

# BUSINESS, ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL STUDIES

## INTRODUCTION

The public assessment of this subject is based on the Business, Accounting and Financial Studies Curriculum and Assessment Guide (Secondary 4 - 6) jointly prepared by the Curriculum Development Council and the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority. Candidates have to refer to the Guide for the knowledge, understanding and skills they are required to demonstrate in the assessment.

## ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

The public assessment of Business, Accounting and Financial Studies (BAFS) aims to assess candidates' abilities to:

1. demonstrate knowledge and understanding of different areas of business;
2. apply such knowledge and understanding to familiar and novel situations;
3. analyse, synthesise and evaluate information in the context of business decisions, taking into account the integrated and dynamic nature of business problems; and
4. communicate facts, opinions, and suggestions in an effective manner.

## MODE OF ASSESSMENT

The following table outlines the various components of the public assessment of BAFS in 2012 HKDSE:

Component		Weighting	Duration
Public Examination	Paper 1 Compulsory part	40%	1½ hours
	Paper 2 Elective part (choose one only) 2A Accounting module 2B Business management module	60%	2½ hours

## PUBLIC EXAMINATION

### Paper 1

There will be two sections in this paper: Section A (60 marks) will consist of multiple choice questions and Section B (40 marks) short questions. Questions will be set on the compulsory part of the curriculum. All questions are compulsory.

### Paper 2

Candidates will attempt either Paper 2A or 2B.

Questions will be set on the respective module of the elective part of the curriculum. Candidates are, however, expected to integrate their knowledge and skills learnt in the compulsory part to demonstrate in-depth knowledge of the module.

There will be three sections as follows:

	<b>Paper 2A</b> (accounting module)	<b>Paper 2B</b> (business management module)	Remarks
Section A (30 marks)	short questions	short questions	All questions are compulsory.
Section B (50 marks)	application problems	case studies	
Section C (20 marks)	case/theory questions	essay questions	Candidates will be required to answer one out of two questions.

Candidates are expected to be aware of the impact of standards issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants upon the accounting definitions and treatments covered by this curriculum. New or revised standards effective for annual periods beginning on or before **1 January 2009** are applicable to the examination.

### **SCHOOL-BASED ASSESSMENT (SBA)**

SBA will be implemented starting from the 2016 HKDSE. In the SBA component, students are required to analyse and present business issues with respect to one authentic or simulated business scenario. The task requirements are as follows:

- Proforma worksheets – four proforma worksheets to be completed in class as a record of the work process
- Written presentation – a written artifact of not more than 3 word-processed pages of A4 paper
- Oral presentation – an oral presentation of not more than 10 minutes, followed by a question-and-answer session of about 10 minutes

The presentations will be assessed in three areas: (i) business knowledge and understanding, (ii) analytical skills for business decision-making, and (iii) business presentation skills.

The implementation of SBA in BAFS is scheduled as follows:

Year of Examination	Implementation of SBA
2012 & 2013	Schools are not required to submit SBA marks. Public examination results constitute 100% of the final subject results.
2014 & 2015	All schools have to submit SBA marks for feedback from the HKEAA on the outcomes of moderation. Public examination results constitute 100% of the final subject results.
Starting from 2016, all schools have to submit SBA marks contributing 15% to the final subject results.	

The detailed requirements, regulations, assessment criteria and guidelines will be provided in the SBA Handbook (Trial Version) for HKDSE Business, Accounting and Financial Studies published by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority. During the transition years, the curriculum for BAFS will remain intact and schools will be expected to conduct the SBA activities as an integral part of learning and teaching and internal assessment as recommended in the Curriculum and Assessment Guide. In the light of feedback from schools during the transition years, a finalised version of the Handbook will be published when the SBA is implemented.