

The Western Australian Certificate of Education

Information for parents and carers

WACE and WASSA

The Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) is a senior school certificate recognised nationally in the Australian Qualifications Framework. The WACE is awarded to students who have successfully completed 2 years of senior secondary schooling and have achieved the required standards. The WACE is recognised by universities, other tertiary training providers and industry.

All students receive a Western Australian Statement of Student Achievement (WASSA) when they complete Year 12. The WASSA formally records a student's achievement in every course, qualification and program completed in senior secondary schooling.

What are the WACE requirements?

To achieve a WACE students must:

- complete a minimum of 20 units, or equivalent
- complete one of 3 course combination options:
 - at least 4 Year 12 ATAR courses
 - at least 5 Year 12 General courses (or a combination of General and up to 3 Year 12 ATAR courses) or equivalent
 - complete a Certificate II (or higher) VET qualification in combination with ATAR, General or Foundation courses.
- a minimum standard of literacy and a minimum standard of numeracy
- meet the requirements for breadth and depth of study
- meet the achievement standard of at least 14 C grades or higher in Years 11 and 12, including at least 6 C grades (or equivalent) in Year 12.

What are the WACE study options?

Students are offered 3 study options which they can mix and match including:

- WACE courses, including ATAR, General and Foundation
- VET qualifications
- endorsed programs.

Literacy and numeracy standard requirements

Students must demonstrate minimum standards of literacy and numeracy by either:

- prequalifying through the reading, writing and numeracy tests of the Year 9 National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)
- successfully completing the Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessments (OLNA)
<https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/assessment/olna/prequalification-through-naplan>

Breadth and depth requirements

Students must complete a minimum of 20 units in senior schooling, including:

- a minimum of 10 Year 12 units, or the equivalent (including endorsed programs and/or VET)
- 4 units from an English learning area course, post Year 10, including at least one pair of Year 12 units from an English learning area course
- one pair of Year 12 units from List A (arts, languages, social sciences)
- one pair of Year 12 units from List B (mathematics, science, technology).

Achievement standard requirements

Students must achieve at least 14 C grades or equivalents in Year 11 and Year 12 units, including at least 6 C grades or equivalents in Year 12 units.

Resources

SCSA have a dedicated parents and community website that provides information about:

- what children and young people should learn
- how they are assessed
- the standards children and young people are expected to reach at each year level.
<https://parent.scsa.wa.edu.au/>