

Assessment Specifications

Level 1 Science 2026

Published in October 2025

General information

Domain: Science – Core

Standards: 91922, 91923

Assessment method: Examination, end of year

Assessment medium: Online digital examination

Science subject page

National secondary examinations timetable

Information relating to all achievement standards

Teachers should be familiar with the explanatory notes and Subject Learning Outcomes that accompany all achievement standards.

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

Digital external assessment

Special assessment conditions

Refer to the NZQA website for further information:

Aromatawai special assessment conditions

Specific information for individual achievement standards

Standard:91922Title:Describe features of science that have contributed to the development of a science idea in a local contextVersion:4Number of credits:5

The assessment will consist of a single question with multiple parts, each requiring short sentence or paragraph responses. Stimulus resource material of the development of a science idea will be provided in a separate paper booklet on the day of the examination.

The features of science to be assessed will be selected from:

- replicable, verifiable data collection
- · interpreting patterns and interactions
- the development of science ideas in response to new evidence or varied perspectives, such as Māori and Pacific knowledge systems
- being tentative by nature; the only certainty in science is when a claim is disproved
- the attributes of the people who carry out the science such as curiosity, collaboration, competitiveness, creativity, and critical thinking.

Standard: 91923

Title: Demonstrate understanding of science-related claims in

communicated information

Version: 4
Number of credits: 5

Candidates will respond to the selected science-related claims that are communicated for the specific topic. They will identify and critique the selected science information and use their science-specific literacy skills in their response to show understanding of how well the science information supports the science-related claims.

The assessment will consist of a single question with multiple parts, each requiring short sentence or paragraph responses. Stimulus resource material of the science-related claims will be provided in a separate paper booklet on the day of the examination.