

Senior assessment and tertiary entrance in Queensland

A comparison of the current and new systems

Current system	New system starting with Year 11 students in 2019
Curriculum	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools develop curriculum and assessment programs primarily from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Authority subjects – Authority Extension subjects – Authority-registered subjects – Short courses – Recognised studies – Vocational education and training (VET) options. • Students typically undertake the equivalent of six subjects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools will develop curriculum and assessment programs primarily from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – General subjects – Extension subjects – Applied subjects – Short courses – Recognised studies – Vocational education and training (VET) options. • Students will typically undertake the equivalent of six subjects. • All syllabuses will be redeveloped during 2016 and 2017.
Assessment in Years 11 and 12	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject results are based on student achievement in school-based assessments. • Students undertake formative assessments in Year 11 and complete 5-7 summative assessments in Year 12. • Assessment programs are developed by schools for each subject. These programs are approved by the QCAA. Schools set the assessment, and grade the student work, in line with approved work programs. • QCAA's system of external moderation includes processes for monitoring of standards of assessment and verifying proposed levels of achievement of students before certification of results. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will undertake formative assessments in Units 1 and 2 (typically Year 11). • Subject results will be based on student achievement in four summative assessments — three school-based assessments and one external assessment that is set and marked by the QCAA. • For most subjects, the school-based assessment will contribute 75% to the final subject result, except in mathematics and science subjects, where it will generally contribute 50% to the final result. • Subject-based external assessment will be introduced in most subjects but it will not be used to scale a student's school-based assessment result. Instead, the external assessment result will be added to the school-based assessment result to arrive at a final subject result. • School-based assessment instruments will be endorsed by the QCAA before they can be used for summative purposes in schools. • QCAA will confirm the grades awarded by schools by reviewing a selected sample of student work for every subject in every school. • QCAA will establish a network of trained assessors to ensure the quality and rigour of

	assessments and students' results.
QCS Test	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All OP-eligible students sit the Queensland Core Skills (QCS) Test in Year 12. Group results from the QCS Test are used in the calculation of OPs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The QCS Test will no longer exist. The final QCS Test will be in delivered in 2019.
Senior Statement and QCE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All students who complete Year 12 receive a transcript of their results — a Senior Statement. Eligible students also receive a Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE). Students are provided with a level of achievement from Very High Achievement to Very Limited Achievement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All students who complete Year 12 will receive a transcript of their results — a Senior Statement. Eligible students will also receive a QCE. Students will be provided with an overall numerical score and a level of achievement (A-E) for each General subject. Applied subjects will be reported using a level of achievement only.
Tertiary Entrance Statements and OPs	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OP-eligible students receive a Tertiary Entrance Statement in addition to their Senior Statement and QCE. This shows their OP and Field Positions (FPs). The OP is a rank from 1 to 25, calculated by the QCAA. The calculation of OPs and FPs uses students' achievements in 20 semester units of Authority subjects (the equivalent of five subjects), including at least three subjects for four semesters, each scaled against group results in the Queensland Core Skills (QCS) Test. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tertiary Entrance Statements will no longer be issued by the QCAA. The Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) will replace the OP. An ATAR is a number between 0.00 and 99.95 in increments of 0.05. It will be derived from achievement across a broad range of learning achievements using a process of inter-subject scaling. An ATAR will be calculated from an eligible student's best five subject results, one of which may be an Applied subject that does not include an external assessment or a competency-based vocational education and training certificate at a level III or above. Students must satisfactorily complete a QCAA English subject (C or better) to be eligible for an ATAR. However, a student's result in English will only contribute to their ATAR if it is one of their five best subject results. The Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) will use a process of inter-subject scaling to calculate ATARs from students' results.
Tertiary entrance and QTAC	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The QCAA is responsible for tertiary entrance, including the calculation of OPs. QTAC manages entrance to most tertiary institutions in Queensland. For OP-eligible students, the OP is used for tertiary entrance in Queensland. For OP-ineligible students, QTAC calculates a tertiary selection rank using schedules that consider results in the best 20 semester units of Authority, Authority-registered subjects and/or VET modules recorded on the Senior Statement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> QTAC will be responsible for tertiary entrance in Queensland. The ATAR, calculated by QTAC, will be the primary mechanism used for school leavers seeking entrance to tertiary study in Queensland. QTAC will no longer operate schedules for ranking students who are ineligible for an ATAR.