

CIRCULAR TO ALL STUDENTS

Following the decision to extend the closure of all educational institutions up to the end of the current academic year, management, in consultation with the Board of Governors has worked out the following measures for graduating, continuing, progressing and prospective students.

Measures for students at different stages in their studies are listed in the tables below.

Measures for Graduating Students

Graduating students	
Online learning	Online learning is considered essential at all levels.
Assessments	<p>Assessments, including synoptic ones, (except for those including a practical component), will be held by the 10th of July 2020.</p> <p>Assessments will not be held on Campus during this time. Alternative assessments using technology will be used and could include take-home assignments etc.</p>
Practical components / placements	MCAST will be exploring ways of how to schedule all compulsory practical components/placements etc. before the start of the new academic year, where possible.
Erasmus	<p>Students, who were on Erasmus and returned to Malta without completing the units, will follow MCAST units to make up for the missed units.</p> <p>Where the receiving organization has provided for compensatory measures due to COVID-19, MCAST shall honour such measures and recognize any credits awarded by such institution.</p> <p>MCAST will offer the same online teaching and support to its Erasmus incoming students.</p>

Synoptic assessments	Synoptic assessments will be held by the end of the academic year where possible.
Results	Results will be concluded by 14 th October 2020 where possible.
Dissertations and Viva	<p>Where possible, dissertations will be submitted as scheduled during the academic year 2019-2020. Lecturers will correct and submit the results by the first week of July.</p> <p>Students will be encouraged to submit their dissertation by the given deadlines. If this is not possible, due to practical components, students can submit as early as possible after the deadline by no later than 18th of September or as agreed with the Director of Institute.</p> <p>Viva sessions will take place online in most cases.</p> <p>Degree Ratification Boards will also be held online in most cases.</p>
In view of the above, MCAST regulations will be followed but deviation will be possible as approved by the Council of Institutes.	
Extensions and suspension of studies during this period will be over and above those stipulated in Regulations.	

Measures for Continuing and Progressing Students

Continuing and Progressing Students	
Online learning	Online learning, is considered essential at all levels.
Assessments	<p>Assessments, including synoptic ones, (except for those including a practical component), will be held by the 10th of July.</p> <p>Assessments will not be held on Campus during this time. Alternative assessments using online technology will be used and could include take-home assignments etc.</p>
Practical components / placements	MCAST will be exploring ways of how to schedule all compulsory practical components/placements etc. before the start of the new academic year, where possible.

<p>Erasmus</p>	<p>Students, who were on Erasmus and returned to Malta without completing the units, will follow MCAST units to make up for the missed units.</p> <p>Where the receiving organization has provided for compensatory measures due to COVID-19, MCAST shall honour such measures and recognize any credits awarded by such institution.</p> <p>MCAST will offer the same online teaching and support to its Erasmus incoming students.</p>
<p>Synoptic assessments</p>	<p>Synoptic assessments, except for those including a practical component, will be held by the end of the academic year where possible.</p>
<p>Results</p>	<p>Results will be concluded by 14th October 2020, where possible.</p>
<p>Continuing to next year of same study programme</p>	<p><u>For Level 1 and Level 2 students</u></p> <p>Students at Level 1 who have failed in no more than 12 ECVET may progress to Level 2 with the option of repeating assessments for failed units during the new academic year to conclude the Level 1 qualification.</p> <p>Students at level 1 who fail in more than 12 ECVET can take the Initial Assessment Test for access to Level 2.</p> <p>Students at Level 2 need to successfully complete units to a minimum of 30 ECVET in order to progress to Level 3.</p> <p>MCAST is currently exploring, in collaboration with MEDE, the possibility to continue offering the Preventive Classes in Summer.</p> <p><u>For Level 3 students</u></p> <p>Level 3 students can choose between two options.</p> <p>Option 1 - Students who decide not to repeat the failed units at Level 3 alongside the first year of their level 4 qualification:</p> <p>Students at Level 3 who have failed in not more than 12 ECVET (typically 2 units) may progress to Level 4. Students will then be able</p>

to continue their studies at second year as regular students **ONLY** if they successfully complete **ALL** units during their first year of the Level 4 course.

Students will then receive a transcript for the units completed in their Level 3 units in which they are successful.

Option 2 – Students who decide to repeat the failed units at Level 3 alongside the first year of their level 4 qualification:

Students can repeat assessments for failed units (with optional attendance and timetable permitting) during the new academic year in order to conclude their Level 3 qualification. If they successfully complete **ALL** the level 3 units, students can continue their studies at second year of their Level 4 as regular students provided that they satisfy existing regulations for continuation of studies at Level 4.

MCAST is currently exploring, in collaboration with MEDE, the possibility to continue offering the Preventive Classes in Summer.

For Level 4 students

Students who are in their 1st or 2nd Year of the programme (and are not in their final year will be able to continue their studies at Year 2/3 automatically provided that, they have not failed in more than 3 units as per current regulations.

Students who are in the final year and have failed in not more than 2 units (but not more than 12 ECVET), provided that they have attempted all the coursework and synoptic assessments and respected MCAST regulations including those related to attendance have two options to progress to the Degree course.

Option 1 – Students who decide **not to repeat** the failed units at Level 4 alongside the first year of their degree:

Students will be able to continue their studies at second year as regular students **ONLY** if they successfully complete **all units** (60 ECTS) during their first year of the Level 5/6 course.

Students will then receive a transcript for the units completed in their Level 4 qualification.

	<p>Option 2 – Students who decide to repeat the failed units at Level 4 alongside the first year of their degree:</p> <p>Students can repeat assessments for failed units (with optional attendance and timetable permitting) during the new academic year in order to conclude their Level 4 qualification. If they successfully complete ALL the Level 4 units, students can continue their studies at second year as regular students provided that they satisfy existing regulations for continuation of studies at Level 5 and 6.</p> <p>Restrictions may apply to qualifications which lead to a regulated profession.</p> <p><u>Continuation of studies for students at Levels 5 and 6</u></p> <p>Progression from Level 5 Year 1 to Level 5 Year 2, and from Level 5 to Level 6 shall be automatic for students who have not failed in more than 2 units in a particular year and who will not be carrying more than 3 failed units in all.</p> <p>In the next academic year, 2020-2021, students can recover the failed units by repeating unit assessment only (optional attendance and timetabling permitting).</p> <p>The same procedure applies to students reading for the Bachelor of Engineering, Year 3 to Year 4.</p>
<p>In view of the above, MCAST regulations will be followed but deviation will be possible as approved by the Council of Institutes.</p>	
<p>Extensions and suspension of studies during this period will be over and above those stipulated in Regulations.</p>	

Measures for Prospective Students

New Applicants																																	
Academic Year	Plans are to start the new academic year on the 19 th of October.																																
Applicants at MCAST MQF Level 1-Level 2 courses	Applicants with SSC&P Track 1 & 2 subjects or SEC predictive assessment results at Level 2 will be accepted to MCAST Level 1 or 2 study programmes following Initial Assessment Tests.																																
Applicants at MCAST MQF Level 3-Level 4 courses	Applicants with SSC&P Track 3 subjects based on their performance from Year 7-Year 10 or with SEC Level 3 subjects based on the predictive assessment as performed by MATSEC, will be provisionally accepted either to MCAST Level 3 or to Level 4 study programmes, depending on specific entry requirements. In cases where a grade higher than 5/C at Level 3 is required, the student will be deemed eligible if his predictive results by MATSEC are issued at MQF level 3.																																
Applicants at MCAST MQF Level 6 courses	<p>Provisionally accept students studying at Matriculation level to MCAST Level 6 programmes depending on specific entry requirements. Students failing to obtain the necessary requirements by the re-sit session in December will be offered an undergraduate diploma after successfully completing all units of their first year of studies.</p> <p>Students will be able to continue their studies at second year as regular students in the Level 5 or 6 course if they successfully complete all units (60 ECTS) during their first year of their Level 5/6 course and having successfully obtained a minimum of 48 MCAST admission points as per MCAST prospectus (shown below):</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Intermediate Level</th> <th colspan="2">Advanced Level</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Grade</th> <th>Points</th> <th>Grade</th> <th>Points</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>16</td> <td>A</td> <td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B</td> <td>15</td> <td>B</td> <td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C</td> <td>14</td> <td>C</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D</td> <td>13</td> <td>D</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E</td> <td>12</td> <td>E</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>O</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Alternatively, students will be able to continue their studies at second year as regular students in the Level 5 or 6 course if they successfully</p>	Intermediate Level		Advanced Level		Grade	Points	Grade	Points	A	16	A	26	B	15	B	24	C	14	C	22	D	13	D	20	E	12	E	18			O	6
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	<p>complete the required Advanced and Intermediate level subjects as required for entry into the course before the start of the second year of studies.</p> <p>Restrictions may apply to qualifications which lead to a regulated profession.</p>
Applicants at MCAST MQF Level 7 courses	Where possible, Masters programmes will commence by the end of November 2020 to enable candidates to be fully qualified.