



Senior Schooling: Information for Parents

What is a QCE?

The Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) is Queensland's senior secondary schooling qualification. It is internationally recognised and provides evidence of senior schooling achievements. At Bundaberg State High School, all Senior Students are required to be working towards either a QCE or QCIA (See: What is a QCIA?) as part of their Senior Agreement.

How does my student achieve their QCE?

To receive a QCE, students must achieve the set amount of learning, at the set standard, in a set pattern, while meeting literacy and numeracy requirements and the academic integrity requirement.

Set Amount of Learning at the set standard...

To achieve a QCE, students must accrue a minimum of **20 points** through their Senior studies. Points can be accrued in the following ways:

- **Successful completion of Units** of study in General or Applied subjects. For each unit in which students achieve a C or better, one QCE point is banked. Note that Units 3 and 4 are combined and students receive two (2) points for the overall result of these units.
- **Completion of Certificate courses**, either as part of their school timetable or with external training providers. Courses are awarded points based on the level of complexity. For example, most Cert II courses are equivalent to 4 points while many Cert III courses will accrue 8 points. Pro rata points may also be possible for part completion of Certificates.
- **Participation in recognised studies** as outlined on QCAA's website eg. AMEB exams, ATOD exams, Duke of Edinburgh Awards
- **Successful completion of University preparatory courses** such as those offered through SUN (Start Uni Now) and similar programs
- **Completion of Complementary Courses** such as Short courses in Literacy and Numeracy

In a set pattern...

A minimum of 12 of the required points must be achieved through completed Core courses of study. This includes subjects that a student has studied for all 4 units but these Core points may also be accrued through completed Certificate courses. This requirement of the QCE is one reason why subject changes should be minimised wherever possible.

Meeting literacy and numeracy requirements...

In order to achieve a QCE, students must demonstrate capacity in literacy and numeracy through one of the following means:

- Successful completion of at least one unit of study in an English subject and one unit of study in a Maths subject
- Successful completion of a Short Course in Literacy or a Short Course in Numeracy

Academic Integrity requirement...

Academic integrity means approaching academic responsibilities in an honest, moral and ethical way. It includes the use of appropriate processes and materials in academic work, including an understanding of ownership of information, ideas and images. Creating and maintaining good academic habits makes it easier for students to do their own work and acknowledge others' work.

All students are required to demonstrate their understanding of and commitment to academic integrity through completion of QCAA's Online Academic Integrity Course. This is available in the QCAA Student Portal and will be administered through Senior Skills classes (SSK) in Year 11.

How is the QCE awarded?

The Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) calculates and awards a student's QCE on completion of Year 12. Students will access their QCAA Student Portal learning accounts via the myQCE website on the date of release identified by QCAA and download their certificate.

How does my student know if they are eligible for their QCE?

Students will be able to monitor their progress towards achievement of their QCE through their individual Student Portal learning accounts which they will register for in Year 11. In addition, the Senior Schooling team at Bundaberg State High School will monitor student progress at key junctures. Students and parents/ caregivers may be required to meet with key staff to discuss performance if students are considered 'at risk' of not achieving this certificate.

Where can I get more information?

Students and parents/caregivers are encouraged to contact the Senior Schooling deputy or HOD Senior Schooling for more information or for further details on their students' progress. In addition, QCAA provide a range of resources on their website to support families in their understanding of QCE requirements:

<https://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/certificates-and-qualifications/qce/qce-resources-school-communities>