



# केन्द्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड

(मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत्त संगठन)

## CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

(An Autonomous Organisation under the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India)



No.CBSE/CE/Coord/2021

February 25, 2021

To,  
The Principal/All Head of Institutions  
Affiliated to CBSE

**Subject: Clarification regarding awarding of subject-wise grades in Class X & XII**

Madam/Sir,

You are aware that the C.B.S.E. awards subject-wise grades to the candidates in Classes-X & XII examinations alongwith the marks secured by them in each subject. The awarded grades are reflected in the Marksheet issued to the candidates of Class-XII and Marksheet-cum-Certificate issued to the candidates of Class-X.

Every year, many queries are being received from parents and students that how grading has been awarded. These details are mentioned at the back of Marksheet / Marksheet-cum-Certificate. However, to explaining award of grading in classes X and XII in Board's examination are reiterated below.

**The grading system which has been adopted by the CBSE is based on the "Relative grading" which is the more scientific approach instead of "Absolute grading" wherein grades are given based on predetermined cut-off levels. Meaning thereby, the grades are not determined on the marks range i.e. 91 to 100, 81 to 90 but on the basis of the group, the candidates falls into on the relative merit of the candidates. The grades vary from subject to subject based on the number of candidates passing the subject.**

For awarding grades, all the passed students are put in a rank order divided into 8 equal groups and are awarded grades as follows:

A-1	Top 1/8th of the passed candidates
A-2	Next 1/8th of the passed candidates
B-1	Next 1/8th of the passed candidates
B-2	Next 1/8th of the passed candidates
C-1	Next 1/8th of the passed candidates
C-2	Next 1/8th of the passed candidates
D-1	Next 1/8th of the passed candidates
D-2	Next 1/8th of the passed candidates
E	Essential Repeat

**While placing the candidates in a rank order, the following points are taken into consideration:**

- Minor variations in proportion of candidates to adjust ties are made, wherever necessary;
- In case of a tie, all the students getting the same score are awarded the similar grade.
- Method of grading is used in subjects where the number of candidates who have passed is more than 500.
- In respect of subjects where total number of candidates passing in a subject is less than 500, the grading would be adopted on the pattern of grading and distribution in other similar subjects.

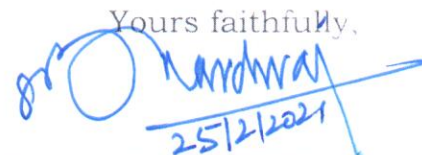
The following example illustrates how the grading system works:

Grades	Subject and number of candidates passing the subject HINDI ELECTIVE=159052	Subject and number of candidates passing the subject HISTORY=158585	Subject and number of candidates passing the subject ECONOMICS=383647	Subject and number of candidates passing the subject NCC= 304
<b>Grade A1</b>	159052 (X) 1/8 =19881.5 = ~19882 Meaning thereby top 19882 candidates will get Grade A1	158585(x) 1/8 =19823.12 = ~19824 Meaning thereby top 19824 candidates will get Grade A1	383647(x) 1/8 =47955.87 = ~47956 Meaning thereby top 47956 candidates will get Grade A1	304(x) 1/8 =38 Meaning thereby top 38 candidates will get Grade A1
<b>Grade A2</b>	Next 19882 candidates will get Grade A2	Next 19824 candidates will get Grade A2	Next 47956 candidates will get Grade A2	Next 38 candidates will get Grade A2
<b>Grade B1</b>	Next 19882 candidates will get Grade B1	Next 19824 candidates will get Grade B1	Next 47956 candidates will get Grade B1	Next 38 candidates will get Grade B1
<b>Grade B2</b>	Next 19882 candidates will get Grade B2	Next 19824 candidates will get Grade B2	Next 47956 candidates will get Grade B2	Next 38 candidates will get Grade B2
<b>Grade C1</b>	Next 19882 candidates will get Grade C1	Next 19824 candidates will get Grade C1	Next 47956 candidates will get Grade C1	Next 38 candidates will get Grade C1
<b>Grade C2</b>	Next 19882 candidates will get Grade C2	Next 19824 candidates will get Grade C2	Next 47956 candidates will get Grade C2	Next 38 candidates will get Grade C2
<b>Grade D1</b>	Next 19882 candidates will get Grade D1	Next 19824 candidates will get Grade D1	Next 47956 candidates will get Grade D1	Next 38 candidates will get Grade D1
<b>Grade D2</b>	Next 19882 candidates will get Grade D2	Next 19824 candidates will get Grade D2	Next 47956 candidates will get Grade D2	Next 38 candidates will get Grade D2

In the '**Relative grading**' system adopted by the Board, a candidate obtaining identical marks in any two subjects may not get the same grade in those two subjects. The grades will be different based on the number of candidates passing the subject and their relative scores.

This is for information to all stakeholders.

Yours faithfully,

  
25/2/2021

(DR. SANYAM BHARDWAJ)  
CONTROLLER OF EXAMINATIONS