

STANDARDISATION OF NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS RESULTS

What is standardisation?

A process used to eliminate the effect of factors other than the learners' knowledge, abilities and aptitude on their performance.



Which assessment bodies' qualification results are standardised?

Department of Higher Education and Training

- National Certificate (Vocational)
- General Education and Training Certificate
- N1-N3

Department of Basic Education

- National Senior Certificate
- Senior Certificate (amended)

Independent Examinations Board

- National Senior Certificate
- General Education and Training Certificate

South African Comprehensive Assessment Institute

- National Senior Certificate

Benchmark Assessment Agency

- General Education and Training Certificate

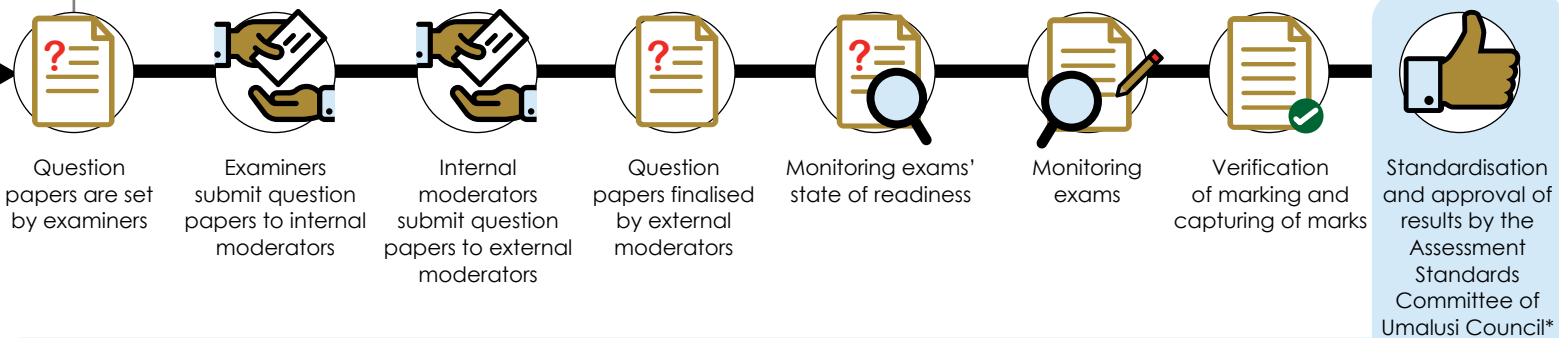
Why standardise results?

- To ensure that learners are not advantaged or disadvantaged by factors other than their knowledge of the subject, abilities and aptitude.
- To achieve comparability and consistency of the results from one year to the next.

Raw marks are ideal

STANDARDISATION IS A PROCESS

18 MONTHS PROCESS



1 Review of learner performance against historical performance of candidates in each subject

2 Historical average constructed using past 5 years' data

3 Pairs analysis provides further comparisons of raw marks

4 Standardisation of exam results and site-based assessment

*The Assessment Standards Committee of Umalusi Council consists of independent academics with diverse expertise in assessment, statistics, mathematics and education

STANDARDISATION PRINCIPLES



No adjustment should exceed 10% of the historical average in either direction (upward or downward)

If the distribution of the raw marks is below or above the historical average, the marks may be adjusted either way subject to limitations

In the case of an individual candidate, the adjustment effected should not exceed half of the raw mark obtained by the candidate

After considering qualitative and quantitative reports, Umalusi formulates positions on each subject: 'accept raw marks', 'upward adjustment' or 'downward adjustment'