

Approved calculators for Mathematics and Mathematics: Specialist examinations (2010 and 2011)**Contact:****Rom Cirillo** (08) 9273 6718rom.cirillo@curriculum.wa.edu.au

To accommodate concerns expressed by teachers and school leaders regarding the transition from graphics to CAS calculator use in examinations, the following decision has been made in consultation with the Mathematics reference group:

The new WACE examinations for Mathematics and Mathematics: Specialist will comprise two sections. Candidates will not be permitted to use calculators in section one. In section two, calculators with CAS capabilities will be required.

Each candidate may take into the examination a maximum of two approved CAS calculators for use in section two.

In addition, a candidate may bring one other, non-CAS calculator (graphics or scientific) into the examination.

This decision will apply to the examinations in 2010 and 2011.

It needs to be reinforced that the functionality of approved CAS calculators determines the scope of examination questions, and therefore a CAS calculator is required.

The following table lists the calculators with CAS capabilities approved for WACE mathematics examinations from 2010.

Casio	Hewlett Packard	Texas Instruments
Algebra FX 2.0	HP 40G	TI-89
Algebra FX 2.0 PLUS	HP 40GS	TI-89 (Titanium)
ClassPad 300	HP 49G	TI-92
ClassPad 300 PLUS	HP 49G PLUS	TI-92 PLUS
ClassPad 330	HP 50G	TI-Voyage 200
		TI-nspire CAS+

The conditions under which these calculators may be used include:

- calculators must be silent, hand-held and contain their own power source (battery or solar operated)
- candidates will place their calculators under their chairs as directed for section one of an examination
- calculators may be used in section two only of an examination
- students will be entirely responsible for ensuring adequate power supply to their calculators and the proper working order of their calculators
- students must supply and be able to change their own spare batteries – any battery failure or other fault which limits the usefulness of a calculator during an examination will not be taken into special consideration
- no student may borrow a calculator from another student after entering the examination room
- calculator memories do not have to be cleared before entry to an examination

- calculator instruction booklets and removable covers are classified as unauthorised materials and must not be taken into an examination room.

Computers, mini-computers, pocket-organisers, laptops, palmtops, calculator models that can 'communicate' with other calculators, notebooks, mobile phones are excluded from all WACE examinations, except under specified circumstances for which prior approval has been given by the Curriculum Council.

Possession of unauthorised materials in an examination will be reported to the Curriculum Council as a breach of examination rules. Candidates using a non-approved calculator in an examination may be penalised up to 25 per cent of their marks.