

Higher School Certificate 2026 Rural and Remote Marking Program

Information Booklet

Applications available from 5 March 2026 to 19 March 2026

The HSC Rural and Remote Marking Program

The HSC Rural and Remote Marking Program (RRMP) is a joint program run by the Department of Education (DoE), Catholic Schools NSW (CSNSW) and the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA).

The program is designed to give rural and remote teachers the opportunity to participate in marking the Higher School Certificate (HSC). The RRMP is a valuable professional development activity, and allows teachers to gain knowledge, skills and understanding about the marking process. Subjects offered under this program are listed on pages 4 and 5.

Applying for marking (outside of the RRMP)

Applicants of the RRMP may also wish to apply for HSC marking via [Markers Online](#). This will ensure that if your application for the RRMP is not successful, you can still be considered for marking through the standard marker application process.

If you choose to apply via *Markers Online*, outside of the RRMP, most subjects are marked onscreen, remotely. There are some subjects marked in Sydney, via pen and paper mode. Refer to the Fact Sheets available on *Markers Online* about other marking opportunities and marking venue information.

Funding from the NSW Department of Education will only apply to successful government school teachers appointed under the RRMP.

How marking works

Markers generally mark one question of a student's response or a group of questions. Markers are assigned to a small team of markers under the supervision of a Senior Marker. A Supervisor of Marking (SOM) manages each marking operation.

The subjects offered under the RRMP are marked externally onscreen, except for Visual Arts - Practical¹. Successful applicants must participate in briefing and practice marking held remotely, online via Microsoft (MS) Teams, before commencing external onscreen marking. These sessions will be over multiple days, evenings, and Saturdays. Details and your NESA MS Teams account will be confirmed in your appointment letter available before the end of Term 3.

¹ Visual Arts – Practical marking takes place first at Homebush, followed by itinerant marking around the state.

External markers may mark at any time from 6am to midnight, seven days a week, from a secure, private location. Senior Markers will only be available during standard corporate marking hours; 4pm to 9pm weeknights and 8.30am to 4.30pm or 9am to 5pm on Saturdays to assist their marking team. Markers must seek approval from their Senior Marker for alternative marking hours.

***Visual Arts Practical:** successful applicants for Visual Arts Practical are required to attend both corporate and itinerant marking. Corporate briefing sessions are held for approximately a week at a Sydney marking centre and itinerant marking follows for approximately two weeks at various metropolitan and regional locations. Details and itineraries will be provided at marking. Markers must attend both corporate and itinerant marking sessions to participate in marking.

Relief and Allowances

Schools wishing to have teachers participate in the RRMP will need to organise the necessary casual relief and be responsible for any associated costs if teachers are required at briefing sessions.

NESA will only cover casual relief for any briefing sessions that are scheduled during school hours.

Applicants from NSW DoE schools should discuss the level of support available with their principal and/or the DoE.

Applicants from CSNSW schools should discuss the level of support available with their principal and/or the Diocesan Office.

Important Dates

- **5 March 2026** – HSC marking and RRMP applications open.
- **19 March 2026** – HSC marking and RRMP applications close.
- **Beginning of Term 2, 2026** – All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application from either DoE or CSNSW.
- **End of Term 2, 2026** – NESA emails successful applicants to confirm their appointment and tentative dates for marking.
- **End of Term 3, 2026** – NESA will upload a subject appointment letter, via *Markers Online*, confirming specific appointment details, dates and times of marking.
- **October and November 2026** HSC marking takes place.

Eligibility for Selection

A small number of marking positions are available for each subject offered to markers appointed under the RRMP. Applicants should have recent teaching experience to Year 12 students (within the last three years) in the subject they are applying for. The RRMP is recommended for teachers with none or limited previous marking experience to create opportunities for new markers from regional areas. Retired teachers and principals are not eligible to apply.

NESA aims to fairly share appointments between applicants from CSNSW and DoE. NESA may also offer marking to one teacher per school if we have multiple applicants for the same subject and may give preference to a Head Teacher.

Other criteria applied to applications:

1. **Total number of years teaching the course to Year 12 students** – As a general guide, three years' experience teaching the course at HSC level is regarded as a minimum requirement for appointment as an HSC marker.
2. **Recent experience teaching the course to Year 12 students** – Successful applicants must have recent (within the last 3 years) experience teaching the course and preference will be given to those teaching the course in the current year of marking.
3. **Part-time and casual teachers** – Applicants must provide details in relation to their teaching load (including the number of days/hours per week, teaching blocks).
4. **Availability** – RRMP applicants must be available to attend all briefing and marking sessions.
5. **Conditions of Employment** – The applicant must complete this section of the form for the application to be considered.
6. **Approval from the principal** – The principal is required to give approval to each applicant prior to the applicant submitting the application form. The applicant must seek approval from their principal to support the application so that they will release them from school to participate in the program.
7. **Accessibility Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA)** – NESA will consider the ARIA ranking when assessing applications; however, applicants must also meet the criteria to be appointed.

Application Form

[Click here](#) to apply for the RRMP via the online form.

Applications are open on **Thursday, 5 March 2026** and must be submitted by **5pm, Thursday, 19 March 2026**.

Enquiries

Please direct enquiries regarding the RRMP to:

NSW Department of Education

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Catholic Schools NSW

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George.Morad@csnsw.catholic.edu.au

Please direct enquiries regarding *Markers Online* applications, pay rates, or any other general marking queries to:

NSW Education Standards Authority

Marker Support

(02) 9367 8104

markersupport@nesa.nsw.edu.au

Rural and Remote Marking Program Subjects Available 2026

Subject
Agriculture
Ancient History (Core)
Ancient History (Options)
Biology
Business Studies
Chemistry
Community and Family Studies
Design and Technology (Written)
Drama (Written)
Earth and Environment Science
Economics
Engineering Studies
English Advanced Paper 2 Module A
English Advanced Paper 2 Module B
English Advanced Paper 2 Module C
English EAL/D
English Extension 1
English Studies, Standard and Advanced Paper 1 Section 1 and Studies Sections 3 & 4
English Studies, Standard and Advanced Paper 1 Section 2
English Standard Paper 2 Module A
English Standard Paper 2 Module B
English Standard Paper 2 Module C
Enterprise Computing
Food Technology
Geography
Health and Movement Sciences
History Extension
Hospitality (VET)
Industrial Technology (Written)
Investigating Science
Legal Studies

Subject
Mathematics Advanced
Mathematics Extension 1
Mathematics Extension 2
Mathematics Standard 1 and 2
Modern History (Core)
Modern History (Options)
Music (Written)
Physics
Primary Industries (VET)
Science Extension
Society and Culture (Written)
Software Engineering
Studies of Religion
Textiles and Design (Written)
Visual Arts (Written)
Visual Arts (Practical - marking both Corporate and Itinerant)
See note on Page 2 related to Visual Arts Practical marking locations.