

**Special consideration methodologies for projecting mark based linear and unities qualifications.**

WJEC provides **linear** qualifications (all assessments must be taken in the same series) and **unities** qualifications (assessments may be taken in one or more series).

If a candidate is absent for good reason from a timetabled examination or non-examination assessment in a linear qualification, WJEC uses a weighted percentile method for projecting the candidate’s qualification mark. Using this method calculates the candidate’s total qualification mark based on the closest weighted average percentile. The weighting of the average accounts for the maximum mark available on each assessment and any aggregation factors.

**Example of percentile approach**

If a qualification consisted of 3 components, each out of 100 marks, and each weighted equally and a candidate had missed the 3<sup>rd</sup> component, for good reason, then WJEC will first calculate the candidate’s weighted percentile on the components they had sat.

| Component 1 |                                   |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mark        | Percentage getting mark or better |
| ...         | ...                               |
| 70          | 22.2%                             |
| 69          | 23.1%                             |
| 68          | 25.5%                             |
| 67          | 27.8%                             |
| 66          | 28.1%                             |
| 65          | 29.4%                             |
| ...         | ...                               |

| Component 2 |                                   |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mark        | Percentage getting mark or better |
| ...         | ...                               |
| 58          | 38.3%                             |
| 57          | 39.5%                             |
| 56          | 40.2%                             |
| 55          | 41.6%                             |
| 54          | 42.6%                             |
| 53          | 43.9%                             |
| ...         | ...                               |

If our candidate received a mark of 68 on Component 1 and 55 on Component 2 then the weighted average of their percentile would be  $(25.5+41.6) / 2 = 33.55$ . Applying this weighted percentile value to the qualification mark distribution shown below, their projection would therefore be a qualification mark of 183, as this is the mark above the weighted percentile. A mark is always rounded up to the higher full mark rather than rounded down.

| Qualification |                                   |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mark          | Percentage getting mark or better |
| ...           | ...                               |
| 185           | 31.8%                             |
| 184           | 32.2%                             |
| 183           | 33.4%                             |
| 182           | 33.9%                             |
| 181           | 34.5%                             |
| 180           | 35.7%                             |
| ...           | ...                               |

The qualification grade would be based on the qualification mark of 183.

If a candidate is absent for good reason for a timetabled examination or non-examination assessment in a unitised qualification, WJEC used the z-score method. This method is explained in the [JCQ document estimating the mark when a candidate is absent from an examination](#).