



**2021 NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS -  
 INSTRUCTIONS TO SCHOOL CANDIDATES ON SAFE MANAGEMENT  
 MEASURES DUE TO COVID-19 [Version dated 27 September 2021]**

As the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve, your safety and well-being is our priority. Please read these instructions. **The following is applicable to GCE Examinations to be conducted from 4 October 2021:**

**Safe Arrangements for Candidates for the National Examinations**

1. Please **do not report for examination** and **do inform** your teacher, if you are:
  - (a) A confirmed COVID-19 case
  - (b) On Quarantine Order (QO)
  - (c) On Stay Home Notice (SHN)
2. If you are on QO, you can apply for special consideration (SC) for the affected National Examination papers. If you wish to sit your national examination, you can apply for leave from quarantine to do so, through your school. Please refer to the detailed instructions in **Annex QO**.
3. If you are on SHN because you needed to travel overseas on compassionate reasons (e.g. attending a funeral of next-of-kin, visiting a critically ill next-of-kin), you may be permitted to take the written examinations (not applicable for Science Practical/Listening Comprehension/Practical/e-Examination) under special arrangements. Inform your teacher immediately and produce the relevant supporting documents (e.g. certifying letter from doctor or death certificate of next-of-kin).
4. If you are issued with any of the Leave of Absence (LOA) orders, you may be **allowed to sit for** the examinations if you have a negative ART result. You will be required to report to your school for your ART test, at least one hour before the start of the paper. Your school will inform you of the details for the test arrangement.

**Updated**

LOA Category	Definition
LOA (Confirmed) ( <i>not pending issuance of QO</i> )	For candidates were in close contact with confirmed cases in school, but are not on QO.
LOA (QO)	a) For candidates staying in the same household as individuals on QO, for the duration of their QO. (b) For candidates staying in the same household as individuals who are awaiting transportation to Govt Quarantine Facility (GQF).
LOA (SHN)	For candidates staying in the same household as individuals on SHN having returned from all countries and serving ICA-issued SHNs at home, for the duration of their SHN.



5. If you are under the **Approved Absence (AA) status**, you can sit the examination in your school

- a. Do a self-swab ART at home, before you first day of examination.
- b. You only need to do once.
- c. You will be advised by your school on the test arrangement.
- d. **However**, if you are required by MOH to go for mandatory testing, or you have been issued with a Health Risk Warning (HRW) by MOH, you will need to get a negative COVID-19 PCR test and to do self-swab ART based on MOH's testing regime, to be allowed to sit for examination.
- e. You will sit for the examination in a separate room.

**Updated**

6. On Medical Leave due to Acute Respiratory Infection (ARI)

- 6.1 You will be allowed to sit for the examination if you have a negative PCR swab test result.
- 6.2 Candidates who are unwell, especially if displaying respiratory symptoms such as runny nose, cough or sore throat, should see a doctor at a polyclinic or a designated General Practitioner (GP) clinic participating in the Swab-and-Send-Home (SASH) initiative, preferably in the morning. A list of GP clinics participating in the SASH initiative can be found at the following website: [www.phpc.gov.sg](http://www.phpc.gov.sg).
- 6.3 If you **display symptoms less than four days before the examination**, as well as in **between different examination dates**, you should seek medical attention at polyclinics to ensure timely diagnosis.
- 6.4 While awaiting notification of the COVID-19 PCR swab test results, you must stay home and will not be allowed to enter the examination venue. If you are below 16 years of age, you must be accompanied by an adult (preferably parent/guardian) for the swab test. You should also update your school of the swab test results, which can be retrieved via the HealthHub website/application, as soon as possible.

7. On Medical Leave due to fever (Non-ARI). You will be allowed to sit for the examinations if you are no longer having a fever and tested negative for ART. Your school will make arrangement with you to do a one-time self-swab ART at home and you are required to inform the school on the outcome before the examination.

8. If you are unable to sit for papers in the national examinations due to COVID-19, special consideration will be granted. Your school will make the application for you. In awarding a grade, we will take into consideration multiple sources of evidence, such as your performance in the other papers for that affected subject in the national and school-based examinations as well as the school cohort's performance in the national and school-based examinations.

### ***Safe Management Measures for the Conduct of National Examinations***

9. If you are not well, such as having a fever and flu-like symptoms, do not report for examination and inform your teacher. There will be visual screening and temperature taking at the examination venues before the start of the examinations. You must bring your TraceTogether token when you report for examination. Please arrive at your examination centre at least 45 minutes before the start of your paper.
10. You will be seated at least 1.5m apart from another candidate. During the break time between papers, invigilators will allow candidates to visit designated toilets in small batches. You will also be dismissed from the examination venue in smaller groups and staggered.
11. You must wear surgical masks or reusable masks of equivalent effectiveness at all times. Refusal to put on a face mask is an offence in Singapore under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) Act. Do note that the invigilator may ask you to remove your mask to verify your identity when taking attendance.
12. If you are unwell during the examination, please inform an examination personnel immediately. The school leaders will assess your condition and decide on appropriate measures such as making arrangement for you to see a doctor or to send you home.
13. For examinations that are conducted in shifts/sessions (such as the Science Practical or Computer Applications Practical), you will be instructed to wipe down apparatus, equipment and exam desks that may be used by the next shift/session.
14. Invigilators will maintain a safe distance from the candidates, except during issuing of Question Papers, verifying attendance, and collecting answer scripts.
15. You can refer to the SEAB website: [www.seab.gov.sg](http://www.seab.gov.sg) for more information on the examination rules and regulations, as well as the arrangements for candidates who are affected by COVID-19 and other major disruption during examination days.

With the evolving COVID-19 situation, you must also comply with any additional instructions that SEAB may announce nearer to the examination dates. You should refer to SEAB website at [www.seab.gov.sg](http://www.seab.gov.sg) for updates of instructions before you sit for your examination.

**EXAM OPERATIONS DIVISION  
SINGAPORE EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT BOARD  
27 SEPTEMBER 2021**