

Senior Assessment and Tertiary Entrance Information Evening



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Introduction

The Queensland Government will introduce new senior assessment and tertiary entrance systems with Year 11 students in 2019.

Key changes:

- introduce common external assessment
- strengthen the quality and comparability of school-based assessment
- replace the Overall Position (OP) with the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).



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Why the new systems are being introduced?

- Queensland's current senior assessment system began in the early 1980s. The OP system was introduced in 1992.
- In a 2014 report, the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) said these arrangements were fair and reliable, but would not be sustainable in the long term.
- ACER recommended changes to achieve greater rigour and simplicity.



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Student Preparation

- Implementation of the Australian Curriculum in Years 9 – 10 was a school focus in 2017
- Targeting key teaching skills through the Art and Science of Teaching and our Literacy and Numeracy strategies to prepare students for learning
- Year 10 ESP program focused on Career Development to ensure students are aware of the senior options and pathways available to them.



Staff Preparation

- Development of the ACSHS SATE Implementation Plan
- Review of Curriculum offerings to align to our student needs and our resources
- Participation in syllabus workshops provided by QCAA to familiarise staff
- Identification of school systems required to transition to the new system



Transition activities to date

- QCAA has redeveloped more than 70 senior syllabuses
- New processes developed and trialled to strengthen school-based assessment
- External assessments trialled in seven subjects with more than 20,000 students
- Methodology to calculate ATARs in development
- Thousands of teachers and other education partners engaged in the change process.



How have the subjects changed?

- **General Subjects** - These subjects will have more academic rigour and students will need to do at least 4 General subjects to receive an ATAR. General subjects will have a combination of internal and external assessment. There is a general subject that closely aligns to the current authority (OP) subjects we currently offer. Eg Maths C → Specialised Mathematics
- **Applied Subjects** – These align to the Authority registered subjects that we currently offer and should continue to have the same name eg Hospitality Practices



How is tertiary entrance changing?

In 2020, if you're eligible, you'll be ranked for university using the ATAR.

A broad range of courses can contribute to the ATAR:

- Five General subjects; or
 - Four General subjects, and one VET qualification at Certificate III or above; or
 - Four General subjects, and one Applied subject.
- To be eligible, you'll also need to pass an English subject, but your result will only contribute to your ATAR if it's one of your best five subject results.
 - Your ATAR will be calculated and issued by the Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre. Visit its website for



How will subjects be assessed?

- Applied subjects and year 11 subjects will still be graded A - E
- All subjects will have 4 assessment items in Year 12
- General subjects will have 3 internal assessment items and 1 externally written and marked assessment item (it will be assessed at school)
- Students will be given a result for each subject out of 100 for general subjects. This result will be used by QTAC to calculate each student's ATAR.



More information

- Senior assessment: www.qcaa.qld.edu.au
- Tertiary entrance: www.qtac.edu.au
- Contact ACSHS Senior Schooling office



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