only from school candidates may be accepted provided that they are submitted in accordance with the following procedures:
- (1) Schools using the WebSAMS may use the HKEAA module to prepare the Form CE030 (specimen at *Annex 2A*) and submit full appeal and/or rechecking only applications. **A hard copy of the forms should be printed out and sent to the HKEAA** (please refer to the “Special Notes for WebSAMS Schools” attached to this circular). **In addition, data for these applications should be transmitted through CDS to the HKEAA for computer processing** (please refer to

WebSAMS User Manual Sections 2.7.1 Preparing Outgoing Data and 2.7.3 Confirmed Outgoing Data). Schools not using WebSAMS should use the Form CE030 provided (specimen at *Annex 2B*). All data and/or documents must reach the Authority **on or before Wednesday, 12 August 2009**;

- (2) Photocopies of the candidates' Result Notices should be attached to the application forms **except** for schools using WebSAMS for submitting appeal applications;
- (3) School principals should apply only for candidates with valid reasons such as those candidates whose expected grades for the subjects concerned are higher than the actual grades, or those with other grounds to support the applications. In the latter case, reasons should be given on the application forms. Schools using the WebSAMS can use the built-in functions to generate the expected grades and to enter the reasons for the application. Schools not using the WebSAMS may refer to *Annex 3* in determining the expected grades for their students;
- (4) Once a candidate has submitted an application for rechecking only or full appeal for a subject, a subsequent request to change from rechecking only to full appeal or vice versa will not be entertained. The relevant fees are as follows:

Subject	Full Appeal	Rechecking only
Language Subjects (i.e. Eng. Lang., Chin. Lang., Putonghua & French)	\$715 (per subject)	\$180 (per subject)
Other Subjects	\$580 (per subject)	\$145 (per subject)
Chinese Language / English Language / Putonghua components	\$300 per component*	Not Applicable

*If the total fees calculated on a component basis for a certain subject exceed the fee for appeal for the whole subject, then the fee for appeal for the whole subject will be charged.

The fees should be collected from the candidates concerned (either in cash or by a crossed cheque made payable to the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority) and forwarded to the Authority together with the application form (Form CE030) and the payment record form (Form CE038 - specimen at *Annex 4*; schools using the WebSAMS may use the system to prepare and print the payment record form);

- (5) The fees paid by candidates whose results are upgraded after the rechecking or full appeal process will be refunded.
9. Schools and candidates will be notified of the outcome of **rechecking** and **full appeal** around **21 August 2009** and **28 August 2009** respectively.

Appeal Review Committee

10. The Authority has established an independent Appeal Review Committee to supplement its existing appeal procedures and to provide a mechanism to review the decisions of the Public Examinations Board on examination irregularities and the process of rechecking and remarking. Details are given in *Annex 5* of the Handbook for Candidates.

Please remind your students that all appeal review applications should be submitted in writing within the specific timeframe as follows:

Type of Appeal Review	Application closing date
Examination irregularities	12 August 2009
Process of rechecking and remarking	4 September 2009

For appeal review of the process of rechecking and remarking, school candidates should submit the request through the school with the support of the school principal.

Registration of Private Candidates for the 2010 Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination

11. If your students wish to take the 2010 HKCEE as private candidates, they may view the information from the HKEAA website (www.hkeaa.edu.hk) from **Monday, 31 August 2009**.

Private candidates who wish to enter for subjects with a school-based assessment (e.g. Chinese History, History, Computer and Information Technology) will be allowed to use their school-based assessed results obtained within two years. Please advise your students concerned to read the "Instructions to Applicants" at the time of registration.

12. Principals are requested to inform teachers and candidates concerned of the various arrangements mentioned in this circular.

MARGARET HUI (MS)
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School Examinations and Assessment Division

To: Principals of Participating Schools