

# Borderline Classification Performance Upgrade Rule

All taught awards have the borderline classification performance upgrade rule applied.

Borderline classification performances are **upgraded** to the next classification boundary if **both** the criteria listed below are met.

The rule is **automatically applied** in the exam board report - no manual calculation should be attempted.

## Upgrade Rule Criteria

**Part 1:** the final average mark for the course is within 2% of the next classification boundary (i.e. ends in an 8/9).

- *This applies only to students who have passed their award and are eligible for a classification.*
- *The rule is applied after the final average mark has been calculated (e.g. 'Best 100' approach for honours degrees). See the 'Progression and Award Factsheet' for details on this calculation.*
- *The mark the rule uses is the final average mark before it is rounded for display in exam board reports and Results Online.*

**Part 2:** 50% or more of the final level credits (e.g. Level 6 for honours degrees or Level 7 for an MA/MSc) are also in the higher classification band.

If **both parts 1 and 2 are met**, the final average mark is raised to the higher classification band and this is awarded to the student.

## Examples

Example	Award Type	Part 1 Criteria: Final Average Mark	Part 2 Criteria: Final Level Modules in the Higher Classification Band	Outcome
Student A	Honours Degree	68 (2:1)	60 credits in the First classification band (an honours degree has 120 credits in the final level)	Student is <u>eligible</u> to be upgraded to a First Class Honours as both criteria have been met
Student B	Honours Degree	59 (2:2)	40 credits in the 2:1 classification band (an honours degree has 120 credits in the final level)	Student is <u>not eligible</u> to be upgraded to a 2:1 because part 2 of the criteria has not been met
Student C	Master of Arts	67 (Merit)	100 credits in the Distinction classification band (a Masters degree has 180 credits)	Student is <u>not eligible</u> to be upgraded to a Distinction because part 1 of the criteria has not been met
Student D	Master of Arts	69 (Merit)	120 credits in the Distinction classification band (a Masters degree has 180 credits)	Student is <u>eligible</u> to be upgraded to a Distinction as both criteria have been met

## Contacts and Further Information

### [Academic Regulations](#)

**Students** with queries should contact their Course Director or Course Administrator

**Staff** with queries should contact [Academic Quality Enhancement](#)