



## Certificates and statements

Upon completion of Year 12, Queensland students receive a Senior Education Profile, which may contain a combination of the following certificates and statements:

- Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) — awarded to **eligible** students who achieve a significant amount of learning to a set standard and in a set pattern, while also meeting literacy and numeracy requirements
- Senior Statement — provided to **all** students who complete Year 12. It shows all studies and results that may contribute to a QCE or a Tertiary Entrance Statement
- Tertiary Entrance Statement — shows the eligible student's Overall Position (OP) and Field Positions (FPs) for admission to tertiary courses
- Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement (QCIA) — recognises the achievements of students with impairments or difficulties in learning.

Students who do not achieve a QCE at the end of Year 12 can continue to work towards their certificate. Once eligible, the QCAA will award a QCE, together with a Statement of Results.

## Find out more

Visit the QCAA's website at [www.qcaa.qld.edu.au](http://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au), email [qce@qcaa.qld.edu.au](mailto:qce@qcaa.qld.edu.au) or telephone (07) 3864 0299.

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# QCE — An industry and employer perspective

Queensland Certificate of Education



Queensland  
Government

**QCAA**

Queensland Curriculum  
& Assessment Authority

14234

July 2014

## What is the QCE?

The Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) is Queensland's senior schooling certificate. It is awarded to eligible students when they complete the senior phase of learning, usually at the end of Year 12.

### How the QCE works

The QCE offers flexibility in what, where and when learning occurs, providing clear benefits to students, industry and employers. Students can choose from a wide range of learning options, including senior school subjects, vocational education and training, workplace and community learning, and university subjects undertaken while at school.

To be awarded a QCE, students must demonstrate a significant amount of learning to a set standard and in a set pattern, and meet literacy and numeracy requirements. Achievements in different types of learning attract different credit values, with credit being assigned when a minimum standard of achievement is reached. Students must have at least 20 credits in the required pattern to be awarded a QCE.



### Benefits for industry and employers

The QCE offers multiple benefits for industry and employers. It provides a benchmark for recruitment purposes, opportunities for employees' personal development and the potential for workplace programs or training to be recognised as contributing studies.

### Recruitment

- The QCE demonstrates a potential employee's achievement and commitment across a breadth and depth of learning.
- Employers can be confident that potential employees possess literacy and numeracy skills.
- The QCE enables young people to tailor their learning with work-ready skills and practical knowledge suited to their career goals.
- The wide range of vocational education and training recognised by the QCE means that many students will have increased employability skills.

### Workplace programs

- School-based apprenticeships and traineeships, recognised under the QCE, allow students to gain valuable paid on-the-job experience while at school.
- Students in the workplace can earn credit towards a QCE by completing recognised workplace programs or traineeships.
- Organisations can apply to have their own workplace programs or training courses recognised by the QCAA.
- Young people can continue to work towards a QCE for up to seven years through completion of additional learning, such as VET courses, traineeships or recognised workplace programs.

### Courses of study

Learning options approved for the QCE are organised into four categories:

- **Core courses** are the types of courses usually undertaken during the senior phase of learning. A minimum of 12 credits must come from completed Core courses of study, with at least one of these from studies completed at school
- **Preparatory courses** are generally used as stepping stones to further study or training. A maximum of 6 credits can count towards the QCE



- **Enrichment courses** allow young people to develop their skills and knowledge at a higher level. A maximum of 8 credits can count towards the QCE
- **Advanced courses** go beyond the scope and depth of typical senior schooling. To contribute towards a QCE, they must be undertaken while enrolled at a school. A maximum of 8 credits can count towards the QCE.

### Recognised study

The QCAA quality assures a wide range of learning that may contribute towards a QCE. These recognised studies include:

- certificates and awards in areas such as music, dance, drama, sport and community development
- Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) or Community-based Learning (SCL)
- school-developed courses of study
- international and interstate learning programs.

Recognised studies give students more flexibility in what, where and when they study, and can improve pathways to further education, training and work. Owners of courses of study, employers or community groups may apply for their courses or programs to be recognised by the QCAA.