

Special Provisions Data 2017

Baseline Data

In 2017, 24219 students undertook at least one Stage 2 subject. Of these students 54.8% undertook at least one subject with an examination.

The following table shows what percentage of the total number of students applied for special provisions for external assessments and what percentage were granted special provision(s).

	Percentage based on students with a Stage 2 enrolment
Percentage of students who applied for special provisions	4.6%
Percentage of students who were granted special provisions	4.6%

Table 1: Baseline student data 2017

Note: The majority of applications for special provisions are for Stage 2 subjects with an examination.

Applications Received

A panel appointed by the Board is responsible for considering and, where appropriate, approving requests for reasonable adjustments for external assessments at Stage 2.

In 2017, the SACE Board received applications for special provisions relating to external assessments for Stage 2 subjects from 1108 students. 99.7% of these students' applications were approved.

The basis for these applications was as follows:

Special provisions applications	Number of students who applied*
Long Term Impairment	602
Short Term Impairment	15
Misadventure	173
Illness/Misadventure in examination**	508
Total	1298

Table 2: Number of students who applied for special provisions by type, 2017

* A student may make an application under more than one 'special provision type'. A student may therefore be counted more than once in this table. For example, a student may submit an application seeking provisions for vision impairment, and also submit an application for a misadventure due to bereavement.

** The number of students applying on the grounds of misadventure can vary considerably each year; for example, in the case of a disruption during an examination where a large class of students is affected.

Grounds for Applications

When illness, impairment, or personal circumstances impact in an adverse and significant way on a student's capacity to participate in an assessment, the grounds for which special provisions can be granted are:

- physical disability
- vision impairment
- hearing impairment
- medical condition
- psychological illness
- specific learning disabilities (a disorder or malfunction that results in the person learning differently from a person without the disorder or malfunction)
- misadventure (an accident beyond the student's control)
- personal circumstances.

In 2017 special provisions applications were received for the following reasons:

Application Reason	Count of students per reason [^]
Hearing Impairment	6
Medical Conditions	390
Arthritis	6
Asthma	2
Cancer	2
Chronic Fatigue Syndrome	5
Cystic Fibrosis	1
Diabetes	22
Epilepsy	7
Glandular Fever	20
Infectious/Contagious diseases	1
Injury	38
Medical Condition	160
Migraine	15
Motor vehicle accident	5
Pregnancy	1
Surgery	4
Upper Respiratory Tract Infection	23
Viral Illness	78
Misadventure	198
Assessment Irregularity	1
Examination disruption	11
Loss or Damage - Assessment Materials	5
Non student error	176
Student error	5
Physical Disability	24
Cerebral Palsy	8
Multiple Sclerosis	2
Physical disability	14
Psychological Illness	411
Anorexia nervosa	3
Anxiety disorder	184
Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder	12
Autism and Asperger Disorder	40
Depression	35
Emotional Impairment - bereavement/grief	129
Mental Illness/Schizophrenia	4
Obsessive Compulsive Disorder	4
Sight impairment	17
Specific Learning Difficulty	165
Dysgraphia	17
Specific Learning Disability	148

Table 3: Grounds for special provisions applications, 2017

[^]Note that these numbers represent, per reason, a count of students who made a special provisions application. A student can apply for more than one reason and therefore may be counted more than once in this table.

Types of Provisions Granted

For eligible students, evidence is required to determine the most appropriate, fair, and reasonable adjustment to facilitate the student's ability to participate in, or comply with the requirements of conditions of the assessment on the same basis as other students.

There are over thirty different types of adjustments that can be granted as a special provision. The following table shows the frequency of the most common adjustments granted to students in 2017:

Type of Alternative Arrangement	Number of students granted an
Use of moderated predicted mark(s)	505
Supervised rest breaks	413
Additional time to complete the examination.	377
Separate invigilation.	179
Use of word processor (or similar) in an examination.	100
Additional reading time prior to commencing the exam	78

Table 4: Most common provisions granted, 2017

Note: A number of provisions/alternative arrangements may be granted for each individual application. A student may make an application for a number of subjects/assessment tasks and for a number of different reasons. For example, a student may be granted both supervised rest breaks and separate invigilation for an anxiety disorder.

Data caveats

- The figures provided in this data release are based on the number of students who applied to the SACE Board for special provisions for Stage 2 externally assessed tasks (completed enrolments only).
- Only students attending schools in South Australia are represented.
- A student may submit more than one application per subject, per external assessment task and/or for various reasons/types of impairments. Note that this dataset represents figures as a student count (rather than an application count).
- This data is current as at the close of the SACE Board clerical check period for 2017.