Queensland Certificate of Education
Overview

- What the Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) represents
- How you can tailor your studies to best suit your talents and interests, and create a pathway to preferred school outcomes
- What options are available?
- Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) Achievement Awards
What is the QCE?

Queensland's senior school qualification is:

- internationally recognised
- achievement based
- flexible — letting you choose what, where and when you study.
What is the QCE?

- Awarded when you meet the set requirements
- Recognises your achievements in Years 11 and 12
- Shows employers and training providers that you have worked consistently and to a high standard
- May be required to enrol in further education and training in Queensland, interstate and overseas
- Shows that you have ‘successfully’ completed high school
What can I study?

• QCE learning options suit your strengths, interests and goals:
  • school subjects
  • vocational education and training (VET)
  • school-based apprenticeships (SBA) and traineeships (SBT)
  • learning projects
  • recognised studies
  • TAFE advanced diploma or diploma modules
  • university studies.
School subjects

- **Authority subjects** are based on syllabuses that have been approved and issued by the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA)
- Results in Authority subjects **can** count in the calculation of OP and FPs — commonly used for tertiary entrance.
School subjects

• **Authority-registered subjects** are developed from Study Area Syllabuses (SASs) and generally include substantial vocational and practical components.

• Results in these subjects are **not** used in the calculation of OPs and FPs.
Recognised studies

- Courses of learning include:
  - awards and certificates
  - international learning programs,
    e.g. International Baccalaureate Diploma program
  - school-based courses
  - structured community and workplace learning
- Not based on QCCA syllabuses or VET qualifications
- Can contribute credits towards your QCE
Learning projects

• Independent and unique short program of learning
• Structured work-based, community-based or self-directed learning
• Separate from any established school, training or other educational program
• Can contribute towards your QCE
University subjects and diploma modules

- Most Queensland universities and TAFEs offer Years 11 and 12 students the opportunity to study at tertiary level.
- If you complete an advanced diploma or diploma module or university subject while at school, you can earn credits towards your QCE.
Apprenticeships and traineeships

- A school-based apprenticeship or traineeship provides the opportunity to train on the job while working towards the QCE.
How do you choose what to study?

• Your Senior Education and Training (SET) plan

• Your teachers/career guidance officers and parents/carers will help you decide which learning options are best for you — to ensure you achieve your learning and career goals.
To achieve your QCE you need:

- **20 Credits**

- **Sound Level of Achievement, Pass or equivalent**

- at least 12 credits from completed Core courses of study
  - plus
  - an additional 8 credits from a combination of any courses of study
  - but a maximum of 6 credits from Preparatory courses of study

- and meet literacy and numeracy requirements
A set standard

• To get credits for a course of study you have to meet a minimum standard for that study, e.g. Sound Achievement, Pass, Competent — depending on the course’s type of assessment grade
Categories of learning

- Courses of study for the QCE are organised into four categories:
  - Core
  - Preparatory
  - Advanced
  - Enriched
A set pattern

- A total of 12 credits must come from completed Core courses of study.
- Completed Core can be met through the study of:
  - 4 semesters of school-based subjects at a Sound Level of Achievement (SA) or higher
  - Completed VET Certificates II, III or IV
  - 96 days of on-the-job component of school-based apprenticeship
- A total of 8 credits can come from other courses of study.
Core courses of study

• Includes:
  – authority and authority-registered subjects
  – VET Certificates II, III and IV
  – school-based apprenticeships or traineeships

• To get your QCE, you must achieve at least 12 credits from completed Core courses of study

• At least one credit must come from a Core course while enrolled at school

• Partial completion of a Core course of study may contribute some credit towards your QCE
Preparatory courses

- Includes VET Certificate I qualifications and some recognised certificates and awards
- Can be used as a stepping stone to further study or training
- A maximum of six credits from Preparatory courses can count towards your QCE
- Only two Certificate I qualifications can be used to gain credit towards your QCE
Enrichment courses

- Provide you with opportunity to develop your skills and knowledge at a higher level
- Often offered by community organisations other than those offering Core or Preparatory courses of study
- A maximum of 8 credits from Enrichment courses can count towards your QCE
Advanced courses

- Go beyond the normal range of typical senior schooling
- Includes university courses, diplomas and advanced diplomas undertaken while enrolled at school
- A maximum of 8 credits from Advanced courses can count towards your QCE
Literacy requirement

• Sound Achievement in one semester of these QCAA subjects:
  – English
  – English Extension
  – English Communication
  – English for ESL learners
• Sound Achievement in the QCAA short course in literacy
• Completion of Certificate I in Communication Skills for Employment and Training (39282QLD)
• Pass in a QCAA-recognised literacy course
• C or above in the QCS Test
Numeracy requirement

- Sound Achievement in one semester of these QCAA subjects:
  - Maths A
  - Maths B
  - Maths C
  - Pre-vocational Maths
- Sound in the QCAA short course in numeracy
- Completion of the Certificate I in Core Skills for Employment and Training — Numeracy (39288QLD)
- Pass in a QCAA-recognised numeracy course
- C or above in the QCS Test
Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) Achievement Awards

- **Award categories** - There are currently seven award categories:
  - Highest Academic Achievers
  - Outstanding Academic Achiever
  - Highest Achievement by an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Student
  - Highest Achievement by an International Student
  - Highest Result on the Queensland Core Skills Test
  - Highest Achievement by a Student in the International Baccalaureate
  - Certificate of Academic Commendation (VHA in 6 Authority subjects)
When will I get my QCE?

- The QCE is awarded when you meet the set requirements for a QCE — usually at the end of Year 12.

What could put my QCE at risk?

- Being in the wrong ‘level’ of English or Maths
- Selecting the wrong subjects
- Subject changes
- D/E/N results