

# Assessment Specifications

## Level 3 Physics 2026

Published in October 2025

### General information

|                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Domain:</b>            | Physics                  |
| <b>Standards:</b>         | 91523, 91524, 91526      |
| <b>Assessment method:</b> | Examination, end of year |
| <b>Assessment medium:</b> | Printed paper            |

[Physics Subject page](#)

[National secondary examinations timetable](#)

### Information relating to all achievement standards

Candidates should show their reasoning clearly and may use numerical working, words, and / or diagrams.

Mathematical solutions will require candidates to show, mathematically, that two phenomena, concepts, or principles are connected.

The acceleration due to gravity will be given as  $g = 9.81 \text{ m s}^{-2}$ .

The number of significant figures in any answer should be consistent with the data in the question.

It is recommended that candidates use standard form in writing numerical answers. The number of significant figures in any answer should be clear and should be consistent with the data in the question.

In a “show that” question it is important to write down unrounded values.

It is also suggested that candidates use unrounded values in their calculations and only round their value in their final answer.

Answers should be given with an appropriate unit. SI units should be used unless it is more appropriate to include a prefix (milli, kilo, etc).

Candidates should be able to interpret numerical data when provided with an appropriate prefix. This will be limited to giga, mega, kilo, centi, milli, micro, nano, and pico.

## Equipment required

Candidates require an [approved calculator](#), a ruler, and a protractor. Any approved scientific or graphing calculators may be used.

## Special assessment conditions

Refer to the NZQA website for further information:

[Aromatawai special assessment conditions](#)

## Specific information for individual achievement standards

|                           |                                           |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Standard:</b>          | 91523                                     |
| <b>Title:</b>             | Demonstrate understanding of wave systems |
| <b>Version:</b>           | 2                                         |
| <b>Number of credits:</b> | 4                                         |

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|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Standard:</b>          | 91524                                           |
| <b>Title:</b>             | Demonstrate understanding of mechanical systems |
| <b>Version:</b>           | 2                                               |
| <b>Number of credits:</b> | 6                                               |

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|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Standard:</b>          | 91526                                           |
| <b>Title:</b>             | Demonstrate understanding of electrical systems |
| <b>Version:</b>           | 2                                               |
| <b>Number of credits:</b> | 6                                               |

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