

What's the difference between a withdrawal, nullification and appeal?

Withdrawal

Before the assessment

You can withdraw from the assessment at any time from the date you apply until the start of the assessment, including on the day of the assessment itself. However, you can only withdraw if you do not pass the point, at which you declare yourself fit to sit and start the assessment.

You must submit a withdrawal form to formally withdraw from the assessment. Withdrawal forms must be submitted within five working days after the assessment.

No evidence is required to formally withdraw from the assessment.

If you do not formally withdraw, you will forfeit your sitting and it will count towards your three attempts, and you will not receive a refund for the assessment.

Nullification

During the assessment

If you experience a problem or incident during either paper, which significantly affects your performance during your assessment, you can apply to the Board of Assessors for a nullification of your sitting.

You should make your invigilator aware of this problem or incident during the assessment. The invigilator will complete a case file which will be sent to the GPhC.

You must formally apply to request a nullification within 5 working days after the assessment. You must also provide suitable evidence to support your request (e.g. medical evidence if you were taken ill).

If your nullification request is upheld by the Board of Assessors, you will not receive your results and your assessment attempt will not count towards your three attempts to pass the exam.

Appeal

After the assessment results

If you fail the assessment, you may request to appeal your assessment result if you have sufficient grounds.

An appeal will only be considered if:

- new information or circumstances have come to light since you sat the assessment that you were not aware of at the time
- a registration assessment procedure was not correctly applied by the GPhC which would have affected your performance on the day. This is set out in the registration assessment regulations.

If your appeal is upheld, the Registrar may nullify your assessment result, and your assessment will not count as one of your available attempts.

An appeal will not be considered if you were aware of your condition or circumstances at the time, and could have requested a nullification.

When to use the withdrawal nullification and appeal processes

