

Assessment Specifications

Level 3 Business Studies 2026

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General information

Domain:	Business Studies
Standards:	91379, 91380, 91381
Assessment method:	Examination, end of year
Assessment medium:	Online digital examination

[Business Studies subject page](#)

[National secondary examinations timetable](#)

Information relating to all achievement standards

Each of the standards will have ONE question with multiple parts.

Candidates should use business theory, knowledge of a New Zealand global business, and/or a case study to illustrate their answers. The typical learning context is a New Zealand-registered business operating in a global context.

The [Key Concepts](#) (enterprise, globalisation, citizenship, and sustainability) and the [Māori Concepts](#) (pūtake, tūrangā, tikanga, kaitiakitanga, and rangatiratanga) are relevant to all achievement standards, and should be incorporated throughout a Business Studies programme.

Māori concepts that relate to business may be assessed. Where this occurs, candidates will be given a definition or explanation of the term in the examination paper, and they will be required to apply or explain the concept in relation to a specific business context. Candidates may refer to any Māori business concept for any answer where relevant.

Further information about digital external assessment can be found on the NZQA website.

[Digital external assessment](#)

Equipment required

Approved calculators are permitted.

Special assessment conditions

Refer to the NZQA website for further information:

[Aromatawai special assessment conditions](#)

Specific information for individual achievement standards

Standard:	91379
Title:	Demonstrate understanding of how internal factors interact within a business that operates in a global context
Version:	2
Number of credits:	4

A business context will be provided for the examination. Where applicable, candidates may use the New Zealand-registered business operating in a global context that they have studied to answer any part of the question, or the business context provided in the examination. There will be one part of the question where candidates will be required to refer to the actual business they have studied.

Standard:	91380
Title:	Demonstrate understanding of strategic response to external factors by a business that operates in a global context
Version:	2
Number of credits:	4

A strategic response means a relevant 'business-wide' reaction at multiple levels. It may be of different size and scope (e.g. whole business, global or regional market, all departments, or single department), and time frame (e.g. short, medium, or long term), depending on the issues identified, and strategies chosen to respond.

A business context will be provided for the examination. Where applicable, candidates may use the New Zealand-registered business operating in a global context that they have studied to answer any part of the question, or the business context provided in the examination. There will be one part of the question where candidates will be required to refer to the actual business they have studied.

Standard:	91381
Title:	Apply business knowledge to address a complex problem(s) in a given global business context
Version:	2
Number of credits:	4

Candidates will be required to fully explain the causes and effects of the problem, evaluate solutions, and make fully justified recommendations.

Candidates will be expected to refer to the given context provided in the resource material.