

Appendix 9: BEP procedures for IMC-related Part 3 award classification (non-CPD)

1. In all cases, the Board of Examiners for Programmes must:
 - a. Bring forward any Part 2 IMC-flagged units (*i.e.*, those units not given deferred assessment), noting that, in respect of IMC-affected units:
 - No Part 2 DEU result can have been carried forward with a failing mark (*i.e.*, non-P1/P2(3));
 - No Part 2 non-DEU result can have been carried forward with a mark below the condonable threshold (*i.e.*, C1/C2(3));
 - Therefore, only the extent of impaired passing or condonable failing performances can be in question from Part 2.
 - b. Bring forward any Part 3 IMC-flagged units (*i.e.*, those units not given deferred assessment), noting that, in respect of IMC-affected units:
 - No Part 3 DEU result can have been admitted with a failing mark (*i.e.*, non-P1/P2);
 - Only 20% of the stage credits for non-DEU results in Part 3 can normally have been admitted with a mark below the pass mark (*i.e.*, P1/P2) (unless after determining in the best interests of the student that further study/assessment is not desirable — where a maximum of 50% of the stage credits for non-DEU results in Part 3 could have been admitted with a mark below the pass mark);
 - Therefore, only the extent of impaired passing, and a constrained amount (normally $\leq 20\%$ of credits) of IMC-affected non-DEU unit results below the pass mark, can be in question from Part 3.
 - c. Evaluate the evidence in relation to classification parameters (using the scenarios/boundaries spreadsheet — see Appendix 11: BEP IMC-related Part 3 award classification scenarios/boundaries (non-CPD)):
 - By calculating award classification from marks achieved in all (including IMC-affected) units in the normal way.
 - By considering the extent of any lowering influence of IMC-affected units from Part 2 and/or Part 3, as appropriate.
2. Subject to the provisions of para. 1 of this Appendix, and after due consideration of the valid IMCs' significant effects on assessment, the following detailed IMC criteria will be applied in sequence in relation to award classification:
 - a. In cases where the evidence before, and the judgement of, the Board of Examiners support it, the Board of Examiners for Programmes making a classification decision for an individual student *may* promote the student's award to the class above (as defined in Appendix 3: Concepts & terms within & outside the NFA).

For example:

A student being assessed within the NFA failed just one IMC-affected 12-credit unit in Part 3. Using the marks the student actually achieved, the overall programme average (OPA) is 57.62%, meaning that promotion to Second class honours Upper division would not normally be allowed. The boundary evidence provided in the spreadsheet suggests that if the student had obtained 40% instead of 37% for the failed unit, the OPA would be 58.02%, just inside the threshold for awarding the higher class if at least half of the Part 3 credits have marks of at least 60% (which is the case). The other boundary evidence shows that in the unlikely event that the student had obtained 100% for the failed unit, the OPA would have been 66.18%. In the judgement of the Board of Examiners for Programmes, the student would have been very likely to have obtained a mark of at least 55% had the failed unit not been affected by IMCs (based on coursework successfully completed and the comparative evidence of the other units taken), and this minimum plausible mark would take the OPA to 60.06%, inside the Second class honours Upper division range. The 40% boundary and the 55% minimum plausible mark indicators convince the Board of Examiners for Programmes that

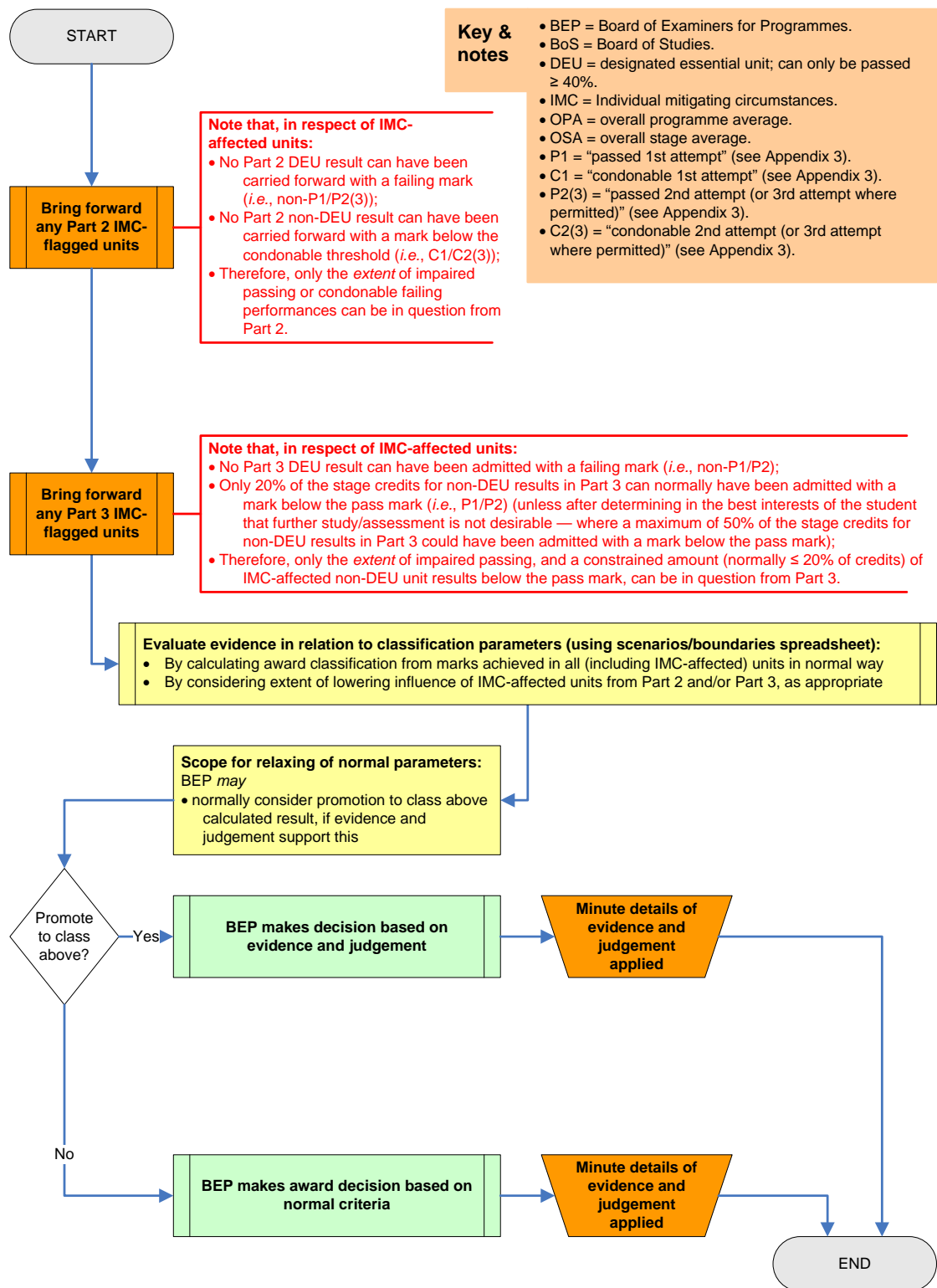
the award of a Second class honours Upper division degree would be fully justified. See Appendix 11: BEP IMC-related Part 3 award classification scenarios/boundaries (non-CPD).

- b.** In very many cases, the evidence before, and the judgement of, the Board of Examiners will indicate that the IMCs have had too slight an influence on the overall outcome for a promotion of class to be appropriate: the Board of Examiners for Programmes making a classification decision for an individual student will therefore make the classification decision according to the unadjusted, normal classification criteria.

For example:

A student being assessed within the NFA gained a mark of 45% in an IMC-affected 12-credit unit in Part 3. Using the marks the student actually achieved, the overall programme average (OPA) is 60.78%, placing the performance at the low end of the Second class honours Upper division range. The student's Part 2 OSA was 62.00%, and in Part 3 the other units have an average mark of 64%. The boundary evidence provided in the spreadsheet suggests that, in the unlikely event that the student had obtained 100% for the failed unit, the OPA would have been 68.26%. In the judgement of the Board of Examiners for Programmes, the student would have been very likely to have obtained a project mark slightly higher than that for the other final year unit marks had the failed unit not been affected by IMCs (based on the relativities observed normally in the cohorts taking this programme), and this maximum plausible mark of 66% would take the OPA to 63.63%, still well within the Second class honours Upper division range. The 66% maximum plausible mark indicator, the very consistent performance in other units, and the normal mark relativities of the units in this programme's final year convince the Board of Examiners for Programmes that there would be no justification for a higher award than Second class honours Upper division.

Figure 7: BEP procedures for IMC-related Part 3 award classification (non-CPD)



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