Cambridge Assessment Admissions Testing
Access Arrangements Guidance

Access arrangements are provisions agreed before a test that allow candidates to access an assessment by removing unnecessary barriers. They must not give candidates an unfair advantage over others. We assess all candidates by using the same marking criteria so their scores have the same validity and are a true reflection of a candidate's attainment.

There are two groups of access arrangements:

- Administrative arrangements

- Modified test materials

Principles of access arrangements

- All applications for access arrangements must be supported with appropriate evidence, for example from a medical professional or a relevant qualified specialist.

- You must keep supporting evidence until results for the test have been issued. We conduct quality assurance sampling. If you are unable to support your use of access arrangements with appropriate evidence, it may be considered malpractice.

- The supporting evidence must give a clear outline of the disability, illness or learning difficulty and how this justifies the access arrangement(s) requested.

- The supporting evidence must be legible and written in English. It must be on headed paper or with an official stamp and bearing the name, relevant qualification(s) and signature of a recognised medical practitioner or other appropriately qualified specialist assessor.

- If the original version of the supporting evidence is not written in English, we will accept a translated version which must be signed by the original author, a legal representative or a member of the centre's exam staff.

- Supporting evidence must have been issued when the candidate was at least 13 years old.

- English not being the candidate's first language is not a valid reason for an access arrangement.

- Any designated help for the candidate should not be someone who has a vested interest in the candidate, for example a parent or teacher.

Applications for computer-based tests

We must be informed of any requirements for extra time and supervised rest breaks for computer-based tests*. This applies to applications that are usually centre-delegated or have been approved by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) or Cambridge International Education.

We are requesting that you let us know the length of time a candidate is likely to or usually requires for supervised rest breaks during the test. If the candidate uses this allowance on the

test day but requires more time, an application for special consideration detailing how many additional breaks the candidate had should be submitted.

Any required extra time and rest breaks for candidates will be scheduled in the test player by us prior to the test day. Any late requests received after the entry closing date will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

*In November 2021 the following tests will be computer-based: BMAT, TMUA, TSA and TSA S1.

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If you need this document in a different format contact us telling us your name, email address and requirements and we will respond within 15 working days.