

Assessment Specifications

Level 2 Visual Arts 2025

Published in October 2024

General information

Domain:	Practical Art
Standards:	91320 (Design), 91321 (Painting), 91322 (Photography), 91323 (Printmaking), 91324 (Sculpture)
Assessment method:	Body of work / portfolio
Assessment medium:	Digital or physical submission
Final date of submission:	29 October 2025

[Visual Arts subject page](#)

[National secondary examinations timetable](#)

Information relating to all achievement standards

Candidates are to produce a portfolio consisting of EITHER a two-panel portfolio (folio board) OR a moving image portfolio, representing the requirements of the standard. Schools then send sample portfolios to NZQA for verification. Panels of verifiers either confirm or adjust the provisional grades for the sample portfolios. These become the final grades for the sample portfolios. Schools are required to use the results of verification to award final grades to their remaining candidates.

Physical portfolio specifications

- TWO-panel, hinged portfolio. See Submission requirements below.
- Three-dimensional work or large-scale work should be represented by good quality photographs and, where appropriate, be accompanied by sketches, headings, or diagrams.

Digital portfolio (moving image) specifications

- The body of work for a moving image portfolio should be equivalent to the body of work required for a two-panel portfolio.
- The portfolio should show evidence of actual time-based work and / or documentation of time-based art or design practice. A moving image portfolio is NOT merely a digital representation of a two-panel portfolio.
- The portfolio must be no more than 120 seconds in total length. The portfolio may comprise several individually edited video files or a combination of moving and still images.
- Music or sound included in a moving image portfolio must be either an original composition(s) or music for which copyright has been obtained, and must be referenced in credits at the end of the submission.

Note: Digital submissions will not be returned to candidates.

Conditions of assessment

Candidates must not use appropriated imagery in their portfolio.

The use of chatbots, generative AI, paraphrasing tools, or other tools that can automatically generate content is not permitted and material generated by these tools should not be submitted as part of the candidate's work.

Authenticity

Teachers must closely supervise the process of evidence collection to ensure that candidates:

- do not copy from another person or source without appropriate acknowledgement
- do not receive guidance, scaffolding, instruction, assistance, or assessment conditions beyond what is specified as permissible in these Assessment Specifications.

Where a teacher cannot verify that the assessment submitted is the authentic work of the candidate, they must notify NZQA of a possible Candidate Breach of External Assessment.

Submission requirements

Physical evidence must be:

ONE portfolio:	• TWO-panel portfolio must be free-standing and consist of two 820 × 610 mm panels of cardboard, joined down the long edge (portrait in orientation). • panels must be hinged with adhesive tape or a glued binding cloth, and fold inwards to ensure the artwork is not damaged.
Weight:	no more than 1 kg and should be no more than 10 mm thick when folded.

Digital evidence must be:

A maximum of ONE file	
Permitted file types:	Video: AVI, M4V, MP4, MOV, WEBM
File size:	maximum of 5GB

Schools are required to store securely a backup copy (or originals) of all digital submissions.

Candidates should refer to [Further Guidance for Submission Responses](#) for further information.

Refer also to other resources on the [subject page](#) of NZQA website.

Further submission instructions and authenticity requirements will be provided for schools in Term 3.

Special assessment conditions

Refer to the NZQA website for further information:

[Aromatawai special assessment conditions](#)

Specific information for individual achievement standards

Standard:	91320
Title:	Produce a systematic body of work that shows understanding of art making conventions and ideas within design
Version:	2
Number of credits:	12

Standard:	91321
Title:	Produce a systematic body of work that shows understanding of art making conventions and ideas within painting
Version:	2
Number of credits:	12

Standard:	91322
Title:	Produce a systematic body of work that shows understanding of art making conventions and ideas within photography
Version:	2
Number of credits:	12

Standard:	91323
Title:	Produce a systematic body of work that shows understanding of art making conventions and ideas within printmaking
Version:	2
Number of credits:	12

Standard:	91324
Title:	Produce a systematic body of work that shows understanding of art making conventions and ideas within sculpture
Version:	2
Number of credits:	12
