

EXAMINATION AND ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS 2014/15

Frequently Asked Questions

Please refer to the Examination and Assessment Regulations Handbook 2014/15 for full details:

<http://www.sussex.ac.uk/adge/documents/examination-and-assessment-regulations-handbook-2014-15-v3.pdf>

1. How do I pass my degree?

A degree is made up of a number of individual modules. Each module is worth a set number of credits. **(please refer to regulation 1.2.2)**. Undergraduate students must register on modules worth 120 credits per stage (academic year, if studying full-time). Postgraduate students must register on modules worth 180 credits per stage. To progress to the next stage or be awarded a degree, undergraduate students must achieve 120 credits in the stage and postgraduates must achieve 180 credits as well as the required stage mean (40% on foundation and undergraduate courses at FHEQ levels 3-6 and 50% on undergraduate integrated masters and postgraduate courses at level 7, unless there is a higher progression threshold). **(Please refer to regulation 1.4.3)**. The exam board may award up to 30 credits per stage via compensation, trailed credit or condoned credit. **(further information is provided below)**.

2. How do I pass a module?

Modules are usually assessed by more than one assessment. These marks are combined to produce a conflated mark. To pass the module you need to achieve a conflated mark at or above the pass threshold (40% on foundation and undergraduate courses at FHEQ levels 3-6 and 50% on undergraduate integrated masters and postgraduate courses at level 7). Some courses have additional Professional and Statutory Body (PSB) requirements for passing the module. If you pass the module you will be awarded the credit for that module. **(Please refer to regulation 1.4.1)**.

3. How is my classification calculated?

For undergraduate students who achieve the credit required your degree classification is based on the stage means that contribute to your grand mean (usually stage 2 is weighted at 40% and stage 3 is weighted at 60%). **(Please refer to regulation 1.5)**. For postgraduate students who achieve the credit required your degree classification is based on the grand mean that you achieve and the proportion of credit in the higher class. **(Please refer to regulation 1.5.4)**.

RETAKE (RESITS/SITS) AND REPEAT YEAR OPPORTUNITIES

4. What happens if I fail a module?

You need to achieve the requirements set out in 1 above to progress to the next stage or to achieve your award. Your exam board will consider your performance and may give a resit or a sit opportunity depending on your circumstances. In some circumstances you may be given credit via compensation/condoned credit (please see below for details). Or you may be given a resit/sit of the component that you have failed which will be conflated with a component that you have passed. This is only possible where the resit mode consists of more than one resit component which are the same as the original module assessment. Where it is a resit the conflated mark for the module will be capped. Exceptionally, the conflated mark will not be capped where a module has been failed as a result of a Professional and/or Statutory Body (PSB) requirement. **(Please refer to regulation 1.2.4)**.

5. What is the difference between a 'resit' and a 'sit'?

If you fail a module at the first attempt you will be given a resit to enable you to pass the module and gain the credits. Resit marks are capped at the pass threshold (40% on modules at FHEQ levels 3-6 and 50% at level 7) **(Please refer to regulation 1.2.4)**. In cases where there is accepted mitigating evidence the exam board may give a sit. Marks for sits are not capped, allowing the mark you achieve to be used for progression and/or award. **(Please refer to the Mitigating Evidence FAQs and to regulations 1.7 and 2.7)**. It is important to note that the mark you achieve for a resit or a sit will stand for progression and/or award, even if it is lower than the original mark you achieved.

6. What are the implications of having my module mark capped?

Each module mark contributes towards your stage mean (the overall mark for the year). If your mark is capped it will affect your stage mean to a greater or lesser extent depending upon the credit volume. For example, a mark capped on a 15 credit module will have less impact on the stage mean than on a 30 credit module.

7. How many times can I attempt to pass a module?

The cycle of assessment consists of a first attempt and a resit attempt at each stage of your studies. **(Please refer to regulation 1.2.3)**. The exam board also has discretion to give second resits up to a maximum of 60 credits. **(Please refer to regulation 1.3.5)**. If you fail the stage you may be given an opportunity to repeat the stage. **(Please refer to regulation 1.2.6)**.

8. When will I be given a resit/sit opportunity?

Undergraduate students considered at the exam board in the Summer will be given resit/sit opportunities in the summer vacation assessment period. Any second resit opportunities will usually be given during the mid or end of year assessment period of the following year, depending on when the assessment is scheduled. Resits/sits will be given to **Postgraduate** students for modules completed in the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms that have been failed. These will be given in the summer vacation assessment period. Any second resit opportunities will usually be given during the mid-year assessment period of the following year. **(Please refer to regulation 1.3.5, 1.4.5 and 1.4.6)**

9. What if I would prefer to repeat the stage instead of taking the resit/s given (undergraduate only)?

A repeat assessment cycle consists of one further cycle of first attempt (where marks are uncapped) and a resit attempt (where marks are capped). This is subject to the proviso that your course of study is running in the next academic session. **(Please see regulation 1.2.6)**. If you are a first year undergraduate student and you have failed the stage after being given a resit opportunity, you have the automatic right to repeat the stage. You will need to abide by the conditions set out in the University Standard Repeat Year Learning Agreement.

For all other stages the exam board will be guided to give undergraduate students a repeat stage, usually where more than 30 credits have been failed, and usually after resits have been given in the summer vacation assessment period. Please note that by repeating a term or stage there will be financial implications and that any marks achieved will not be carried forward to the repeated term/stage.

if you do not wish to take the resits offered by the exam board and you are sure that you would like to repeat the term/stage, then you should request a repeat term/stage via the appeals process. (Please refer to the appeals procedure via the following link: <http://www.sussex.ac.uk/oqs/complaintsappeals/academic>)

10. What if I would prefer not to take all the resit/s given in the summer vacation assessment period because I want to focus on my dissertation (postgraduate only)?

Resit/sit opportunities will be given in the summer vacation assessment period to Postgraduate students for modules completed in the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms that have been failed. You will be able to register to take the resits given which are usually held in the following mid-year assessment period instead, if you prefer. You will be able to register when you receive an email from the Student Progress and Assessment office. An absence/non-submission will be recorded if you do not attend/submit in the summer vacation assessment period and you have not registered to take the assessment in the next resit assessment period. **(Please refer to regulation 1.4.6)**. This would enable you to focus on fewer resits and/or solely on your dissertation.

11. Will I be able to take a repeat stage if I am an international student?

If you are an international student on a Tier 4/pre-Tier 4 student visa you cannot spend more than 5 years studying degree level courses in the UK unless an exception applies.

Exceptions which are relevant to Sussex include:

- Where a student has completed a degree-level course in the UK and is progressing to a Graduate Diploma in Law/CPE – this course is excluded from the calculation of the maximum period.
- Where a student is studying a Masters degree following completion of an undergraduate degree which was 4 years long – in this case the limit will be set at 6 years in total instead of five.
- Degrees at doctorate level are excluded from the limit, although a maximum of 8 years does apply once the PhD has been completed.

Assuming that you have not undertaken any previous degree level study in the UK, this means that if you are on a 3 year UG course you will only be able to repeat a maximum of 2 years (only 1 year if you want to undertake a masters in the UK). If you are on a 4 year UG course you will only be able to repeat 1 year (you would still be able to undertake a masters if you wished).

Time spent on temporary withdrawal or outside the UK during your course may also be included in the cap (unless your visa has been cancelled).

You must always seek advice from an International Student Adviser if you are given a repeat year.

COMPENSATION, CONDONED AND TRAILED CREDIT

12. How many credits can be compensated, trailed or condoned?

Up to 30 credits may be awarded at each stage via a combination of compensation, trailed and condoned credit provided that the uncapped stage mean requirement has been met (40% on foundation and undergraduate courses at FHEQ levels 3-6 and 50% on undergraduate integrated masters and postgraduate courses at level 7). **(Please refer to regulation 1.4.3)**.

13. What is compensation?

Credit will be given via automatic compensation at the exam board for a mark in the compensation zone (35-39% for modules at level 3-6, 45-49% for modules at level 7) provided that the relevant stage mean has been achieved, as stated in 12 above. This is in recognition of good performance across the year. Some modules are exempt from automatic compensation, if required by a Professional or Statutory Body. **(Please refer to regulation 1.3.3)**. Compensation will not be applied for students not registered on an award at the University.

(i) What if I want to resit a failed module/s?

In all cases where compensation has been applied you will be offered the opportunity to take an optional resit (for a capped mark) to achieve the pass threshold for your transcript. (You

may need to achieve the pass threshold on all your modules for accreditation purposes.) You will need to register to take the optional resit within 7 days of receiving the email from the Student Progress and Assessment office. The optional resit will be offered:

- in the summer vacation assessment period (following the summer exam boards for postgraduate and undergraduate students),
- during the mid-year or end of year assessment period depending on when the assessment is scheduled (following the September exam boards for undergraduate students) or, during the mid-year or end of year assessment period (following the October exam boards for postgraduate students).

(ii) Will it be worth taking an optional resit where a module has been compensated?

You must carefully consider taking a resit in cases where you have already been given the credit for a module with a mark in the compensation zone. You should be aware that the original mark will stand for progression or award if you do not take the optional resit and that resit marks are capped at the pass threshold. If you achieve a lower mark which is not in the compensation zone, it will stand for progression/award and may mean that you cannot progress to the next stage or achieve your award. Therefore it will usually be best to consider the number of resits you need to take, so that when these resits have been passed compensation will be applied to the remaining modules with marks in the compensation zone. You should also bear in mind that achieving a slightly higher mark at resit will not significantly increase your stage mean and therefore will normally mean that you are unable to achieve a higher class. However your transcript will show the higher mark if achieved.

(iii) What if I have marks in the compensation zone in more than 30 credits?

Compensation will only be applied where the criteria are met up to a maximum of 30 credits. Where there are more than 30 credits with marks in the compensation zone, resits will be given for all modules where the pass threshold has not been achieved. As stated above, it will usually be best to think about the number of resits you need to take, so that when these resits have been passed compensation will be applied to the remaining modules with marks in the compensation zone.

14. What is condoned credit?

The exam board has discretion to give condoned credit up to a maximum of 30 credits for a failed module/s in the final stage of an undergraduate or postgraduate course, providing you achieve the relevant stage mean requirement and that the course learning outcomes have been met. This is to enable you to achieve the award whilst allowing up to 30 credits to not be passed. **(Please refer to regulation 1.3.4).**

(i) What if I want to resit a failed module/s?

In all cases where condoned credit has been applied you will be offered a single opportunity to take an optional resit (for a capped mark) to achieve the pass threshold for your transcript. (You may need to achieve the pass threshold on all your modules for accreditation purposes.) You will need to register to take the optional resit within 7 days of receiving the email from the Student Progress and Assessment office. The optional resit will be offered:

- in the summer vacation assessment period (following the summer exam boards for postgraduate and undergraduate students),
- during the mid-year or end of year assessment period depending on when the assessment is scheduled (following the September exam boards for undergraduate students) or,
- during the mid-year or end of year assessment period (following the October exam boards for postgraduate students).

(ii) Will it be worth taking an optional resit where a module has been condoned?

All resit marks will stand and will be capped at the pass threshold. You should bear in mind that achieving a slightly higher mark at resit will not significantly increase your stage mean

and therefore will normally mean that you are unable to achieve a higher class. However your transcript will show the higher mark if achieved.

15. What is trailed credit (undergraduate only)?

The exam board has discretion to give an undergraduate student the opportunity to progress to the next stage of study whilst trailing a failed module up to a maximum of 30 credits, following any resit opportunity, provided that the Stage Mean requirement has been met. If the exam board decides to give trailed credit, the module will be trailed alongside the modules in the next stage of study. **(Please refer to regulation 1.3.2).**

(i) Can I take a different module instead of the one I have failed?

You can submit a request to your School to take an alternative non-core module to the one you have failed. Your request will need to be approved by the Director of Teaching and Learning and will be subject to timetabling. You cannot request to take an alternative to a core module.

(ii) Can I attend teaching for trailed modules?

Normally you will not be allowed to attend teaching unless you are taking a different module OR if your School agrees that you can attend teaching sessions.

(iii) When will I be assessed for the trailed module?

If you take a trailed resit of the same module you will be given the resit during the mid or end of year assessment period, depending on when the module assessment takes place. If you take an alternative module, you will take the main cycle of assessment, for example coursework and an examination, along with the next cohort. No marks can be carried forward from the previous attempt at the assessment.

(iv) What if I am allowed to trail credit into the next stage but I fail the assessment again?

The exam board can condone a failure on a module trailed into the final stage provided that you achieve 120 credits on the modules taken in the final stage.

GRADUATION AND PASS LISTS

16. I have been given an award and a sit opportunity after the graduation ceremony. Does this mean I will not be able to graduate with my class?

You can still attend graduation with your class, be included on the pass list and receive your degree certificate. If, after your sit, you gain a higher classification you will be asked to return your certificate and be sent a new one for the higher class. This also applies if you have been given condoned credit and you register to take the resit and achieve a higher class.

17. I have met the criteria for an Ordinary award but not an Honours award. Can I graduate with my class (undergraduate only)?

The exam board will give you an Ordinary award where you have achieved 60 credits at level 6 in the final stage. This is so that you can attend graduation with your cohort. You will also be given a resit/s to be taken in the summer vacation assessment period. This will be for an Honours degree rather than an Ordinary. An Ordinary degree is an unclassified degree without honours. 'This is an exit award granted in recognition of student learning where insufficient credit has been achieved to award an undergraduate honours degree in the subject.' (extract from the University's Academic Framework).

18. I have been given a resit/sit opportunity and not been given an award. When will I be able to attend graduation?

You will be able to attend the next graduation ceremony (Summer or Winter) provided that you have met the criteria for an award.

ASSESSMENT

19. What are the assessment and feedback deadlines?

Each module usually has one or more **assessments**, details of which appear on your Sussex Direct page. These details include mode of assessment, weighting of assessment, and date for assessment submission of written work and/or schedule of in-person assessment. Your work will be marked and feedback provided within 15 term time working days of the assessment submission deadline or in-person assessment (normally 3 weeks during term time). **(Please see regulation 2.6.4).**

20. Why are there a variety of assessments?

The mode of assessment varies depending on the learning outcomes that are being assessed. The assessment mode may include a **submission of work** (such as an essay or report) or an **in-person assessment** (such as an unseen exam or presentation, either individual or group **that** requires your presence). Some assessment modes are designed to test all learning outcomes for the module, and some are designed to test only one or two of the learning outcomes.

21. What happens if I miss an assessment deadline?

Should you miss an assessment submission deadline (for whatever reason) you may usually still submit the assessment within 7 days of the published deadline. This will incur a penalty, as follows:

- Work submitted up to 24 hours late shall incur a penalty deduction of 5 percentage points (not 5% of the actual mark).
- Work submitted after 24 hours and up to 7 days late shall incur a penalty deduction of 10 percentage points (not 10% of the actual mark)
- No work shall be accepted after the 7 day penalty period has elapsed

These penalties are applied automatically without the need for you to provide any reason for the lateness. **(Please see regulation 1.6).**

Late assessment submission is available for all assessment submissions with a 15 term time working day feedback commitment (normally 3 weeks during term time). However, late submission will not be available on all modules. (See your Module Handbook).

If you do not attend an unseen examination or in-person assessment or if you do not submit your work within 7 days an absence/non-submission and a mark of zero will be recorded for the assessment.

PLACEMENT YEAR

22. What are the placement year assessment regulations? (please refer to regulations 1.4.7 and 1.5.1)

(i) What do I need to achieve to go on a placement year?

If you are on a 4 stage course including a placement year you need to achieve 120 credits and an overall mean of 40% in stage 2. Appendix G(a) sets out courses with a higher progression threshold. Appendix G(b) sets out higher progression thresholds required on integrated masters courses.

(ii) What do I need to achieve during a placement year?

To continue into the final stage of your course you need to achieve an overall mean of 40% on the placement year assessment. If you fail to achieve this, you must ask your host

institution about a resit opportunity. If you do not achieve 40% on the placement year after a resit opportunity you will be transferred to the course title without the suffix 'with a placement year'.

(iii) Does the mark I achieve on my placement year go towards my degree classification?

Award classification is calculated according to the grand mean you achieve. The grand mean is calculated on a ratio of 40:25:60 for stages 2, 3 and 4. This means that the mark that you achieve on the placement year will contribute to 20% of your grand mean. On some courses, a placement year is non-contributory (where the marks achieved on the placement year do not contribute to classification). Award classification for these exceptions will be as for a 3-year honours degree based on a ratio of 40:60 for stages 2 and 4, but you still need to pass the placement year to have it recognised in your course title. Schools with courses with a non-contributory placement year are included in Appendix H(ii). Where a placement year has been added as an additional year to an integrated masters degree the placement year will not contribute to classification.

(iv) Will the placement year be included in my course title?

If you complete and pass the placement year you will have the placement year recognised in the degree certificate 'Degree title (with Professional/Industrial Placement Year)', provided that you have met the criteria for the award. If you fail to complete or pass the placement year you will transfer to the course title excluding 'with a Professional/Industrial Placement Year'. If you do not pass the placement year the mark achieved will not contribute to your classification.

STUDY ABROAD YEAR

23. What are the study abroad year assessment regulations? (please refer to regulations 1.4.7 and 1.5.1)

(i) What do I need to achieve to go on a study abroad year?

If you are on a 4 stage course including a voluntary study abroad year you need to achieve 120 credits and an overall mean of 40% in stage 2. If you are on a 4 stage course including an integrated study abroad year (for example, courses including American Studies or a language) you need to achieve 120 credits in stage 2 and an overall mean of 50% across both stages 1 and 2. If you do not achieve this after any resit opportunity you will be transferred to the 3 stage degree title (without the 'with a study abroad year' suffix to the degree title). Occasionally you may be given an opportunity to trail credit into the final stage to enable you to go on your study abroad year. Appendix G(a) sets out courses with a higher progression thresholds.

(ii) What do I need to achieve during a study abroad year?

To continue into the final stage of your course you need to achieve an overall mean of 40% on the study abroad year. This applies to a voluntary study abroad year and an integrated study abroad year. If you fail to achieve this, you must ask your host institution about a resit opportunity. If you do not achieve 40% on the study abroad year after a resit opportunity you will be transferred to the course title without the suffix 'with a study abroad year'.

(iii) Does the mark I achieve on my study abroad year go towards my degree classification?

Award classification is calculated according to the grand mean that you achieve. The grand mean is calculated on a ratio of 40:25:60 for stages 2, 3 and 4. This means that the mark that you achieve on the study abroad year will contribute to 20% of your grand mean. On some courses, a voluntary study abroad year may be non-contributory (where the marks achieved on the study abroad year do not contribute to classification). Award classification for these exceptions will be as for a 3-year honours degree based on a ratio of 40:60 for

stages 2 and 4, but you still need to pass the study abroad year to have it recognised in your course title. Schools with courses with a non-contributory study abroad year are included in Appendix H(ii). Where a voluntary study abroad year has been added as an additional year to an integrated masters degree the study abroad year will not contribute to classification.

(iv) Will the study abroad year be included in my course title?

If you complete and pass the study abroad year you will have the study abroad year recognised in the degree certificate 'Degree title (with Study Abroad Year)', provided that you have met the criteria for the award. If you fail to complete or pass the study abroad year you will transfer to the course title excluding 'with a Study Abroad Year'. If you do not pass the study abroad year the mark achieved will not contribute to your classification.

TEMPORARY WITHDRAWAL (TWD) (See regulation 1.2.7 (ii))

24. When can I go on Temporary Withdrawal?

You may temporarily withdraw at any time during the teaching term and return to restart the term that you did not complete. Any marks that you achieved in the non-completed term will be removed from your record. You should complete a Return to Study Plan as part of the process.

25. Is there a deadline for Temporary Withdrawal?

Yes you must temporarily withdraw before the end of a teaching term.

26. Can I temporarily withdraw after the end of the teaching term and will I have to restart the term?

You can temporarily withdraw after the end of the teaching term but you will have to wait for the exam board to make a decision on your progress. The exam board will consider your performance and may decide to give you an assessment opportunity for a missed/failed assessment or give you a repeat of the term/stage. If the exam board gives you the opportunity to take an assessment/s that you missed/failed this will usually be scheduled before you return after a period of temporary withdrawal to continue with your studies. You should discuss your situation with your Director of Teaching and Learning and complete a Return to Study Plan.

MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES

Please see the Frequently Asked Questions related to mitigating circumstances provided at:

<http://www.sussex.ac.uk/adqe/standards/examsandassessment/mec>

SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE

Support and guidance is available as follows:

Academic Advisor: academic advice related to your studies.
The Student Life Centre
The Student Support Unit

ADQE Office April 2015

Glossary of key words used in the Examinations and Assessment Regulations Handbook 2014/15:

Term	Meaning in this handbook
Academic Credit	Academic credit is awarded for the successful completion of a credit rated module.
Assessment period	Designated assessment periods are held in A1, A2 and A3. Assessments scheduled during the mid-year, end of year and resit assessment period are usually unseen examinations and more extensive written submissions (for example an essay, dissertation or project).
Award*	The academic award for the successful completion of a course (e.g. BA, BSc, LLB, Certificate, Diploma).
Capped marks/ capping	'Capping' is where the mark for a module is restricted to the bare pass mark. This applies to resits (see below).
Classification	The process that occurs at the end of studies for an Honours degree, where Progression and Assessment Boards (PABs) categorise students' overall results into classes of degree. This includes Distinction and Merit at postgraduate level.
Condoned credit	A PAB has discretion to give condoned credit at the award stage subject to the criteria being met.
Compensated	Compensated credit will be given automatically by the PAB for a marginal fail on a module, where the criteria has been met.
Conflation	The arithmetical process of producing a final mark based on weightings assigned to each element in an assessment.
Contributory assessment	Assessment that contributes to the mark for a module.
Core module	A module that must be taken. Compensation will be applied automatically where the compensation criteria are met.
Course	A course is an approved 'course of study' comprising a number of modules and credits which leads to an award of the University. Students are registered on a course.
Coursework assessment	An assessment completed during the time that the module is being taught, or shortly afterwards.
Cycle of assessment	Comprises one sit and one resit attempt at module assessment in stage of study.
Exam board	There are two types of exam boards: Module Assessment Boards (MABS) and Progression and Award Boards (PABs).
Joint Major*	For example BA English and History (where English and History are both major subjects, contributing equally to the overall degree)
Learning outcomes	A statement of what a student is expected to know and be able to do at the end of a period of learning and how that learning is to be demonstrated and/or represented for assessment. Learning outcomes are approved for all courses and modules.
Level*	Level refers to the difficulty of the module aligned to the national FHEQ. These levels are usually taken in the following stages of study: Foundation stage 0: Level 3 UG stage 1: Level 4 UG stage 2: Level 5 UG stage 3: Level 6 PG stage: Level 7

	At each stage a student may take 30 credit at the level below but not above at any stage
MAB	The Module Assessment Board (MAB) considers and assures marks achieved on a module by a cohort of students.
Major/Minor*	'Major' refers to the major element of a course and 'Minor' refers to a smaller element of a course in the ratio of 75:25.
Mode of Assessment	The description of an assessment type.
Moderation (Internal and External)	Internal moderation is a process that is required by the University to confirm that the marking process has been conducted appropriately. It is undertaken independently of the marking team following the completion of the marking process prior to external moderation by the External Examiner.
Module	A unit of study which usually leads to the award of credit.
Module assessment	The work required in order to obtain a mark for a module. Module assessment may take place during the term (known as coursework) or in the mid-year or end of year assessment period.
Non-contributory work	'Non-contributory work' is a term used to describe exercises which are required to be undertaken as part of the learning process, but for which the mark does not contribute to the mark received for the module.
PAB	The Progression and Award Board (PAB) reviews marks arrays for students and considers candidates for progression to the next stage and for award.
Progression	Undergraduate progression from one stage to another is achieved by meeting the progression requirements. Masters students are considered to be in a single stage of study.
Repeat	A repeat is an opportunity to retake the complete cycle of assessment (sit and resit) for progression/award or exceptionally a term or module. It will entail repeating the learning as well as the assessment. Marks for repeat modules are not capped.
Resit	A resit is an opportunity to retrieve an initial fail <i>without</i> repeating a module. Resit marks are capped at 40% on modules at levels 3-6 and at 50% on modules at level 7.
Rounding of marks	The mark for a module, stage or grand mean shall be a whole number rounded up (≥ 0.45) or down (≤ 0.44).
Sit	A Sit is an opportunity to take an assessment 'as if for the first time'. A Sit may be given by a PAB due to accepted mitigating circumstances. 'Sit' marks are not capped at the pass threshold and will be weighted in accordance with the accepted mitigation.
Stage	The period of an award between two progression points.
Sussex Direct	The web-portal for students and staff.
Trailed credit	A PAB has discretion to allow credit to be trailed into the next stage subject to the criteria being met.