

# TASC PRINCIPAL AND TLO FORUM

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Reasonable Adjustments Information Session  
March 2021



OFFICE OF TASMANIAN  
ASSESSMENT, STANDARDS  
& CERTIFICATION

# Agenda

WELCOME

REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS

AREAS OF INTEREST

TASC Principal and TLO Forums

External Assessment Specifications

Information sheets

GENERAL QUERIES



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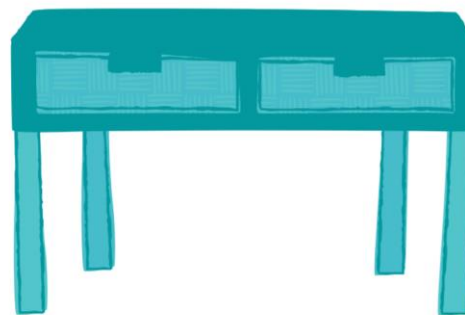
# STUDENT SUPPORTS



## Reasonable Adjustments | External Assessment

Supporting students to achieve

Eligibility requirements



Students are eligible for reasonable adjustments on the following grounds:

- condition, impairment or disability as defined in the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA)
- Humanitarian (refugee) student status

OPEN: 22 March 2021

CLOSE: 28 May 2021

TASC will continue to be flexible in receiving applications



# REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS

- Special Provisions Project – 17 recommendations
- Special Provisions – Implementation plan
- Reasonable adjustments:
  - TASC Reasonable Adjustments Policy
  - Application forms

# • Special Provisions Project – 17 recommendations



## 2019 TASC SPECIAL PROVISIONS PROJECT

TASC and schools share responsibilities and obligations under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* and *Disability Standards for Education 2005* to make reasonable adjustments to enable students eligible on the grounds of disability, to participate in programs, and associated assessments, on the same basis as other students.

TASC is committed to ensuring a contemporary, fair and equitable process for eligible senior secondary students.

Following a Request for Quotation process, TASC appointed consultant John Firth to undertake a Special Provisions Project throughout June 2019. In October 2019, Mr Firth provided TASC with the Project Report, *Special Provisions in the Tasmanian Certificate of Education* outlining 17 Recommendations.

### The Statement of Requirements for the Review were to:

- review and document current special provision arrangements in Tasmania
- review and document current special provision arrangements in other jurisdictions
- document recommendations to ensure TASC adopts best practice.

Key stakeholders of the senior secondary community were represented at group and individual consultations across the state throughout May 2019 including school representatives, school psychologists, the University of Tasmania, the Australian Education Union, the Independent Education Union, the Department of Education, Independent Schools Tasmania, Catholic Education Tasmania, the Tasmanian Association of State School Organisations, disability advocates and TASC staff.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### RECOMMENDATION 1

The Office of TASC should develop a formal policy on the purpose, nature and scope of arrangements for examinations for students with disabilities to ensure that all students are able to demonstrate what they know, understand and can do in relation to the learning outcomes of TCE subjects.

Recommendation 1 is **accepted** noting that language in the policy will focus on students requiring reasonable adjustments rather than students with disabilities.

### RECOMMENDATION 2

The Office of TASC should adopt more inclusive and positive language to describe the arrangements provided for students with disabilities to undertake TCE examinations.

Recommendation 2 is **accepted** noting that this recommendation builds on work already underway in liaison with other Australian jurisdictions to achieve a consistent and inclusive strengths based approach to the provision of reasonable adjustments.

### RECOMMENDATION 3

The Office of TASC should introduce an early application process for students with ongoing disabilities and evidence of successful support for their learning. The timing should allow for provisions to be approved before the students begin their TCE course.

Recommendation 3 is **accepted in principle**, noting that TASC is limited in its ability to require schools and colleges to undertake actions in relation to students who have not yet commenced TASC-accredited courses.

<sup>1</sup> TASC Special provisions project recommendations – October 2019

# • Special Provisions – Implementation plan



| IMPLEMENTATION PLAN<br>TASC SPECIAL PROVISIONS PROJECT  |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| TASC and schools share responsibilities and obligations under the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and Disability Standards for Education 2005 to make reasonable adjustments to enable students, eligible on the grounds of disability, to participate in programs and associated assessments, on the same basis as other students.<br>TASC is committed to ensuring a contemporary, fair and equitable process for eligible senior secondary students.  |  |   |
| IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE   |  |   |
| RECOMMENDATIONS   | HOW  | WHEN  |
| <b>RECOMMENDATION 1</b><br>The Office of TASC should develop a formal policy on the purpose, nature and scope of arrangements for examinations for students with disabilities to ensure that all students are able to demonstrate what they know, understand and can do in relation to the learning outcomes of TCE subjects.<br><br>Recommendation 1 is <b>accepted</b> , noting that language in the policy will focus on students requiring reasonable adjustments rather than students with disabilities. | TASC has developed a policy, formalising the Reasonable Adjustments process. This policy articulates the policy principles, eligibility and responsibilities for all stakeholders.<br>TASC Reasonable Adjustments Policy | Published March 2020<br>- reviewed January 2021 |
| <b>RECOMMENDATION 2</b><br>The Office of TASC should adopt more inclusive and positive language to describe the arrangements provided for students with disabilities to undertake TCE examinations.<br><br>Recommendation 2 is <b>accepted</b> , noting that this recommendation builds on work already underway in liaison with other Australian jurisdictions to achieve a consistent and inclusive strengths based approach to the provision of reasonable adjustments.                                    | TASC has adopted more inclusive and positive language through changing the name of the support mechanism from special provisions to reasonable adjustments.  | January 2020                                    |
| <b>RECOMMENDATION 3</b><br>The Office of TASC should introduce an early application process for students with ongoing disabilities and evidence of successful support for their learning. The timing should allow for provisions to be  | TASC will open applications for future students from October of the year prior to enrolment and assessment in a TASC accredited course.  | October 2022                                    |

1 TASC special provisions project recommendations – October 2019

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# Implementation – where we have been

- Implementation plan (2020)
- Inclusive language (2020)
- TASC Reasonable Adjustments Policy (2020)
- Re-design application forms (2020)
- Differentiate provisions for different examinations (2020)
- Smaller and separate rooms (2020)
- Remove borderline as a reasonable adjustment (2020)
- Convene panel of experts (2020)



# Reasonable Adjustments – where we are going

- Early application process (2021/22)
- Targeted resources (2021)
- Flow chart for decision making and appeals process (2020/21)
- Liaise with school sector authorities, Department of Health and human Services to provide advisory materials (2020/21)
- Work with other ACACA agencies in developing consistent definitions of eligible categories (ongoing)
- Incorporation of applications into TRACS (2022)







## Updates required - TASC REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS POLICY

*Bringing together all of the information...*

- Policy statement
- Grounds for eligibility and ineligible grounds
- Assessment of applications
- Appeals process
- Responsibilities – TASC and Schools
- Additional advice and definitions

# Reasonable Adjustments – Policy and Forms 2021 Review

- **Responsibilities – TASC and Schools**
  - additional information regarding - smaller and separate rooms
- **Additional advice and definitions**
  - additional information related to a number of the adjustments
  - formalised the use of computer for a scribe, under certain conditions
- **Assessment of applications**
  - removal of the 3-year requirement for ongoing and permanent conditions, impairments and disabilities



# TASC REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS Forms

*Consolidating and re-organising...*

## Form RAI – Reasonable Adjustments Application Form

- Diagnosed condition, impairment or disability
- Students from a refugee background/humanitarian entrant

Applications close end of May to provide a reasonable time for applications to be assessed before mid-year examination time.

TASC will continue to be flexible with this date.

For 2022 - applications will be open from October of 2021



# TASC REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS Forms

*Consolidating and re-organising...*

## Form RA2 – Reasonable Adjustments Misadventure / Personal Circumstances Application Form

- Eligibility due to an interruption to schooling due to family / cultural obligations
- Eligibility due to an incident (accident/injury) beyond the student's control resulting in a functional impact

Applications close Friday 29 October to provide a reasonable time for applications to be assessed before exam centre materials are finalised.



# TASC REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS Forms

*Consolidating and re-organising...*

## Form RA3 – Reasonable Adjustments Re-approval Application Form

*Where a student Year 12 or Year 13 student has been approved for reasonable adjustments in the previous year for a diagnosed condition that is not recognised by TASC as ongoing or permanent and they still require the same reasonable adjustments, they are required to submit a Re-approval form (RA3).*

TASC has contacted schools with pre-populated forms for students whose condition was not recognised as permanent for re-submission where required.



# TASC DERIVED RATINGS POLICY – TASC MEDICAL CERTIFICATE

## *Meeting the gap...*

*Derived Ratings are not considered a reasonable adjustment. They are applied when an exemption from an examination has been approved.*

*A student can apply to have derived exam ratings applied to their results if they are unwell or experience an emergency on the day of their exam. To receive derived ratings a TASC senior secondary external assessment medical certificate, a police report or a statutory declaration must be submitted to TASC. The TASC senior secondary external assessment medical certificate must be dated on the day of the exam, or not more than seven days before the exam. Derived exam ratings require the principal's support/endorsement before approval. TASC will contact school principals on receipt of the medical certificate.*

TASC 2021 Student Examination Guide – 2021 Senior Secondary External Assessment Medical Certificate published later in the year.



Any questions?



# AREAS OF INTEREST

- TASC Principal and TLO Forums  
next TASC forum Thursday 29 April 3:30 – 4:30 pm  
[Click here to join the meeting](#)
- External Assessment Specifications
- Information sheets



# 2021 COURSE ACCREDITATION

## EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT SPECIFICATIONS

### External Assessment Specifications - 2021

- ANH315117 Ancient History
- BHP315116 Psychology (out of session)
- BHS315116 Sociology
- CGD315118 Computer Graphics and Design
- EAL315120 English as an Additional Language or Dialect
- ECN315116 Economics
- ENG315117 English
- ENW315114 English Writing
- HDS315118 Housing and Design
- LST315117 Legal Studies
- SDD315120 Drama
- SDI315117 Student Directed Inquiry (no change to the EAS content, template updated)
- SDP315120 Theatre Performance (no change to the EAS, retaining aspects of the 2020 Course Considerations)
- SPT315118 Sport Science



# GENERAL QUERIES

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