

***Assessment of  
HKDSE Category B  
Applied Learning Subjects  
(2027-29 Cohort)***

***29 April 2026***



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 levels:

*\*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)*

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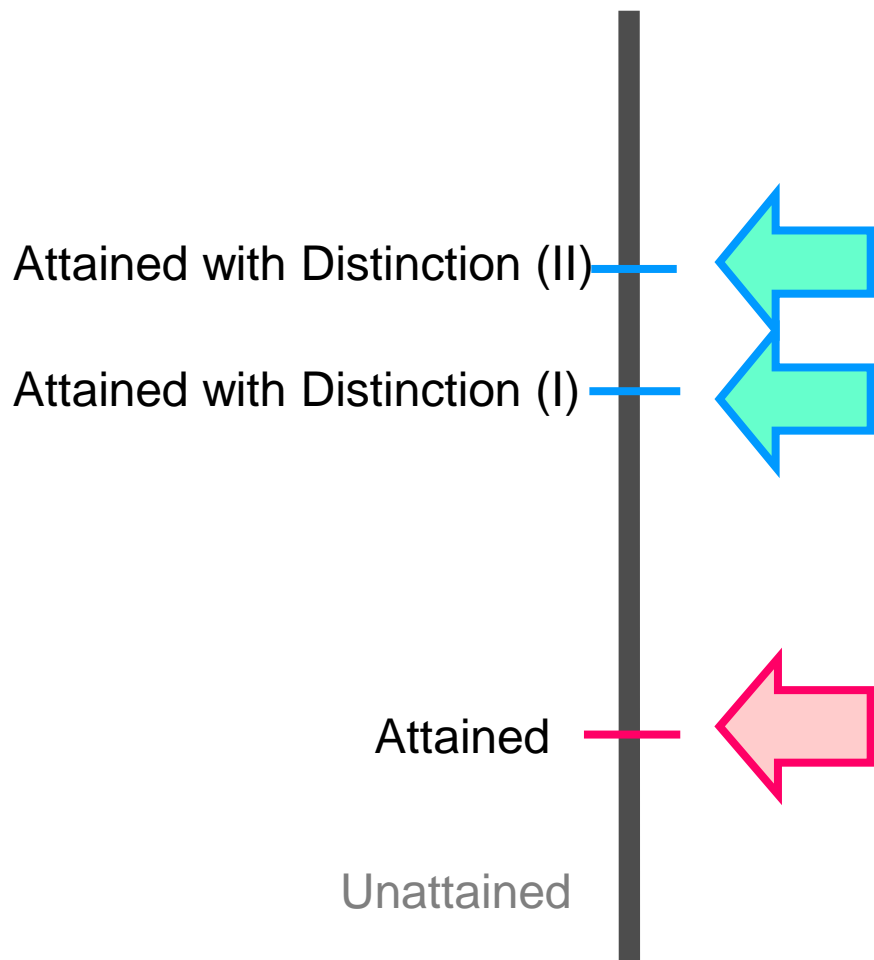
Reported in 2 levels :

*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



# 2025 HKDSE ApL Results

- ***7,617 no. of subjects assessed***
- ***58 subjects (including three ApL Chinese)***
- ***Overall results (except for ApL C):***
  - ***Attained or above: 88.9%***
  - ***Attained with Distinction (I) or above: 26.4%***
  - ***Attained with Distinction (II): 8.3%***



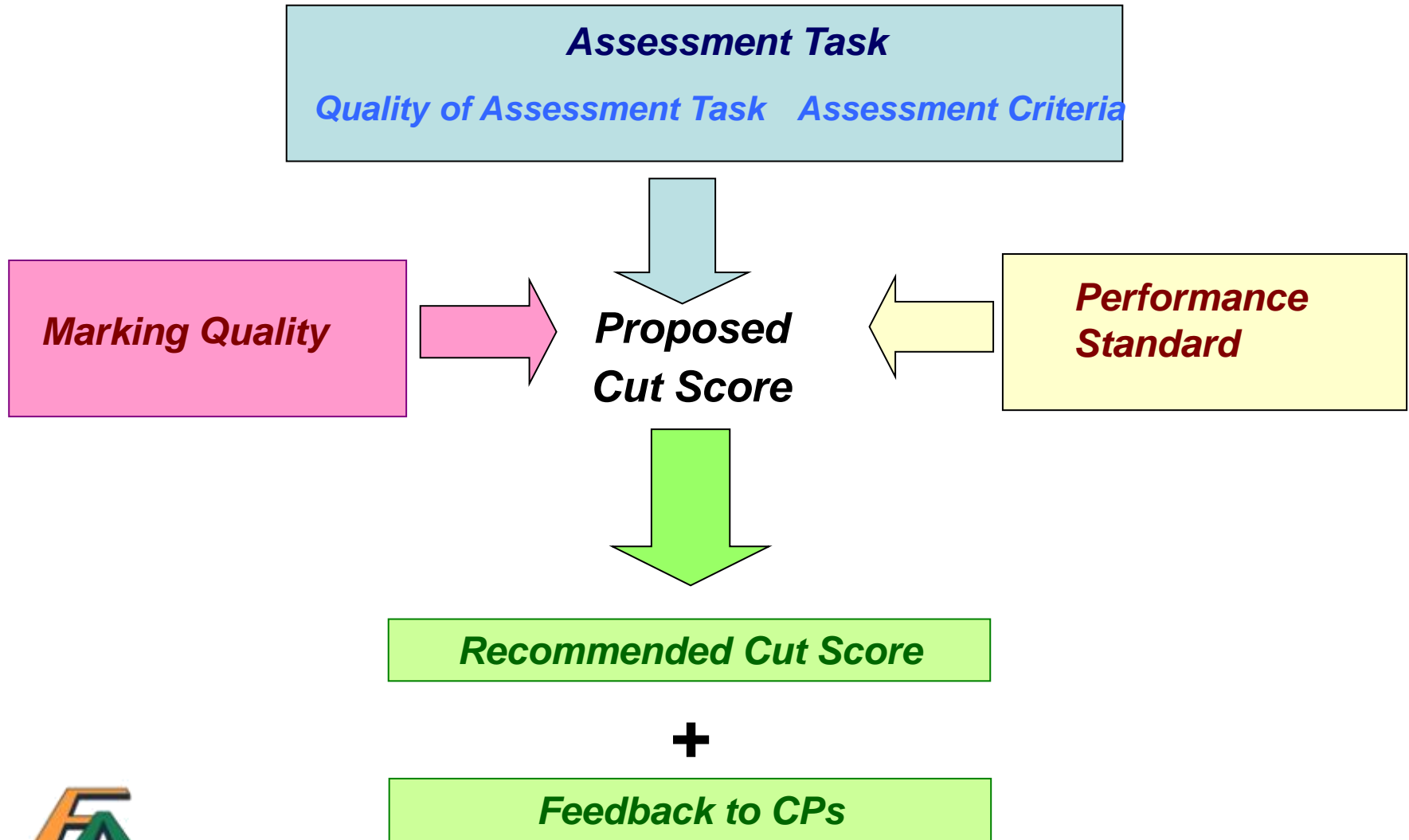
# Results of 2025 ApL Chinese (for non-Chinese speaking students)

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- *125 no. of subjects assessed*
- *Three ApL (for non-Chinese speaking students) courses*
- *Overall results:*
  - *‘Attained’ or above: 80.8%*
  - *‘Attained with Distinction’: 17.6%*



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





# Considerations for deciding a cut score of 'Attained'

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



# 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公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持
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
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

## 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

2028

## Assessment Scheme

**Subject:** 683 - Electrical and Energy Engineering **Area of Studies:** Engineering and Production **Course Provider:** Vocational Training Council

Task No.	Task Name	Assessment Method	Brief Task Description	Assessment/ Submission Date	Contribution to Final Score (%)
1	Integrated Assessment on Electrical Principles	Experiment, Written Report and Test	Students in groups are required to conduct an experiment on electrical principles, and submit an individual report with analysis of the experiment results. Students are required to complete a written test on electrical principle which consisting of multiple-choice questions and short questions.	November Year 1	10%
2	Test on Fundamental Electrical Principles	Written Test	Students are required to complete a test on fundamental electrical principles. Question types include multiple-choice questions, short questions and long questions.	December Year 1	10%
3	Smart Home Prototype Making	Prototype Making and Oral Presentation	Students working in groups are required to design and build a prototype on Smart Home. Each student will then give an oral presentation of about 5 minutes.	March Year 1	15%
4	Integrated Assessment on Electrical Installation and Power System	Practical Assessment, Written Report and Test	Students in groups are required to carry out circuit design, wiring, testing and commissioning for an assigned electrical installation task. Students are required to complete a written test on electrical installation and power system which consisting of multiple-choice questions and short questions.	May Year 1	15%
5	Test on Electronic Principles, Power Supply System and Tariff	Written Test	Students are required to complete a test on basic electronic principles, power supply system and tariff. Question types include multiple-choice questions, short questions and long questions.	June Year 1	10%
6	Lighting Luminous Efficacy and Energy Efficiency Practice	Experiment and Written Report	Students in group are required to test and analyse the type of the lighting by comparing their characteristics, including heat dissipation, so as to explain the efficiency of a luminaire and identify the components used in a smart LED luminaire and submit a report.	September Year 2	10%
7	Implementation Project	Project Proposal, Written Reports, Prototype Making and Oral Presentation	Students in groups are required to decide on a topic of project on one of the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Renewable energy system</li> <li>Smart technologies and energy efficiency</li> </ul> Each group is required to prepare a project proposal, submit progress and final reports, as well as produce the hardware of the project. Each student will then give an oral presentation of about 5 minutes.	December Year 2	30%

# ***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 2027-29 study cohort, students must register for 2029 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 non-SEN 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](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/](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](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](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](http://www.hkeaa.edu.hk/DocLibrary/Media/Leaflets/HKDSE_SRR_A4booklet_Mar2018.pdf)



