



# Planning QCE pathways



## Senior Education Profile

Students in Queensland are issued with a Senior Education Profile when they complete Year 12. All students receive a Senior Statement. Eligible students also receive a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) and/or a Tertiary Entrance Statement, or a Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement (QCIA). Students who continue to study towards a QCE after completing Year 12 will receive a Statement of Results when they become eligible for a QCE.

### Queensland Certificate of Education

The QCE is Queensland's senior schooling qualification. It is awarded to eligible students when they complete the senior phase of learning, usually at the end of Year 12. To be awarded a QCE, students need to complete a significant amount of learning, at a set standard and in a set pattern, and fulfil literacy and numeracy requirements.

### Tertiary Entrance Statement

The Tertiary Entrance Statement shows an eligible student's OP (Overall Position) and FPs (Field Positions). An OP indicates a student's rank, based on overall achievement in Authority subjects. The student must study at least three of these subjects for all four semesters and sit the Queensland Core Skills (QCS) Test. FPs indicate a student's rank based on overall achievements in Authority subjects in up to five fields (areas of study that emphasise particular knowledge and skills). FPs are calculated only for OP-eligible students.

### Senior Statement

All students who finish Year 12 will receive a Senior Statement, regardless of whether they have met the requirements for the award of a QCE. This statement is a transcript of the learning account that records all contributing studies and results achieved.

### Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement

The QCIA recognises the achievements of students who undertake individualised learning programs. To be eligible, students must have impairments or difficulties in learning that are not primarily due to socioeconomic, cultural or linguistic factors.

### Statement of Results

If a student leaves school or completes Year 12 without achieving a QCE, they can add to their learning account for up to seven years after leaving school. Once they become eligible, the QCAA will issue a QCE and a Statement of Results. The Statement of Results shows all contributing studies and the results achieved and, if applicable, a student's QCS Test result.



To gain a **QCE** students need



an **AMOUNT**  
of **LEARNING**  
**20 credits**



at a **SET STANDARD**  
Sound Achievement,  
Pass or equivalent



in a **SET PATTERN**  
at least **12 credits**  
from **completed**  
**Core courses of study**



an additional **8 credits**  
from a combination of  
**any courses of study**



meet **literacy and numeracy** requirements.

## Working towards a QCE

### About the QCE

The Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) is Queensland's senior schooling qualification.

- The QCE is awarded to eligible students — usually at the end of Year 12.
- Students can still work towards a QCE after Year 12 or if they leave school.
- Learning options are grouped into four categories (*see opposite*).
- The QCE offers flexibility in what, where and when learning occurs.

### How the QCE works

To achieve a QCE a student needs 20 credits in a set pattern.

- At least 12 credits must come from completed Core courses.
- Additional 8 credits can come from a combination of any courses.
- Students must achieve a Sound, Pass or equivalent to receive QCE credits.
- Literacy and numeracy requirements must be met (*see opposite*).

### Planning a QCE pathway

QCE planning usually starts in Year 10.

- A Senior Education and Training (SET) Plan is developed to map a student's future education and/or employment goals and their QCE pathway.
- Learning options include senior school subjects, vocational education and training, apprenticeships and traineeships, university subjects completed while at school, recognised workplace learning, certificates and awards.
- Students choose their own QCE pathway — there are hundreds of possible course combinations.
- Students can plan their QCE pathway and track their progress towards a QCE in their learning account on the Student Connect website at [www.studentconnect.qcaa.qld.edu.au](http://www.studentconnect.qcaa.qld.edu.au)

## For more information

There are a number of ways a student can gain a QCE.

The QCE Handbook provides information about:

- credit for partial completion of courses of study
- credit transfer for intrastate, interstate and overseas transfers
- conceded semesters for subjects exited at a Limited Achievement
- student learning accounts
- relaxation of completed Core requirements
- notional Sound in a subject for meeting literacy and numeracy requirements
- recognised studies.

Visit [www.qcaa.qld.edu.au](http://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au) for a copy of the handbook

## Learning options and credit values

	COURSE	CREDIT
CORE	<b>CORE courses:</b> usually undertaken by students in the senior phase of learning	At least <b>12 credits</b> are needed. At least 1 credit undertaken while enrolled at a school.
	Authority or Authority-registered subjects	Per course (4 semesters) 4
	Subjects assessed by a Senior External Examination	4
	VET Certificate II, III or IV qualifications (includes school-based traineeships)	Certificate II 4 Certificate III & IV 5, 6, 7 or 8
	School-based apprenticeships that incorporate on-the-job training	Certificate III competencies Up to 2 On-the-job component 4
	Recognised international learning programs	Per course 4
PREPARATORY	<b>PREPARATORY courses:</b> generally used as stepping stones to further study	A maximum of <b>6 credits</b> can contribute.
	VET Certificate I qualifications	(Max. of 2 qualifications can count) 2 or 3
	Employment skills development programs approved under the <i>VETE Act 2000</i>	(Max. of 1 program can count) 2
	Re-engagement programs	(Max. of 1 program can count) 2
	Recognised certificates and awards	As accredited by QCAA
Short course in literacy or short course in numeracy developed by the QCAA	Per course 1	
ENRICHMENT	<b>ENRICHMENT courses:</b> add value or complement Core courses of study	A maximum of <b>8 credits</b> can contribute.
	Recognised certificates and awards	As accredited by QCAA
	Recognised structured workplace or community-based learning programs	As accredited by QCAA
	Learning projects — workplace, community, self-directed	1
	Authority extension subjects, such as English Extension	2
	Career development: A short course senior syllabus	1
School-based subjects	As accredited by QCAA	
ADVANCED	<b>ADVANCED courses:</b> go beyond senior secondary schooling	A maximum of <b>8 credits</b> can contribute.
	One or two-semester university subjects completed while enrolled at a school	One-semester subject 2 Two-semester subject 4
	Units of Competency contributing to VET diplomas or advanced diplomas while enrolled at a school	Up to 8 credits (1 credit per competency)
	Recognised certificates and awards	As accredited by QCAA

## Literacy and numeracy requirements

The QCE offers students a range of options to satisfy the literacy and numeracy requirements, including:

- at least a Sound Achievement in one semester of a QCAA-developed English and Mathematics subject
- at least a Sound Achievement in QCAA-developed short courses in literacy and numeracy
- a Pass grade in a literacy and numeracy course recognised by the QCAA
- at least a C on the Queensland Core Skills (QCS) Test
- at least a 4 for an International Baccalaureate examination in English and Mathematics
- completion of FSK20113 Certificate II in Skills for Work and Vocational Pathways
- completion of a VET course in Core Skills for Employment and Training – Communication, i.e. 39282QLD (Certificate I) or 39283QLD (Certificate II)
- completion of a VET course in Core Skills for Employment and Training – Numeracy, i.e. 39288QLD (Certificate I) or 39289QLD (Certificate II).