

BTEC Appeals Summer 2021

Where a Qualification level Teacher Assessed Grade has been awarded

Where BTEC results for summer 2021 are issued using Qualification level Teacher Assessed Grades the grounds for appeal that are detailed in the [JCQ A Guide to Appeals Processes, summer 2021](#), will apply.

To supplement the JCQ A Guide to Appeals Processes, summer 2021, this document provides a summary of the appeals process for summer 2021 and also provides information on where the BTEC appeals process will differ from the arrangements detailed in the JCQ document.

How the BTEC appeals process will differ

For summer 2021, the grounds for appeal that are specified in the JCQ A Guide to Appeals Processes, summer 2021, will apply to BTECs that are awarded using Qualification level Teacher Assessed Grades, with a few minor amendments to the details contained in the JCQ document:

1. Where a student wishes the centre to submit an academic judgement appeal to the awarding organisation on their behalf, the centre is not required to upload all of the evidence used in making its academic judgement. This is because the size of some BTEC qualifications would make the volume of evidence such that a requirement to upload it all would be overly burdensome for centres. Instead, centres will be able to choose whether to upload all of the evidence or not. Where the centre decides it cannot upload all of the evidence, we will arrange for a member of our team such as a Standards Verifier, Senior Standards Verifier or Principal Standards Moderator (PSM) to contact the centre to discuss the evidence used in the grading decision and select a sample of evidence to be provided for further consideration, where required.
2. There is no route to Ofqual's Exam Procedures Review Service (EPRS) for BTEC students. However, a complaint may be submitted to Ofqual once the appeals process has been completed, where there is reason to believe the awarding organisation has not followed its procedures in handling the appeal.
3. There is a [BTEC specific Evidence Checklist](#) that can be used as an alternative to the checklist provided in Appendix C of the JCQ A Guide to Appeals Processes, summer 2021.

4. The contact details provided in Appendix A of the JCQ A Guide to Appeals Processes, summer 2021 are slightly different for BTEC qualifications:
- After 18 June 2021, if you discover a procedural or administrative error which has affected your TAGs, you should request that the error be corrected by contacting Pearson via the customer contact portal. You should complete the [Q-TAG amendment form](#) and return it to us via the customer contact portal. Missing learners should be reported to us by contacting resultsresolutionpearson.com. We will endeavour to correct all errors before results day, if possible.
 - After 18 July 2021, if you discover a procedural or administrative error which has affected your Q-TAGs, you should continue to follow the above process. We cannot guarantee that changes requested after this date will be amended in time for results day. If this is the case, you should explain to the affected student on results day that an error has been made with their grade and a new result will be issued as soon as possible. You should explain to the student the impact that this is likely to have on their grade, particularly if their grade will be lower as a result. You must not disclose the final grade to the student before results day.
 - From results day onwards, you should request any error corrections by using the Appeals Portal. This applies to all errors including those identified as a result of conducting a Centre Review. You must explain how the error was identified and clearly indicate what the corrected grade should be. We will review your explanation before deciding whether the request can be accepted. If correcting the grade will result in the student's grade being lowered, you must read the guidance in Appendix D of the [JCQ Guide to appeals processes, summer 2021](#) before you submit a request to correct the error. When submitting the correction request, you must provide information on any adverse impact that lowering the result may have on the student concerned. We will consider this information before deciding whether the grade should be lowered.

Grounds for Centre Review

The grounds upon which a student may request a centre review are:

- The centre did not follow its procedure properly and consistently, and/or
- The centre made an administrative error.

Requests for appeals on the grounds of academic judgement (unreasonableness) will only be considered by Pearson (at Stage Two) and not by centres. In these cases, an

initial centre review must still be completed to ensure that the centre has not made any procedural or administrative errors.

Grounds for appeal- student

The grounds upon which a **student** may appeal to Pearson (following completion of a centre review) are:

- **Pearson Error Appeal (Student)** – where the student believes Pearson has made an error and has not issued the grade that the centre has requested. The student must provide its reason for believing we have made an error.
- **Centre Process Appeal (Student)** - where the student believes the centre has not followed its process for determining the Qualification level Teacher Assessed Grade correctly, or it has made an admin error, or it has not followed the centre review/appeal process properly. This will also include where a student does not believe the centre has made appropriate provision for any reasonable adjustments they were entitled to or applied special considerations appropriately.
- **Centre Academic Judgement Appeal (Student) – Grade** – where a student believes the centre’s Qualification level Teacher Assessed Grade was unreasonable.
- **Centre Academic Judgement Appeal (Student) - Range of evidence** – where the student believes the centre has not been fair in its selection of evidence upon which it has based its Qualification level Teacher Assessed Grade determinations.
- **Centre Process and academic judgement Appeal – combined (Student)** - where the student believes the centre has not followed its process for determining Qualification level Teacher Assessed Grade correctly and also believes that the centre's Qualification level Teacher Assessed Grade was unreasonable.

All student appeals to Pearson must be submitted by the centre. Students are not able to submit appeals directly to us.

Student consent

Student consent to centre reviews and appeals will be required. It is important for students to be aware that grades may go up, stay the same or go down as an outcome of a centre review or appeal.

Priority Appeals

When a centre is submitting an appeal on behalf of a student, it may select 'priority appeal' in cases where a student has not attained their firm HEI offer or where the student has an apprenticeship place pending the outcome of the appeal.

Deadline for appeals

Priority appeals must be submitted to Pearson by 23 August 2021.
All other appeals must be submitted to Pearson by 17 September 2021.

Submitting an appeal

BTEC appeals should be submitted using the Pearson Appeals Portal. This will be accessed by centres via Edexcel Online (EOL). Applications to appeal should be submitted with the relevant supporting evidence for the appeal and the BTEC Evidence Checklist provides information on the evidence required.

Fees for appeals

Further information will be provided shortly.

Malpractice appeals

Malpractice appeals will be handled in line with the approach specified in paragraphs 26-40 of the JCQ publication: [A guide to the awarding bodies' appeals processes Effective from November 2020 examination series](#).