

***Assessment of
HKDSE Category B
Applied Learning Subjects
(2026-28 Cohort)***

8 May 2025



香港考試及評核局
Hong Kong
Examinations and
Assessment Authority

Assessment of ApL Subjects

- Category B elective subjects under HKDSE
- **No public exam** in ApL subjects
- HKDSE results based on completion of 6 – 10 assessment tasks
- **Assessments designed and implemented by Course Providers (CP)**
- The HKEAA is responsible for monitoring the quality of assessments conducted by CPs to ensure the overall appropriateness of the assessment results



Reporting System of ApL Subjects

Reported in 3 grades:

** Attained with Distinction (II)*

** Attained with Distinction (I)*

Attained

** Attained with Distinction (I) is comparable to L3 while Attained with Distinction (II) is comparable to L4 or above for Category A subjects*



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ApL Chinese *(for non-Chinese speaking students)*

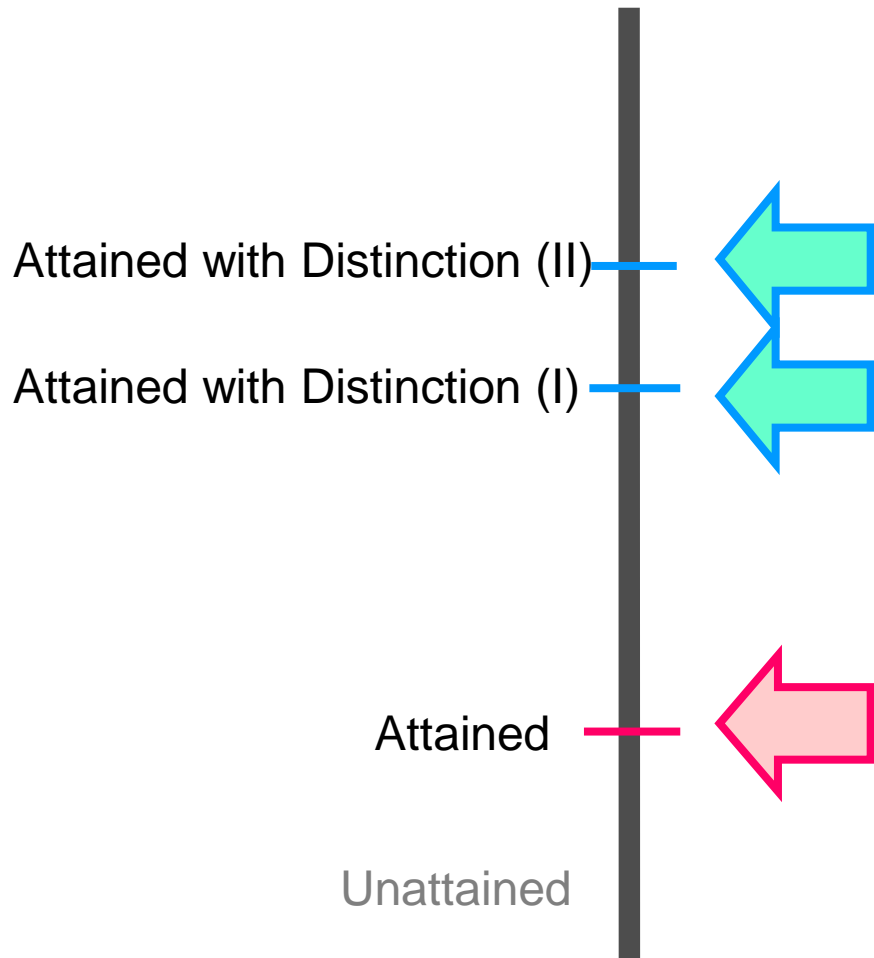
Reported in 2 grades:

Attained with Distinction

Attained



Determining Distinction Levels by Statistical Method



Cut score for Attained with Distinction (II)

- Award percentage is determined statistically based on the **Group Ability Index (GAI)** for Level 4 or above of HKDSE core subjects

Cut score for Attained with Distinction (I)

- Award percentage is determined statistically based on the **Group Ability Index (GAI)** for Level 3 of HKDSE core subjects

Cut score for Attained

- Proposed by CP
- Moderated by a panel of judges with reference to samples of students' work in relation to the Performance Descriptors



2024 HKDSE ApL Results

- **7,168 no. of subjects assessed**
- **52 subjects (including three ApL Chinese)**
- **Overall results (except for ApL C):**
 - **Attained or above: 87.9%**
 - **Attained with Distinction (I) or above: 27.4%**
 - **Attained with Distinction (II): 8.6%**

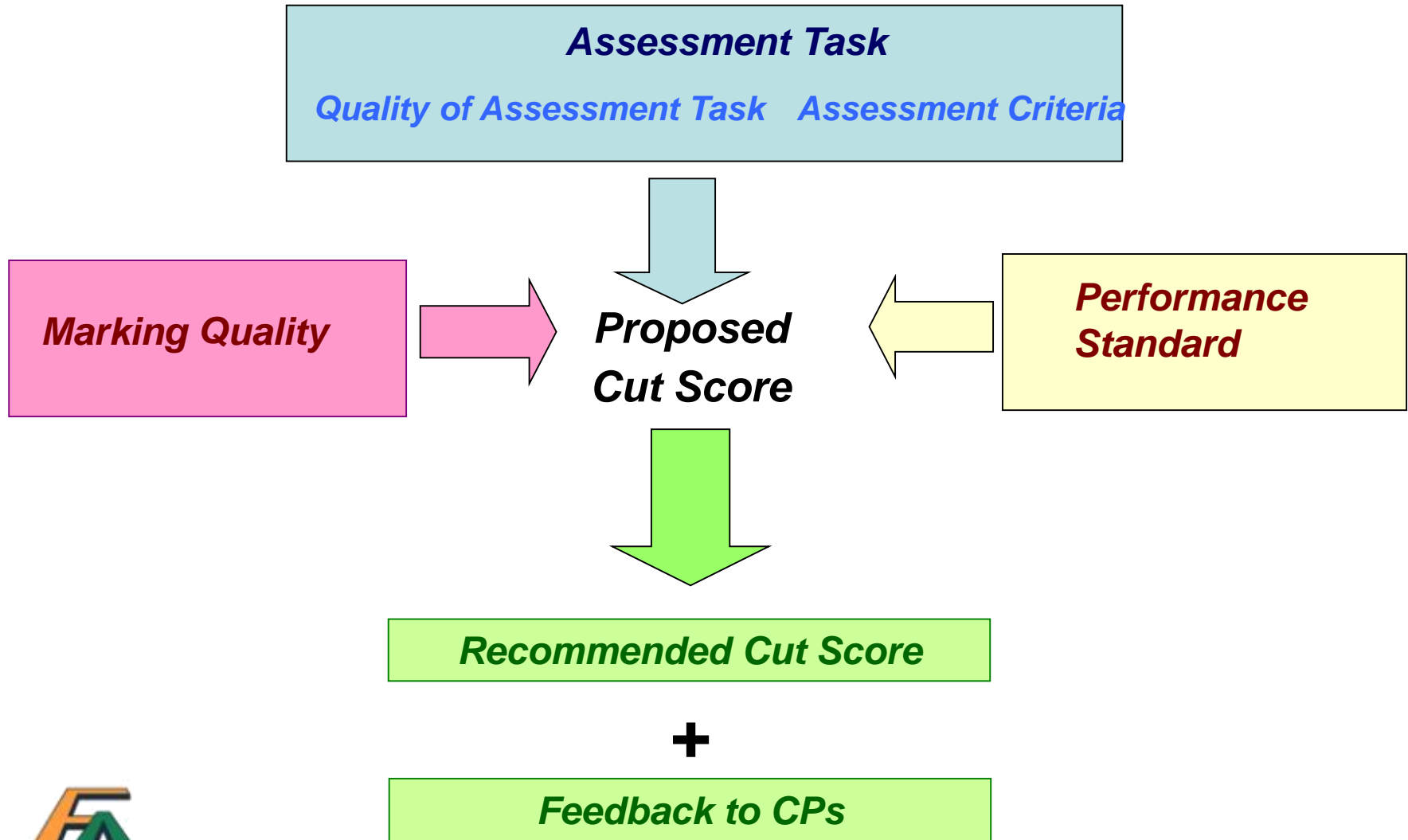


Results of 2024 ApL Chinese (for non-Chinese speaking students)

- *129 no. of subjects assessed*
- *Three ApL (for non-Chinese speaking students) courses*
- *Overall results:*
 - *‘Attained’ or above: 88.4%*
 - *‘Attained with Distinction’: 27.1%*



Determining the level of 'Attained': Course Moderation by Expert Judgement



Considerations for deciding a cut score of 'Attained'

<p>1. Assessment Task <i>(validity)</i></p>	<p><u>Assessment Tasks and Criteria</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Relevance• Coverage/sufficiency• Cognitive requirement• Discriminatory power• Structure of test/exam paper• Appropriateness (e.g question type)• Weightings of questions/sections
<p>2. Marking Quality <i>(reliability)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accuracy• Consistency• Compliance with marking criteria
<p>3. Performance Standard</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mark statistics• Samples of performance• Performance Descriptors of 'Attained'



Performance Descriptors of 'Attained' (PD)

「達標」等級表現描述

科目名稱：	形象設計
學習範疇：	創意學習
課程提供機構：	職業訓練局

獲取此等級學生的典型表現：

1	展示對形象設計的概念、原則及議題，有基礎的認識和理解
2	應用基本的設計概念和繪畫技巧，建構具藝術觸覺及符合大眾市場需求的形象設計意念
3	在研究及發展形象設計意念時，展示基本的演示、組織及協
4	於形象設計的活動中，以設計行業的適當詞彙及媒體，表達
5	展示基本的解難和決策能力，分析及評估不同形象設計的特可行的解決方案
6	展示對形象設計的專業操守及職責的認知及尊重，並意識到化的影響，以及為生活形態帶來的轉變
7	對形象設計行業的未來發展趨勢有基本的認識，並能夠識別機會

Performance Descriptors of Attained

Subject:	Image Design
Area of Studies:	Creative Studies
Course Provider:	Vocational Training Council

Students at this level typically:

1	demonstrate a basic knowledge and understanding of the concepts, principles and issues of the image design industry
2	apply basic design concepts and drawing skills to demonstrate ideas in creating images with aesthetic appeal for individuals and/or mass markets
3	apply basic presentation skills, organisational skills and collaborative skills in the research and development of a range of image design ideas
4	communicate simple ideas in image design with appropriate terminology and in the appropriate media for the design industries
5	demonstrate basic problem-solving and decision-making skills when analysing and evaluating different design elements, and propose feasible solutions for image design problems
6	demonstrate a basic understanding of the work ethics and responsibilities required of an image designer, as well as the cultural influences and lifestyle changes brought about by the industry
7	demonstrate a basic understanding of the future trends of the image design industry and the ability to identify opportunities for self-development



Assessment Scheme

2027

Assessment Scheme

Subject: 599 - Taking a Chance on Dance

Area of Studies: Creative Studies

Course Provider: The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts

Task No.	Task Name	Assessment Method	Brief Task Description	Assessment/ Submission Date	Contribution to Final Score (%)
1	Dance Technique	Group Presentation	Students are required to demonstrate a number of movements / motifs / movement combinations as part of a pattern individually or in groups.	April to August Year 1	40%
2	Dance Making	Individual Presentation	Students are required to integrate choreographic elements in creating a solo work to perform with a specific theme and topics.	July / August Year 1	15%
3	Creation Journal	Written Report	Students are required to submit a written creation journal to support their creation in "Dance Making". The journal should include the concept, process and reflections on the creation.	July / August Year 1	5%
4	Dance Technology	Group Presentation	Students are required to apply video or media technology techniques to create a short group dance piece.	November / December Year 2	15%
5	Creation Proposal	Written Proposal	Students are required to submit a written proposal to support their creation in "Dance Technology". The journal should include the concept and method on the creation.	November / December Year 2	5%
6	Dance Perspective – Dance History	Written Test	Students are required to complete a written test on the subject of dance history. The test consists of multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank and questions.	November / December Year 2	10%
7	Review on Dance Production	Essay Writing	Students are required submit a short essay of approximately 600-700 words to express personal reflection and opinions after attending a dance production	January Year 2	10%

Points to Note



1. Registration for HKDSE

- Students taking ApL subjects **must register through schools** to enter for HKDSE
- Students **must enter the correct exam cohort** e.g. for the 2026-28 study cohort, students must register for 2028 HKDSE, regardless of whether they are S4, 5 or 6 in their own school
- Entries from private candidates will normally not be accepted



2. ApL Repeaters

- S6 repeaters may re-take the **same ApL subjects** as school candidates with the support of CP
- It should be noted that:
 - Y1 marks will not be counted
 - Y2 marks will be proportionally adjusted to 100%
 - Y2 assessment should constitute at least 50% of the subject total; otherwise, alternative assessments will be required



3. Attendance Requirement in ApL

- Minimum attendance requirement of **80%**
- DSE result reported as 'Unattained' if attendance is less than 80%



4. SEN Provision

- Aims of special arrangements:
 - to allow students to be **equitably assessed** under suitable conditions without having an unfair advantage or disadvantage over other students
- Discretion should be exercised in providing special arrangements to SEN students, depending on the **nature and severity** of their disabilities



SEN Provision (Cont'd)

- SEN students' data will be treated the same as other ordinary students' data
- Details regarding SEN provision:
 - ApL Assessment Information Package
 - Guidelines on SEN arrangements
http://www.hkeaa.edu.hk/tc/Candidates/special_needs_candidates/index.html
 - 'Integrated Newsletter(融情)'
<http://www.edb.gov.hk/tc/edu-system/special/overview/newsletter/32/index.html>



5. Appeals Policy

- ApL students cannot apply for a re-assessment of their performance
- Remarking is **not applicable to ApL** subjects:
http://www.hkeaa.edu.hk/en/hkdse/admin/student_s_handbook/
- After the release of DSE results, ApL students may submit an application for **rechecking of results only**



6. Resolving Assessment Queries with Course Providers

- Assessment scores must be made known to students **after each assessment**. Any queries regarding assessment results must be resolved then
- CPs should explain/clarify queries from students regarding assessments before submitting marks to the HKEAA



Useful links

- **HKDSE Regulations and Assessment Frameworks**
http://www.hkeaa.edu.hk/DocLibrary/HKDSE/Exam_Regulations/2016HKDSE_Regulation_E.pdf
- **Applied Learning Subjects**
http://www.hkeaa.edu.hk/en/HKDSE/assessment/subject_information/category_b_subjects
- **Grading Procedures and Standards-referenced Reporting in the HKDSE Examination**
http://www.hkeaa.edu.hk/DocLibrary/Media/Leaflets/HKDSE_SRR_A4booklet_Mar2018.pdf



Thank You!

