



**Standard Grade
Internal Assessment Report 2012
Accounting and Finance**

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on verification in Standard Grade qualifications in this subject.

Standard Grade

Titles/levels of Standard Grade qualifications verified:

- ◆ Accounting and Finance Practical Abilities (Foundation, General, Credit)

General comments

Centres are very well accustomed to the requirements of National Standards. This is due to the fact that the assessment materials and marking instructions are provided by SQA.

Administration of assessments

As centres must use the assessments provided by the SQA for the current year they are always at the appropriate level. In addition, suggested marking instructions are provided for centres. Internal verification was evident in just under 50% of the centres in the sample.

Four centres failed to complete the SGER00 form so there was no indication of how they generated the sample submitted. Two centres did not submit the marking scheme.

Areas of good practice

A number of centres issue a corrected Trial Balance to candidates prior to completion of the final accounts. This is very good practice as it makes the checking and marking of the final accounts much easier and there is no need to continually check for consequentiality from their ledger account balances.

Specific areas for improvement

As in previous years the 'not accepted' decisions resulted from arithmetic errors. Particular care must be taken in transferring totals to the flyleaf and applying the weighting to the candidate's marks.

There is still a concern about the lack of knowledge of the \pm rule when marking accounting and some teachers do not consistently apply consequentiality. These two areas were the main cause of discrepancies in scripts, in some cases quite significant, although not sufficient enough to affect grades.

There was one instance of a centre still using 'ticks' in candidate scripts — the number of ticks did not agree with the total marks awarded for the question. Marks **must** be clearly annotated on the candidate script.