

Using UMS to calculate an overall qualification grade

**This applies to qualifications with
100% Internal Assessment**

To calculate the total UMS value of a qualification use this equation:

$$\text{Number of equally-sized units} \times 100 = \text{Total UMS}$$

Each unit of the qualification is allocated a UMS value. This value is based on the Guided Learning Hours (GLH) of the unit, the total GLH of the qualification and the total UMS value of the qualification.

To calculate the UMS value of the unit we use this equation:

$$(\text{Unit GLH} / \text{Qualification GLH}) \times \text{Total Qualification UMS} = \text{Unit UMS}$$

For example:

A qualification has 360 GLH and a total UMS value of 600. This qualification has six equally-sized units of 60 GLH each.

Using the above equation each unit will have a value of 100 UMS ($60/360 = 0.167 \times 600 = 100$).

In order to determine the final grade of the qualification, the grade achieved for each unit is converted to a UMS points score. The value of the grade for each unit is based on the figures below:

Grade	% of Unit UMS
Pass	50%
Merit	60%
Distinction	72.5%

For example, a grade of Merit for a unit worth 100 UMS is worth 60 UMS points (100 x 60% = 60).

The UMS points for each unit are then combined and used to determine an overall qualification grade. These are based on the total UMS thresholds, as detailed in the qualification specification. As an example:

Max	P	M	D	D*
600	270	330	390	480

Based on the table above, if the combined total UMS points that a learner has achieved equals 350, they will be awarded an overall grade of Merit.

Although it is not possible to achieve a point score at or above the Distinction* threshold, if a grade of Distinction is achieved for all units, a grade of Distinction* will be awarded.

The following information can be found in the qualification specification:

- the GLH of the qualification
- the GLH of each unit
- the total UMS value of the qualification
- the total UMS points thresholds required to achieve each overall grade.