Memo

Queensland Studies Authority

14 October 2010

Number: 079/10

Years 10 – 12

SLIMS — Reporting 'Notional Sound'

Purpose

To advise schools how to report "notional Sound" for literacy and numeracy for the QCE using the SLIMS Registration and Banking Systems (RABS) interface.

Background

If a student exits an English or Mathematics subject with a Limited or Very Limited Achievement, they will not meet the literacy or numeracy requirements through that subject. However, literacy or numeracy requirements may be met if a single semester is assessed as a "notional Sound".

When the concession of notional Sound for literacy and numeracy was first introduced, schools recorded notional Sound into SDCS and completed forms NSL and NSN for end-of-year reporting.

Information

The QSA has changed the procedure for reporting notional Sound. Schools now record notional Sound at any time into the Student Learning Information Management System (SLIMS) via the RABS interface as set out on Page 2 of this memo.

Schools should note that notional Sound information already recorded in SDCS will be transferred to SLIMS. The forms NSL and NSN are no longer required (QSA Memo 060/10 of 9 August 2010 — "Notional Sound" reported by schools).

For most students the school should determine eligibility for notional Sound after Verification.

For students who leave the subject area (e.g. all Mathematics subjects) or who transfer out of the school after completing at least one semester, the school should review folios of evidence for English and/or Mathematics subjects and record a notional Sound if applicable.

For students who transfer from one Queensland school to another having already gained a provisional Sound in an English or Mathematics subject for one semester, the transferring school should record a notional Sound in SLIMS, in case the student achieves only a Limited or Very Limited at a new school. Transferring schools should record a notional Sound while the student is still enrolled, as the receiving school is only able to record a notional Sound for enrolments at that school.

Notional Sound can only be recorded by the current main learning provider. Other learning providers wishing to have a notional Sound recorded for a student should make formal application to the Certification Unit.
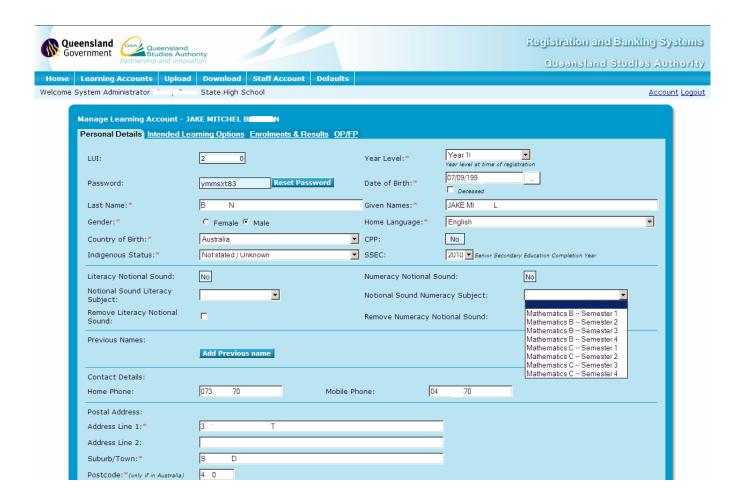
The usual quality assurance procedures for folios of evidence will apply, as prescribed in the publication, *The Quality Assurance of Authority-registered Subjects* (www.qsa.qld.edu.au/10774.html).

To enter notional Sound into SLIMS

1. Log into SLIMS as the Main Learning Provider

2. Retrieve the specific Student Learning Account

3. On the personal details page, select the drop-down arrow for either literacy notional Sound or numeracy notional Sound. This will display a drop-down menu of the subjects and semesters the student has studied that may qualify them for literacy/numeracy.

4. Select the appropriate subject and semester combination for literacy or numeracy

5. Click Save at the bottom of the screen.

To remove an incorrect notional Sound

- Log into SLIMS as the Main Learning Provider

- Retrieve the specific Student Learning Account

- On the personal details page, select the checkbox Remove literacy notional Sound or Remove numeracy notional Sound and then click Save at the bottom of the screen.

Note

Where a notional Sound has been reported by SDCS previously, the notional Sound area of the personal details screen will appear as follows:

Literacy Notional Sound:	Yes	Numeracy Notional Sound:	Yes
Notional Sound Literacy Subject:	▼	Notional Sound Numeracy Subject:	▼
Remove Literacy Notional Sound:	☐	Remove Numeracy Notional Sound:	☐

Attachments and web links

QSA Memo 060/10, "Notional Sound" reported by schools.

QCE Handbook, Appendix 3 — Meeting literacy and numeracy requirements using a "notional Sound"

What you need to do

Ensure Heads of Department — English and Mathematics are aware of the granting of notional Sound to transferring students, according to the procedures for determining eligibility for notional Sound as described in the QCE Handbook, Appendix 3.

Please pass this memo on to personnel with responsibility for entering data into SDCS and SLIMS.

More information

If you would like more information, please email qce@qsa.qld.edu.au, or phone 3864 0384.

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