

Awarding bodies must carefully consider the following regulatory principles for e-assessment in terms of how they, together with their technology provider(s), can ensure effective and robust educational methodologies, together with valid and reliable infrastructure and system capabilities, supported by awarding bodies' requirements on service providers and centres.

1. Validity and reliability of e-assessment

Awarding bodies must ensure that assessment delivered and maintained by electronic means is fit for purpose and produces a valid and reliable measure of a candidate's skills, knowledge, understanding and/or competence. The choice of assessment method must be independent of the technology on which it may be based.

1.1. Awarding bodies must ensure that e-assessment is fit for purpose and does not compromise the assessment methodology and the integrity of what is being assessed. Assessment should test only the knowledge and skills needed to achieve the qualification.

1.2. E-assessment systems must maintain the integrity and validity of the assessment process by reflecting the relevant procedures outlined in existing codes and criteria.

2. Security

Awarding bodies must maintain and review the security of e-assessment systems to ensure authentic test outcomes and protection against corruptive influences. Procedures must be in place to assure the security of hardware and software and the integrity of test data.

2.1. The security arrangements for e-assessments and the assessment data must comply, where relevant, with current legislation and industry standards (see Appendix 1 for a list of current relevant legislation and standards).

2.2. Awarding bodies must ensure that e-assessment systems have safeguards in place designed to ensure the security of all aspects of e-assessment and the e-assessment process, including plagiarism, copying and any interference with test outcomes.

2.3. E-testing and e-portfolio systems must include adequate protection, such as software and/or firewalls, that will protect against viruses and hacking, and

monitor and block attempts to corrupt the assessment process.