



Hurdle and Additional Assessment Business Process

SCOPE

This process applies to all undergraduate and postgraduate coursework courses and units offered in the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences (MNHS) as well as units in which the Faculty has a majority teaching responsibility.

PURPOSE

This aims to define hurdle assessment requirements and the implications for students studying units owned by the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Science. To provide guidance in relation to the number of attempts permitted in line with the university assessment procedures.

Hurdle requirements in the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences are consistent with the Monash University Assessment in Coursework Units: Development and Implementation of an Assessment Regime Procedures.

1. Definition of Hurdle Assessment

Hurdle assessments are compulsory requirements within individual units that must be met in order to achieve satisfactory results in those units. They are normally mastery of professional skills or attainment of required attributes. These requirements fulfil one or more unit learning objectives and they may be activities that are class based or that need to be undertaken outside regular scheduled class times. Hurdles are classified as either a competency hurdle or a threshold hurdle.

2. Threshold hurdles

A threshold hurdle can only apply to an assessment task or collection of tasks worth 20% or more of the final unit result. All threshold hurdles require achievement of at least 45% of the marks available for the task.

3. Competency hurdles

A competency hurdle is a task, which may have no assessment weighting, that the student is required to satisfactorily complete to demonstrate professional accreditation competency. End of semester examinations can be categorised as competency hurdles as they assess mastery of discipline-based knowledge and professional skills.

The minimum mark to pass this type of competency hurdle is 50% but this may be higher with approval from the Faculty Education Committee (FEC). Requirements for passing a competency hurdle must be clearly stated in the unit guide and on Moodle.

4. Number of attempts and additional assessment

With the exception of end of semester examinations where only one attempt is permitted, where a unit has a competency hurdle requirement, the maximum number of attempts permitted must be clearly outlined in unit guides distributed to students at the commencement of the unit.

Where a student has failed a competency hurdle requirement the additional assessment can be granted by the School/Department as appropriate (this does not include attendance hurdles). Should a student fail the additional

assessment then the maximum mark and grade to be returned for the unit is 45NH. No further assessment opportunity is to be permitted.

Additional assessment may only be awarded if:

1. All other assessment items within the unit have been successfully completed and a pass grade would have been reached if not for the failed competency hurdle;
2. The original result obtained in the competency hurdle assessment item equates to a mark of between 45-49%.

For students eligible for additional assessment the assessment is to be tailored to the area(s) of weakness demonstrated in the original piece of assessment and assesses the same learning outcomes as the competency hurdle. The additional assessment will re-examine the part(s) of the unit assessment that the student failed.

Outcomes

Should a student fail the additional assessment then the maximum mark and grade to be returned for the unit is 45NH. No additional assessment opportunity, including supplementary assessment, is to be permitted.

If the student passes the additional assessment, the original mark obtained by the student stands and is used when determining the final mark for the unit.

For example:

BOP2014 – 6cpt

Assessment for the unit:

Essay (1500 words) – 20%

Lab report x 4 – 20%

3hr written exam (competency hurdle)– 60%

Student receives 75% for the essay, 45% for the exam and 80% for the lab report. This equates to raw marks of 16 for the essay, 27 for the exam and 15 for the lab report. With the student passing the additional assessment the original exam mark will stand and is added to the other raw marks to receive the final unit mark and grade; $(16+27+15) = 58\%$.

5. Supplementary Assessment

The BOE of the Faculty may determine and grant a supplementary assessment in accordance with section 19 of the [Monash University \(Academic Board\) Regulations](#). Students cannot apply for supplementary assessment; however eligible students may decline supplementary assessment.

A Chief Examiner may recommend to BOE that an eligible student undertake a supplementary assessment. To be eligible for supplementary assessment students must have:

- Received a unit mark of 45 to 49;
- Been enrolled in the unit in the last 12 months;
- Submitted all assessment tasks for the unit;
- Passed all other units in which they were enrolled during the same teaching period; and
- Be able to complete their course with a pass in the unit or if the BOE is satisfied that failure in the unit would significantly impact the student's enrolment.

Students are permitted a maximum of two supplementary assessments in any one course, and one supplementary assessment in any one unit. Students that have failed additional assessment for a competency hurdle and received a mark of 45NH are not eligible for supplementary assessment. Students must undertake supplementary assessment at the time and in the manner determined by the Chief Examiner.

If the student passes the supplementary assessment, they will be awarded a mark of 50P. Should a student fail the supplementary assessment the original mark for the unit will stand.

6. Clinical/fieldwork hurdle assessments

Courses with clinical/fieldwork units should classify the practical skills' assessments as competency hurdles and allow one attempt. If a student fails a practical skills competency hurdle additional assessment can be granted as per 4 above.

Where a student is removed from a clinical/fieldwork placement due to unprofessional behaviour (see the Clinical/fieldwork Placement Business Process), there is no requirement to offer the student a repeat opportunity. This consideration will be at the discretion of the School/Department or Faculty. Having failed the hurdle requirement, the student will be awarded a fail grade for the unit.

Where a student is required to repeat a unit as a result of a clinical/fieldwork fail, a maximum of one repeat attempt is allowed. If the second attempt is unsuccessful the students will be directed to seek counselling from their relevant Course Coordinator to examine future options.

7. Attendance Hurdle

The chief examiner can determine if particular assessment tasks require student attendance in teaching activities. Where student attendance is required for particular assessment tasks, this requirement must be stated in the unit guide. Depending upon the assessment task students may be required to attend master classes, tutorials and/or laboratory sessions.

In relation to clinical/fieldwork placements, refer to the [Clinical Fieldwork Placement Business Process](#). Attendance requirements need not be specified unless required for external accreditation.

8. Failure to meet a hurdle requirement

Failure to meet a hurdle requirement will result in the student failing the unit with a maximum result of 45NH. If a student fails to meet a hurdle and would have also failed the unit, the student will be awarded their mark and an N grade for the unit. Failure of a unit may impede student progression.

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Definitions	Hurdle Assessment: Hurdle assessments are compulsory requirements within individual units that must be met in order to achieve satisfactory results in those units. They are normally mastery of professional skills or attainment of required attributes. These requirements fulfil one or more unit

	learning objectives and they may be activities that are class based or that need to be undertaken outside regular scheduled class times.
Legislation Mandating Compliance	Monash University Statute Academic Board Regulations
Related Policies	Assessment in Coursework Units: Development and Implementation of an Assessment Regime Procedures
Related Documents	Assessment in Coursework Units policy Assessment in Coursework Units: Adjustment to Assessment Procedures Assessment in Coursework Units: Assessment Security and Record Keeping Procedures Assessment in Coursework Units: Examination Procedure Assessment in Coursework Units: Feedback Procedures Assessment in Coursework Units: Grading and Marking Procedures