

To All Learners

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**EDUCATION SERVICE  
DIRECTORATE**

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03451 555555 ext. 480217

Your Ref:  
Our Ref: ML/EF

13 December 2024

Dear Learner

The Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) published information regarding the 2024 National Qualification appeal outcomes.

I thought it would be useful to inform you of the outcomes of this- see below.  
In addition, SQA have also published a helpful guide called [Your National Qualifications - everything you need to know](#), which you can access online.

### **National appeals information**

Appeals 2024 provided you and centres with the opportunity to review a SQA National Course grade whenever you had not achieved the expected result for the SQA-marked assessment components of their course.

Appeals 2024 involved a marking review of a learner's externally assessed components and checked that all parts of the assessment have been marked, that the marking is in line with the national standards and the marks given for each answer have been totalled correctly, and the correct result was entered on SQA's system.

This year, you, your representatives or your centre could submit appeals. However, as grades could go up, down or stay the same, you had to consent to the appeal before any requests could be submitted by your centre or representative.

Appeals could be prioritised if you had a conditional offer at college or university, or if training or employment that depended on your grade.

You could apply for an appeal if you had been awarded a final grade based on externally assessed components that were submitted to SQA for marking,

### **Key Highlights:**

- 44,855 (8.1%) of the 552,695 certificated grades for National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher were appealed in 2024, a 0.8 percentage point increase from 2023 (7.3%).

- At National 5, 20,615 (6.3%) of the 327,950 certificated grades were appealed. This is an increase from 2023 (5.6%).
- At Higher, 21,980 (11.2%) of the 196,250 certificated grades were appealed. This is an increase from 2023 (10.3%).
- At Advanced Higher, 2,260 (7.9%) of the 28,495 certificated grades were appealed. This is an increase from 2023 (7.0%).
- 7.6% of appeal requests (3,390) resulted in an upgrade in 2024, a decrease from 10.0% in 2023. There were five appeal requests that resulted in a downgrade in 2024.

### **Result changes**

- 7.6% of appeal requests (3,390) resulted in an upgrade in 2024, a decrease from 10.0% in 2023. There were five appeal requests that resulted in a downgrade in 2024.

### **Request breakdown**

- Education authority centres accounted for 93.4% of appeal requests (92.3% in 2023), while 6.0% came from independent centres (6.8% in 2023). As a proportion of their entries, education authority centres had the highest number of appeals in 2024 at 8.2%.
- Of all appeal requests, 52.6% were from female learners (53.9% in 2023) and 47.4% were from male learners (46.1% in 2023). As a proportion of their entries, not known had the highest number of appeals in 2024 at 10.0%.
- The 20% most deprived areas of Scotland (SIMD 1) accounted for 16.0% of all appeal requests (15.6% in 2023), and the 20% least deprived areas (SIMD 5) accounted for 25.4% (25.7% in 2023).
- Appeal rates for SIMD quintiles ranged from 7.7% to 8.6%. Appeal outcomes varied significantly by SIMD quintile: upgrade rates were between 5.9% and 8.5% for all known quintiles.

To find out more please click link- [Summary of Appeal Outcomes 2024 - SQA](#)

I hope you have a good holiday when it comes. Keep working hard at school all the way up until the last day which is 20 December.

Yours sincerely

Maria Lloyd  
 Head of Service, Education  
 Secondary and specialist Support Service