

Wednesday 6 January 2010

JCO statement: Examinations during severe weather conditions

1. Wherever possible the examinations should be conducted according to the centre's published examination timetable. However, if the weather is so severe that a decision is made to close the school, whether by the local authority or the senior leadership team, then two options will apply.
2. Where candidates are sitting one or two units and this is not their terminal (final examination series), then an approach should be made to the individual awarding body concerned to make an entry for June 2010.
3. Where candidates are sitting units within a 'new AS' specification and expecting a qualification grade in March 2010, but the units are available again in June, then an approach should be made to the individual awarding body concerned to make an entry for June 2010.
4. Where candidates are sitting units as part of their terminal examination series and no further re-sit opportunity is available, such as candidates sitting legacy GCE A2 units, which are available for the final time in January 2010, then an application for Special Consideration may be made.
5. The candidate must meet the published criteria for Special Consideration as indicated in the JCO publication, Access Arrangements, Reasonable Adjustments and Special Consideration.

*Where a school or centre remains open but some individual candidates are unable to reach it because of extreme weather conditions, then centres may apply for Special Consideration on behalf of those candidates. See point 4 above.

There is a published contingency plan for the examinations system at <http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/files/2009-10-23-joint-exam-contingency-plan-02.pdf>

Ends.