Assessment Specifications

Level 3 Earth and Space Science 2025

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General information

Domain:	Earth and Space Science
Standards:	91413, 91414
Assessment method:	Examination, end of year
Assessment medium:	Printed paper

Link to Subject page

National secondary examinations timetable

Information relating to all achievement standards

Each examination will contain resource-based and knowledge-based questions.

Candidates should be encouraged to develop their own labelled diagrams/sketches as part of their learning and assessment

Special assessment conditions

Refer to the NZQA website for further information:

Aromatawai special assessment conditions

Specific information for individual achievement standards

Standard:	91413
Title:	Demonstrate understanding of processes in the ocean system
Version:	2
Number of credits:	4
Assessment medium:	Printed paper

The effects of climate change on ocean processes may be examined.

The ocean composition includes mixed layer, deep layer, pycnocline, thermocline, and halocline.

Transport of matter and energy in the ocean could include surface and deep currents, and the links between them. It may also include nutrient cycling, energy flows, and the formation and effects of tides and waves.

Standard:	91414
Title:	Demonstrate understanding of processes in the atmosphere system
Version:	2
Number of credits:	4
Assessment medium:	Printed paper

The effects of climate change on atmospheric processes may be examined.

Aerosols can include pollutants, particulates, and water. Jet streams are a part of troposphere circulation.

When considering transport of energy, candidates should consider conduction, convection, radiation, latent heat, sensible heat, and albedo.

When considering atmospheric composition, candidates should consider layers: troposphere, stratosphere, mesosphere, ionosphere, and thermosphere.