



# PRELIMINARY ACHIEVEMENT GUARANTEE

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The Preliminary Achievement (PA) Guarantee will apply for senior secondary students in 2022, in recognition of the challenges that have been presented by COVID-19.

### What is the PA Guarantee?

The Preliminary Achievement (PA) Guarantee is a way that TASC supports students who, based on their internal ratings, are **not** on track to achieve a result of Satisfactory Achievement (or higher) in TASC accredited courses.

### How does it work?

Students undertaking Level 3 and Level 4 TASC accredited courses, who are tracking towards a Preliminary Achievement award will receive at least a PA if they sit their end-of-year exam (including written, oral, performance or presentation external assessments).

By sitting your exam, you will be giving yourself the opportunity to fully demonstrate your knowledge.

**You may even do better than a PA.**



### Will I be eligible?

You will be eligible for the PA Guarantee if:

- your internal ratings (assessed by your school throughout the year) show that you are on track to achieve at least a PA, and
- you sit the end-of-year external assessment.

### What does it mean to be 'on track' to achieve at least a PA?

For the purpose of the PA Guarantee, TASC calculate your potential award, based on what award you would have received if your external ratings (on relevant criteria) matched your internal ratings.

See over the page for more information and examples.

### Does it apply to every course?

No. The PA Guarantee applies only to courses with external assessments where you are expected to demonstrate your knowledge and skills under pressure in a time critical environment. This includes written exams, oral exams, performances and presentations.

The Guarantee is **not** applied to assessments where the work that will be assessed is prepared throughout the year with support from your school. This includes exhibitions, folios, and written work not submitted under exam conditions.

### What does it mean to get a PA?

A Preliminary Achievement means you demonstrated partial achievement of the course objectives / criteria.

You will receive the TCE credit points for completing a course with a Preliminary Achievement, helping you along your way to achieve the Tasmanian Certificate of Education.

If you were relying on the course to meet one or more of the TCE Everyday Adult Standards, you will need to sit a safety net test to show that you meet the required standard. You need to achieve a Satisfactory Achievement or better to use your course work to meet the Standards.

### What if I can't attend the exam?

If you submit a TASC External Assessment Medical Certificate or write to TASC to apply for an emergency special arrangement, the PA Guarantee can still apply.

If you can't attend your end-of-year exam see [illness and emergency during exams](#).

## How to work out if you are 'on track' to achieve a Preliminary Achievement

It is impossible to know what course award you are going to receive until all your (internal and external) ratings are available.

When determining eligibility for the PA Guarantee, TASC calculates what award you would have received if you achieved the same rating in the external assessment for relevant criteria as you achieved for your internal assessment. If this calculation indicates that you would have achieved at least a PA (if your external ratings on relevant criteria were the same as your internal ratings) then the PA Guarantee will apply.

To work out whether you are eligible you will need to know:

- the minimum number of C ratings required for a PA in the particular course. Find this by looking at the 'Award Requirements' section of the [course document](#) on the TASC website.
- which criteria are externally assessed, remembering that the PA Guarantee only applies to written exams, oral exams, performances and presentations.
- the internal ratings you achieved for each of the course criteria (assessed by your school throughout the year).

### EXAMPLE: ECONOMICS (ECN315116)

To achieve a PA, a student must receive at least six C ratings (or better).

Criteria 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 (shaded gold) are externally assessed in a written exam.

	Internal criterion ratings							Ratings the student is 'on track' to receive for the purpose of the PA Guarantee	Eligible?
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
Student A	B	t	t	C	C	t	C	Two B ratings and five C ratings	Yes
Student B	t	t	t	t	C	C	C	Four C ratings	No



**Student A** is eligible for the PA Guarantee because the eligibility calculation indicates that they would have achieved at least six C ratings (or better) if their external ratings matched their internal ratings.



**Student B** is not eligible for the PA Guarantee because the eligibility calculation indicates that, if their external ratings matched their internal ratings, they would have achieved less than the six C ratings (or better) required to achieve a PA.

## Want more information?

See the TASC website – [Preparing for exams](#)

Contact TASC at [enquiries@tasc.tas.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@tasc.tas.gov.au)