



# **Candidate Absence Policy**

MEPA Academy

## Candidate Absence Policy

Centre name	MEPA Academy
Centre number	61710
Date policy first created	13/02/2024
Current policy approved by	Mandy Ellen
Current policy reviewed by	Emma Finch
Date of next review	01/02/2025

## Key staff involved in the policy

Role	Name
Head of centre	Mandy Ellen
Senior leader(s)	Mandy Ellen Emma Finch Lewis Muir
Exams officer	Emma Finch
Other staff (if applicable)	

This policy is reviewed and updated annually to ensure that candidate absence from examinations at MEPA Academy is managed in accordance with current requirements and regulations.

References in this policy to ICE and SC refer to the JCQ publications **Instructions for conducting examinations** and **A guide to the special consideration process**.

## **Purpose of the policy**

The purpose of this policy is to confirm the arrangements for candidates who are absent from an examination at MEPA Academy.

An absent candidate may subsequently arrive once the exam is underway, becoming a late or very late arrival, at which point MEPA Academy reserves the right to exercise discretion whether to allow a candidate who arrives after the start of the examination to enter the examination room and sit the examination. (See **Candidate Late Arrival Policy**)

Based upon the circumstances for the absence, and subject to the required conditions being met, an application for special consideration may also be made to the relevant awarding body.

## **1. Identifying and dealing with candidate absence**

A candidate will be considered absent from an examination if:

- The candidate is not present on completion of the attendance register once candidates are seated and have started the examination (ICE 22.5) OR The candidate is not present when a register is taken before candidates are invited to enter the room, under supervised conditions, to start their examination, etc.

Once a candidate is identified as absent from an examination, the following action will be taken:

- The candidate will be contacted immediately as to their whereabouts and as far as possible arrangements made to ensure their immediate arrival

If a candidate fails to sit an examination, the following action is taken:

- A confirmed candidate absence is clearly recorded on the attendance register which is sent to the examiner/marker
- The candidate absence is noted on the seating plan by crossing through the candidate details

## **2. Roles and responsibilities**

### **Overview**

It is the responsibility of the following member(s) of staff to deal with candidate absence once it has been identified:

- Emma Finch

It is the responsibility of the following member(s) of staff to deal with candidates who are persistently absent from examinations:

- Mandy Ellen

### **The role of invigilators**

Invigilators will:

- Be informed of the process for dealing with absent candidates through training
- Ensure that absent candidates are clearly indicated on the attendance register (ICE 22.4)

Additional responsibilities:

Not applicable

### **The role of candidates**

Candidates will be:

- Re-charged any relevant entry fees for unauthorised absence from examinations

Additional responsibilities:

Not applicable

### **3. Special consideration**

At MEPA Academy if a candidate is absent from a timetabled written examination for an acceptable reason, the candidate may be eligible for special consideration. This is where an adjustment may be made to the candidate's terminal grade by the awarding body, providing the following conditions are met:

- The examination is in the candidate's terminal exam series (SC 4.1)
- The candidate has completed or will be able to complete the required percentage of the assessment to meet the minimum requirements for enhanced grading in cases of acceptable absence (SC 4.3)
- The application for special consideration can be supported by appropriate evidence signed by a member of the senior leadership team (SC 6)

It is the responsibility of the following member(s) of staff to deal with special consideration requests and applications:

- Emma Finch, Tilly Cook and Lewis Muir

## **Changes 2023/24**

(Changed) Under heading **Special Consideration**: The application for special consideration can be supported by signed evidence produced by a member of the senior leadership team (To) The application for special consideration can be supported by appropriate evidence signed by a member of the senior leadership team

## **Centre-specific changes**

Upon review, no specific centre changes other than Exam Officer and SMT change.