

Acceptable Evidence for Deferred Examinations

The University reserves the right to check the validity of documentation submitted as evidence in support of a deferred examination application. Documentation must be verifiable, and students may be requested to provide additional/alternate documentation to verify the authenticity of supporting documentation.

MEDICAL CERTIFICATES

Onshore enrolment: If you are enrolled in an **onshore** program your medical certificate must be issued by a registered **Australian health practitioner**. Exemptions apply - see [my.UQ](#) for detailed information.

Offshore enrolment: If you are enrolled in an **offshore** program or are studying offshore as part of your program requirements, you may submit an international medical certificate. This documentation must be completed in English or have a certified English translation. For more details visit [my.UQ](#).

Reason	mySI-net reason	Description	Acceptable supporting evidence	Unacceptable supporting evidence
MEDICAL GROUNDS	MEDICAL GROUNDS	<p>A medical practitioner must assess your condition and provide a signed medical certificate that covers the day of the examination.</p> <p>The medical practitioner must be independent – they cannot be a near relative (e.g. a spouse, partner, child, brother, sister, or parent) or a close associate (e.g. a close friend, neighbour, or partner or child of a colleague).</p> <p>The doctor's written assessment of your condition must state how it affected your capacity to undertake the examination on the relevant date.</p> <p>Mental health conditions can also be considered under Significant Personal Problems.</p>	<p>A signed medical certificate from a registered medical practitioner, registered *pharmacist, or a registered nurse.</p> <p>You must obtain a medical certificate no later than two business days after the date of the original examination. NB: Medical certificates provided by registered pharmacists must be obtained on the date of the examination.</p> <p>If you obtain a certificate more than two business days after the date of the original examination, your doctor must explain how the nature of your condition made it impossible, or unsafe, for you to have obtained a medical certificate sooner.</p> <p>The medical certificate must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be written on official medical centre letterhead, • include a provider number and stamp, • be free of handwritten amendments, and • cover the date of the exam. <p><i>*Medical certificates issued by registered pharmacists can only be dated from the date you present to the pharmacist for a consultation.</i></p>	<p>A medical certificate that does not cover the date of the exam or meet the criteria above.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A medical certificate from non-medical practitioners (eg. chiropractors, optometrists, physiotherapists). • A statutory declaration. • A Student Access Plan (Disability). • A medical certificate for an elective or non-critical medical appointments (e.g. optical, dental).

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SICK DURING AN EXAM	MEDICAL GROUNDS	<p>Medical conditions that suddenly present themselves during an exam (e.g. an epileptic seizure) are considered exceptional circumstances.</p> <p>A medical condition will only be considered exceptional circumstances if it is sudden, unexpected and debilitating, and requires immediate medical attention (eg. epileptic seizure).</p> <p>The medical condition must be supported by a medical certificate for the date of the examination and must be obtained that day.</p> <p>The medical certificate must be provided by an independent doctor or registered nurse – they cannot be a near relative (e.g. a spouse, partner, child, brother, sister, or parent) or a close associate (e.g. a close friend, neighbour, or partner or child of a colleague).</p>	<p>The medical condition must be supported by a medical certificate from a registered medical practitioner or registered nurse:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> for the date of the examination, and must be obtained that day. <p>The medical certificate must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> be written on official medical centre letterhead, include a provider number and stamp, be free of handwritten amendments, and cover the date of the exam. the suddenness of the onset of the medical condition, your predisposition to the condition, the seriousness of the symptoms, and how the medical condition affected your ability to remain and complete the exam. 	<p>A medical certificate that only states you were unfit to sit the exam will not be sufficient to demonstrate exceptional circumstances. The medical certificate must address the listed criteria.</p>
SIGNIFICANT PERSONAL PROBLEMS	SIGNIFICANT PERSONAL PROBLEMS	<p>In the event of traumatic incidents or significant personal problems, you are eligible to apply for a deferred examination.</p> <p>These problems might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> significant personal or mental health problems affecting your ability to sit your exam, being the victim of a crime, traumatic events, or misadventure. 	<p>A statement from a *counsellor, psychologist or psychiatrist. The statement must confirm how your circumstances affected your ability to sit your exam on the scheduled day.</p> <p>A police report or a statement from a relevant authority. The report or statement must confirm the occurrence of the trauma, misadventure, crime etc.</p> <p><i>*Counsellors registered with a professional organisation (e.g. ACA, QGCA), or UQ Student Service counselling team.</i></p>	<p>These are not considered grounds for a deferred examination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-existing mental health conditions that affect your ability to prepare and study for an exam (please see Alternative Exam Arrangements). Moving house or changing address (exceptions may exist when the move is sudden and involuntary). Tension with or between parents, partners, or other people you are closely involved with. Financial problems.

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SERIOUS ILLNESS OF FAMILY MEMBER OR CLOSE RELATIVE	SERIOUS ILLNESS OF FAMILY MEMBER OR CLOSE RELATIVE	In the event of the serious illness of a family member or close relative, you are eligible to apply for a deferred exam.	<p>A statement from a medical practitioner that states:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the medical status of the patient, the patient's relationship to you, and relevant dates. <p>If you are a carer, the medical certificate must state the period that you are required to provide care for the patient.</p> <p>If you are applying on the basis of your own ill health, please see information under 'Medical grounds'.</p>	<p>These are not considered grounds for a deferred examination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A family member or close relative who has an ongoing medical condition that doesn't directly affect your ability to sit the exam on the scheduled day.
DEATH/BEREAVEMENT	DEATH/BEREAVEMENT	If you are mourning the recent death of a family member or close friend, you are eligible to apply for a deferred exam.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Death certificate. Funeral notice. <p>In circumstances when the relationship between you and the deceased is not immediately clear (e.g. you have different surnames), please also provide evidence of the relationship, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A statutory declaration. A birth certificate. <p>Please note a medical certificate is not appropriate if you are applying because you are bereaved.</p>	<p>These are not considered grounds for a deferred examination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The death or sickness of a pet.
REGISTERED ELITE ATHLETE – SPORTING EVENT	REGISTERED ELITE ATHLETE – SPORTING EVENT	<p>If you are an elite athlete representing Australia – or an Australian state or territory – you may be eligible to apply for a deferred examination.</p> <p>To apply for consideration, you must hold UQ Elite Athlete status for the current semester. See Programs and Assessments for Elite Athletes for more information on applying for registration as an elite athlete at UQ. Your registration must be current for the relevant semester, prior to applying for deferral.</p> <p>The deferred exam request must be related to a specific sporting event or activity.</p>	<p>A letter written on state, national or international sporting letterhead. The letter must confirm the specific event and dates of the sporting event or activity. The letter must also describe the nature of your sporting commitment (e.g. training, travel etc.) and explain why you can't sit your scheduled exams.</p>	<p>These are not considered grounds for a deferred examination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> sporting events that aren't at a state, national or international level, and additional holiday time before or after elite sporting commitments.

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ELITE PERFORMER	OTHER , PLEASE DESCRIBE	<p>If you're working at the highest levels as an artist or performer, you may be eligible to apply for a deferred examination.</p> <p>You must have a specific and significant commitment to a recognised state, national or international cultural or artistic event. These events might include members of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance, • Ausdance or Australian Dance Theatre, • Australian Chamber Orchestra, • State symphony orchestras, • Australian Youth Orchestra, or • Opera Australia. <p>This list is not exhaustive. Performers or artists who are working at similarly high levels are eligible to apply.</p>	A letter on official letterhead that confirms the dates of the event. The letter must confirm the nature of your commitment to the event and explain why you can't sit your scheduled exams.	<p>These are not considered grounds for a deferred examination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • amateur or community theatre performances, or local artistic or cultural events, and • attending performances or cultural activities.
UNAVOIDABLE WORK COMMITMENTS	UNAVOIDABLE WORK COMMITMENTS	<p>We expect students to tell their employers about their examination commitments at the beginning of each semester.</p> <p>Employment-related reasons are not usually accepted as exceptional circumstances.</p> <p>However, we will consider your application if you have been directed to undertake unusual or extraordinary duties that were beyond your control and affected your ability to sit an exam.</p>	A letter on company letterhead from your employer. The letter must confirm the existence of unforeseen and extraordinary work commitments. The letter must detail the date when you were first notified of the unforeseen or extraordinary work commitments, why they were unexpected, and how they affected your ability to sit your exams.	<p>Emails from a colleague about work are not accepted as supporting evidence. Please get your employer to write a letter on company letterhead.</p> <p>These are not usually considered grounds for a deferred examination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • irregular casual work, • increased ordinary work commitments, • financial problems, • conference attendance, • ordinary demands of employment, or • increased work or pressures as a consequence of promotion.

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SIGNIFICANT FAMILY OR SOCIAL COMMITMENT	SIGNIFICANT FAMILY OR SOCIAL COMMITMENT	<p>Attending a wedding as a guest is not considered an acceptable reason for a deferred examination.</p> <p>However, if you are an important member of a wedding party (e.g. bridesmaid, groomsman, or equivalent) or if the event is a significant and important family occasion, you may be eligible to apply for a deferred examination.</p>	A copy of the wedding invitation must be provided. The invitation must clearly show that you are invited to the wedding and that you are a member of the wedding party. If you are not a member of the wedding party, you must provide a copy of the wedding invitation and show evidence of an immediate family relationship (e.g. through a statutory declaration, birth certificate etc.).	<p>These are not considered grounds for a deferred examination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> being invited to attend a wedding as a guest, pre-booked flights to return home, pre-arranged holidays or other travel / accommodation, additional holiday time before or after a wedding, or reasonably anticipated or ordinary family commitments.
DEFENCE FORCES OR EMERGENCY SERVICES	DEFENCE FORCES OR EMERGENCY SERVICES	If you're a reservist member of the defence forces or an emergency services member or volunteer (e.g. SES, Rural Fire Service) and you are required to render any service, including training, you are eligible to apply for a deferred examination.	A letter or statement on official letterhead, signed by an authorised officer of the relevant organisation. The letter must detail your role within the service, and the start and finish dates of training or activity.	
VEHICLE ACCIDENT (NOT INVOLVING MEDICAL INJURY)	ACCIDENT, NOT INVOLVING MEDICAL INJURY	If you were on your way to an exam and you were directly involved in a vehicle accident, or if your vehicle broke down, which delayed or prevented you from attending the exam, you are eligible to apply for a deferred examination.	<p>A police report and/or other relevant documents (e.g. traffic report, receipt from towing company, insurance claim). The report or documents must include the date, time and location of the accident.</p> <p>A report or document from an automotive road service (e.g. RACQ) or from an authorised vehicle mechanic. The document must detail the time and location of the breakdown.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you were on your way to an exam and you were injured in a vehicle accident, please apply on medical grounds. See Alternative Exam Arrangements if you have an injury that needs to be accommodated during an exam.

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MAJOR PUBLIC TRANSPORT OR TRAFFIC DELAY	OTHER, PLEASE DESCRIBE	<p>Students must allow for enough time to travel to an exam venue and must take traffic conditions into account (e.g. peak hour traffic). All reasonable attempts must be made to plan transport in a way that avoids or minimises travel delays.</p> <p>However, if there has been a major weather event, traffic accident, or public transport event that caused transport delays – and made you too late to attend your examination – you are eligible to apply for a deferred exam.</p> <p>Please note that delayed flights are not considered an acceptable reason for a deferred examination. Students must avoid making travel bookings where a delayed flight might compromise their punctual attendance at an exam.</p>	Evidence from websites (e.g. Translink, Queensland Police, news websites) that outlines the nature of the event, including the date and time of the event.	<p>These are not considered grounds for a deferred examination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delayed flights.
JURY DUTY	OTHER, PLEASE DESCRIBE	If you have received a jury summons for dates within the examination period, you are eligible to apply for a deferred exam.	A copy of the jury summons. The summons must include the start and finish dates of the jury duty.	
ACADEMIC COMMITMENTS	OTHER, PLEASE DESCRIBE	If you have academic commitments directly related to your enrolment and studies at the University – such as a research trip, or an exchange program – and they conflict with your exam schedule, you are eligible to apply for a deferred exam.	A confirmation letter from a relevant staff member. The letter must detail the nature of the academic commitment and how it will benefit your studies.	
UNIVERSITY SANCTIONED EVENT	OTHER, PLEASE DESCRIBE	<p>If you have commitments that are closely related and substantially beneficial to your life at UQ, you are eligible to apply for a deferred exam.</p> <p>Applications are considered on a case-by-case basis. Applications are only considered for mid-semester exams.</p>	A confirmation letter from a relevant staff member. The letter must detail the nature of the University-sanctioned event, your commitment to it, and how it will benefit your studies.	<p>These are not considered grounds for a deferred examination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • events of a purely social nature, • events of minor benefit.

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TECHNICAL ISSUE/S	TECHNICAL ISSUE/S	In the event of technical difficulties during a digital exam, you may be eligible to apply for a deferred exam.	Please provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A screengrab of an error message, and • A transcript of online chat support, or • A copy of an email you sent seeking technical support. 	These are not considered grounds for a deferred examination: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • not completing pre-examination on-boarding activities, • providing an error message screenshot and no other evidence, • seeking assistance after the examination.
DISCRETIONARY	DISCRETIONARY	A one-off single opportunity for students, throughout the duration of their studies at UQ, to apply for a deferred examination for reasons which might not otherwise be eligible criteria as set out above. For example, misreading the exam timetable.	A statement briefly setting out the circumstances for not being able to attend the exam.	The discretionary deferred exam request is only available to students in the event they have not previously used their one-off request. The discretionary deferred cannot be used: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in the event the student attended whole or part of the original examination; or • late submission of deferred exam requests