



SINGAPORE EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT BOARD
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www.seab.gov.sg

2020 NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS - INSTRUCTIONS TO PRIVATE CANDIDATES AND PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES DUE TO COVID-19 [Version dated 21 August 2020]

(The following is applicable to GCE O/A-Level Science Practical and GCE N(A)/N(T), O- and A-Level Year-End Examinations conducted from September 2020 onwards)

As the COVID-19 coronavirus situation continues to evolve, your safety and well-being are our priority. Please read these instructions carefully when sitting for the National Examinations.

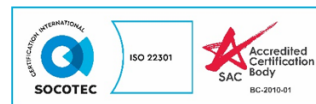
You are required to adhere to the instructions and procedures that are spelt out in this document. Appropriate actions will be taken against those who made false declarations or violate any of the instructions/procedures, and this may include having your examination results annulled.

In addition, candidates found to have breached their Quarantine Order (QO) / Stay Home Notice (SHN) may be prosecuted under Section 21A of the Infectious Diseases Act.

Special Arrangements for Candidates for the National Year-End Examinations

1. Please **do not report for examination** if you are:
 - a. A COVID-19 Confirmed case
 - b. On Quarantine Order (QO)
 - c. On Leave of Absence due to close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case (LOA (Confirmed))
 - d. On Stay Home Notice (SHN)

2. However, if you are on SHN because you need to travel overseas on compassionate reasons (e.g. attending a funeral of a next-of-kin, visiting a critically ill next-of-kin), you can be given exception to take the written examinations (except for Science Practical Examinations) under special arrangements. You can write to seab_gce_admin@seab.gov.sg, and produce the relevant supporting documents (e.g. certifying letter from doctor/death certificate of next-of-kin) at least 1 week before your examination.



3. If you are in the following groups, you are allowed to sit for the examinations, if you are tested negative for COVID-19:

a. Staying in the same household with individuals on HQO. Candidates can write to SEAB at seab_gce_admin@seab.gov.sg to be scheduled for testing.

b. On medical leave due to Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI).—Candidates who are unwell, especially if displaying respiratory symptoms such as runny nose, cough or sore throat, should see a doctor at a designated General Practitioner (GP) clinic participating in the Swab-and-Send-Home (SASH) initiative, or a polyclinic, preferably in the morning. A list of GP clinics participating in the SASH initiative can be found at the following website: www.phpc.gov.sg.

4. As per today's practice, candidates aged 13 and above will be tested for COVID-19 at first presentation of ARI to the doctor. To facilitate timely diagnosis, you should contact the SASH clinic or polyclinic to make a prior appointment and bring along your **entry proof for examination, student pass and a letter of request** (will be emailed to candidates). Do note that the test results would only be ready in a few days' time. While awaiting notification of the COVID-19 swab test results, you must stay at home, and will not be allowed to enter the examination venue. If you are 16 years old or younger, you must be accompanied by an adult (preferably parent/guardian) for the swab test. This facilitates consent taking and communication to both the student and accompanying adult on the precautions to take note of while awaiting the test results at home.

5. After being tested, you or your parent/guardian may be notified via SMS notification or call by the doctor on the outcome of the test, typically within a few working days. Some results may take longer if additional verification is needed. Alternatively, you can check the test result via HealthHub online or through mobile application. You must **present your swab test results** to the Chief Presiding Examiner of your examination centre when you report for examination. Only students who are tested negative will be permitted to sit for their exam.

Presentation of ARI close to the examination date

If you display symptoms less than four days before the examination, as well as in between different examination dates, **you should seek medical attention at polyclinics to ensure timely diagnosis.**

6. If you are unable to sit for papers in the national examinations, you may apply for special consideration.

Safe Management Measures for the Conduct of National Year-End Examinations

7. If you are not well, such as having a fever (38°C and above) and flu-like symptoms, do not report for your examination and inform SEAB at seab_gce_admin@seab.gov.sg. There will be visual screenings and temperature taking at the examination venues before the start of the examinations. Please arrive at your examination centre at least 45 minutes before the start of your paper.
8. Please observe all safe distancing measures. You will be seated at least 1.5m apart from another candidate. During the break time between the two papers, invigilators will allow candidates to visit “designated” toilets in small batches. You will also be dismissed from the examination venue in smaller groups and at staggered intervals.
9. You must wear your face mask at all times. If you wish to wear a face shield, you can only do so when seated in your examination room. Do note that the invigilator may ask you to remove your mask for a short while to verify your identity when taking attendance.
10. For examinations that are conducted in shifts/sessions (such as the Science Practical or Computer Applications Practical), you will be instructed to wipe down the apparatus, equipment and the exam desks that may be used by candidates in the next shift/session.
11. If you are sitting for a Science Practical examination, please take note of the following additional arrangements:
 - a. The interval between consecutive shifts has been extended by 20 mins. The time extension is to ensure that there is sufficient time for candidates to wipe down the apparatus/equipment after their practical exam and also to cater to the 10-min wet contact time for effective disinfection to take place. Please see Annex SP for the adjusted shift timing.
 - b. Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water before and after the Science Practical examination.
 - c. Wear your face mask at all times during the Science Practical examination. Face shields should not be used in the Science labs as they may not be specifically designed for use in such environments.
12. If you are unwell during the examination, please inform an examination personnel immediately. You will be accompanied by an examination personnel to a separate room. The examination personnel will assess your condition and will decide on appropriate measures, such as making arrangements for you to see a doctor or to send you home. They will follow up with SEAB.

a. In the event of a major disruption such as a major train service disruption or heavy rain, you should still make your way to your designated examination centre. You will be given the full duration if you reach the examination centre before the end of the examination. If you are unable to reach your examination centre before the end of the paper, you can go to an examination centre nearest to you to take your examination. (This arrangement does not apply to Science Practical/Practical/Computer-based Examinations where candidates must report to their assigned examination centre for the examinations).

b. You can refer to the SEAB website : www.seab.gov.sg for more information on the examination rules and regulations, as well as the arrangements for candidates who are affected by COVID-19 and other major disruption during examination days.

**EXAM OPERATIONS DIVISION
SINGAPORE EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT BOARD
21 AUGUST 2020**

**2020 GCE O- AND A-LEVEL SCIENCE PRACTICAL EXAMINATIONS
ADJUSTED SHIFT TIMINGS**

GCE O-Level Science Practical Adjusted Shift Timings

(a) Science (5076, 5077, 5078)

Exam Duration (1h 30min)	1st Shift	2nd Shift	3rd Shift	4th Shift
Reporting Time	7:30 AM	9:15 AM	11:15 AM	12:30 PM
Start Time	8:00 AM	10:20 AM	12:40 PM	3:00 PM
End Time	9:30 AM	11:50 AM	2:10 PM	4:30 PM
Dismissal Time	1:00 PM	1:00 PM	2:10 PM	4:30 PM

(b) Physics (6091), Chemistry (6092), Biology (6093)

Exam Duration (1h 50min)	1st Shift	2nd Shift	3rd Shift	4th Shift
Reporting Time	7:30 AM	9:30 AM	11:30 AM	12:30 PM
Start Time	8:00 AM	10:40 AM	1:20 PM	4:00 PM
End Time	9:50 AM	12:30 PM	3:10 PM	5:50 PM
Dismissal Time	1:00 PM	1:00 PM	3:10 PM	5:50 PM

GCE A-Level Science Practical Adjusted Shift Timings

Exam Duration (2h 30min)	1st Shift	2nd Shift	3rd Shift
Reporting Time	7.30 AM	10.00 AM	12.30 PM
Start Time	8.00 AM	11.30 AM	3.00 PM
End Time	10.30 AM	2.00 PM	5.30 PM
Dismissal Time	1.00 PM	2.00 PM	5.30 PM

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