

YEAR 11 COURSE SELECTIONS

20 25



BUSSELTON
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Welcome from the Principal

Dear Parents, Carers and Students;

Busselton Senior High School is strongly committed to every young person achieving Secondary Graduation through their successful completion of studies in Years 11 and 12. We aim for all young people to be well prepared for life through education and training. Therefore it is important that in selecting your learning program for Senior School, we work together. This will ensure successful completion of your school studies and meet the requirements of the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE).

Busselton SHS offers a variety of School Curriculum Standards Authority ATAR and General courses and Vocational Education and Training (VET) Certificates from which students can compile their learning program to meet WACE requirements.

We provide courses and certificates that will engage you into a relevant program that links directly to your post school goals and aspirations, including training, further education or employment.

I encourage you to seek as much information as you need to make these important decisions. All students and parents/carers are invited to one-on-one counselling with our trained staff. We will work in partnership to select the program of study to meet your aspirations.

We have a commitment to our community that every student will receive a high-quality education and leave Busselton SHS with choices and opportunities for the future.

Good luck with the exciting journey ahead.

Jennifer McMahon
Principal



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Western Australia Certificate of Education

Achieving WACE in 2026 will signify that students have successfully met the breadth and depth requirements of WACE, the achievement standard across the courses and certificates they select and demonstrated the minimum literacy and numeracy standard through OLN (online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment). WACE achievement is a two-year learning and achievement journey.

Achieving WACE At the end of 2026 requires:

1

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

You must:

- demonstrate a minimum standard of literacy (reading and writing) and a minimum standard of numeracy
- complete a minimum of 20 units, or equivalents
- complete:
 - at least four Year 12 ATAR courses OR
 - at least five Year 12 General courses and/or ATAR courses or equivalent OR
 - a Certificate II (or higher) VET qualification in combination with ATAR, General or Foundation courses.

2

LITERACY AND NUMERACY STANDARD

For the WACE literacy and numeracy standard you may:

- pre-qualify through reading, writing and numeracy tests of the Year 9 National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN), or;
- demonstrate the minimum standard of literacy and numeracy by successfully completing the relevant components of the Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (OLNA) in Year 10, 11 or 12.

3

BREADTH AND DEPTH

You must complete a minimum of 20 units, which may include unit equivalents attained through VET and/or endorsed programs. This requirement must include at least:

- a minimum of ten Year 12 units, or the equivalent
- four units from an English 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 each of List A (arts/languages/social sciences) and List B (mathematics/science/technology) subjects.

4

ACHIEVEMENT STANDARD

You must achieve at least 14 C grades or higher (or equivalents) in Year 11 and Year 12 units, including at least six C grades (or equivalents) in Year 12 units.

5

UNIT EQUIVALENTS

Unit equivalents can be obtained through VET qualifications and/or endorsed programs. The maximum number of unit equivalents available through VET and endorsed programs is four Year 11 units and four Year 12 units with a maximum of four units with endorsed programs - two in Year 11 and two in Year 12.

Western Australia Certificate of Education

Certification of Student Achievement

The School Curriculum and Standards Authority is the governing body in Western Australia responsible for all courses; it will issue two documents for students, the WACE and WASSA.

Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE)

Will be issued to Year 12 students who meet the specified requirements. By achieving the WACE, the student demonstrates to potential employers, training organisations or tertiary institutions that work completed during Years 11 and 12 has met a national standard.

Western Australian Statement of Student Achievement (WASSA)

Will be issued to all Year 12 students at the end of their secondary schooling. It will formally record all the courses or programs of study they have undertaken with their achievements.

For the most up to date information on the requirements for the achievement of the WACE parents and students are advised to check the SCSA website www.scsa.wa.edu.au or call SCSA 08 9273 6300.

Literacy and numeracy

OLNA is an online literacy and numeracy assessment. It is designed to enable students to successfully meet the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) requirement of demonstrating the minimum standard of literacy and numeracy.

The minimum standard is Level 3 of the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF). There are two ways to demonstrate the standard:

- pre-qualification through Year 9 NAPLAN, or
- demonstrating the minimum standard through the Online Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (OLNA).

Students who achieve prequalification in Year 9 NAPLAN Reading, Writing or Numeracy assessments will be prequalified for that component and will not be required to sit the corresponding OLNA component.

For example, if a student achieves a prequalification for Reading and Writing but not for Numeracy, the student will only be required to sit the OLNA Numeracy component of the assessment.

The OLNA is compulsory for those students who have not prequalified in one or more of the components through Year 9 NAPLAN and want to achieve the WACE. Students will have up to six opportunities to demonstrate the literacy and numeracy minimum standard.

At Busselton SHS our OLNA testing follows the below schedule for all students:

Opportunity Number	Scheduled
1	Term 4 Year 9 OR Term 2 Year 10
2	Term 4 Year 10
3	Term 1 Year 11
4	Term 3 Year 11
5	Term 2 Year 12
6	Term 3 Year 12

Western Australia Certificate of Education

Breadth and Depth

In order for students to be eligible for the WACE, they must complete at least 10, year-long courses (20 units or unit equivalents). This requirement must include:

- A minimum of five Year 12 courses (10 paired units) or the equivalent
- Two completed Year 11 English/EALD units and one pair of completed Year 12 English/EALD units;
- At least one pair of Year 12 course units from List A and List B

Completion

- Is defined as receiving a grade in a course or by completing all units of competency for a Certificate qualification.
- All students studying an ATAR course in Year 12 must sit the external WACE exam for the course to be deemed complete; this includes practical or performance examinations where these are conducted in addition to written examinations.

Achievement Standard

Students are required to achieve 14 C grades, or higher, across their Year 11 and Year 12 units, including at least 6 C grades, or higher, in Year 12 units (or equivalents; see below).

Unit Equivalence

Students can gain unit equivalence by completing:

- VET qualifications – a Certificate II, two Year 11 and two Year 12 units, and a Certificate III or higher, two Year 11 and four Year 12 units.
- Endorsed programs – an endorsed program can replace two Year 11 units and two Year 12 units.

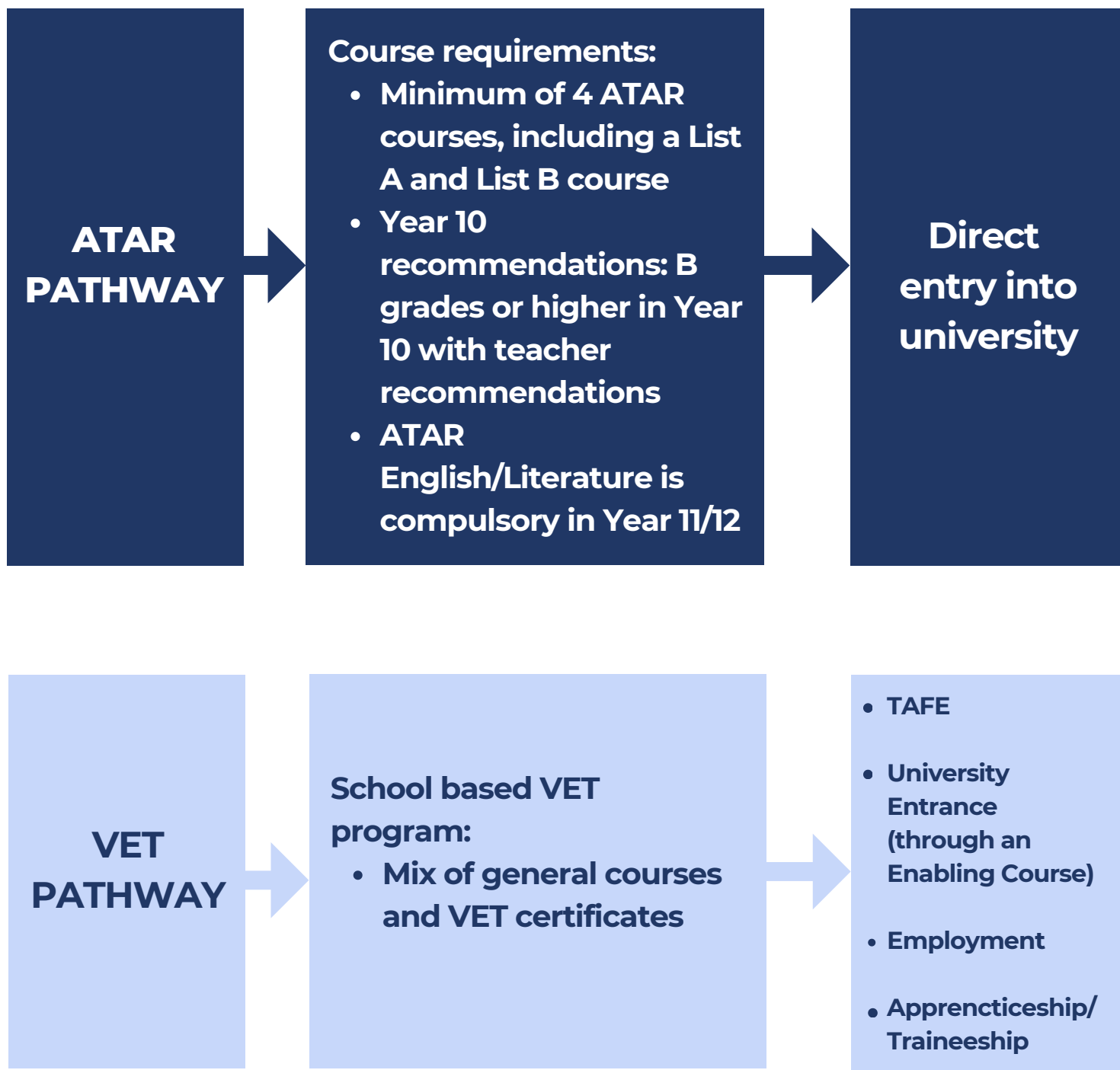
For unit equivalence, students may only use up to eight units of VET and endorsed programs with a maximum of four-unit equivalents from endorsed programs.

WACE Breadth-of-Study List for the WACE in 2025/2026

To ensure appropriate breadth of study in senior secondary studies, students are required to select at least one Year 12 course from each of List A and List B.

LIST A Arts/Languages/Social Science	LIST B Mathematics/Science/Technology
Business Management and Enterprise	Accounting and Finance
Career and Enterprise	Applied Information Technology
English	Biology
Geography	Chemistry
Media Production and Analysis	Food Science Technology
Modern History	Human Biology
Music	Materials Design Technology (Metals)
Politics and Law	Materials Design Technology (Wood)
Visual Art	Mathematics
	Outdoor Education
	Physical Education
	Physics
	Psychology

Senior Secondary Pathways



Selection Process Pathways & Course Types

ATAR Courses

ATAR courses are designed for students seeking admission to university through an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank. This is the best pathway for preparing students for success at university. To be eligible for direct entry to university students must select a minimum of 4 ATAR courses (5 are recommended). ATAR courses are suited to students that meet the school-based prerequisites and who display the necessary work ethic. These courses include a compulsory external WACE examination in Year 12.

General Courses

General courses are designed for students aiming for further training or the workforce directly from school. These courses have an Externally Set Task (EST) as part of their assessment in Year 12.

VET (Certificate Courses)

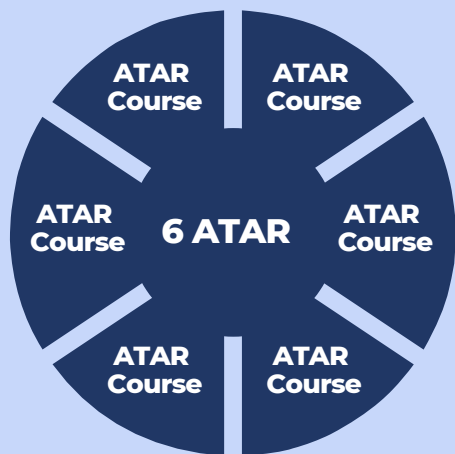
Vocational Education and Training (VET) Certificate II, III and IV qualifications are designed for those students seeking to gain job-related knowledge, skills and experience in order to enter further training such as at TAFE or the workforce directly from school. Certificate II and III qualifications are delivered over two years. Students will have the opportunity to enrol in workplace learning to further enhance their skills.

Student Welfare and Guidance Services

Busselton SHS follows a whole school approach in fostering a culture of care. All students have full access to the range of welfare and guidance services. These services include but are not limited to: teachers, Program Coordinators, VET Coordinator, Associate Principals, School Nurse, School Psychologist, Chaplain and Student Support Coordinators. We all work with parents, students and teachers to provide a high level of pastoral care.

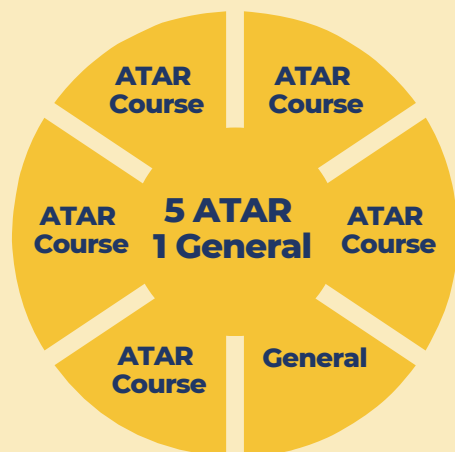


ATAR Pathways & Course Types



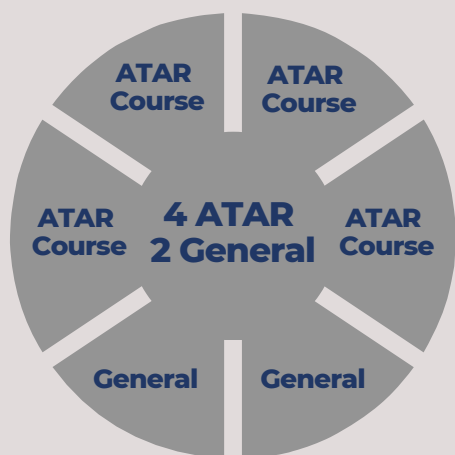
6 ATAR Courses

To maximise an ATAR score some students select 6 ATAR courses in Year 11, in order to have the option to continue with 6 ATAR courses or select their best 5 ATAR courses in Year 12. Normally students who are aiming for an ATAR of 90+ would select this option. Studying 6 ATAR courses involves 18 hours of study per week outside of school time in Year 11 progressing to 24 hours per week in Year 12.



5 ATAR Courses & 1 General Course

5 ATAR courses and 1 General course is recommended for most students studying an ATAR program. Only the top 4 ATAR courses are used to form your ATAR. Studying 5 ATAR courses gives a back up which can be extremely useful. Studying 5 ATAR courses involves 15 hours of study per week outside of school time in Year 11 progressing to 20 hours per week in Year 12. Students also study 1 General course or 1 Certificate Course.



4 ATAR Courses & 2 General Courses

This combination is selected after consultation with the Course Counsellor and a full understanding of the implications of 4 ATAR courses in regard to being awarded an ATAR. Studying 4 ATAR courses involves 12 hours of study per week outside of school time in Year 11 progressing 16 hours per week in Year 12. Students also study two General course or 1 General course and 1 Certificate Course.

Less than 4 ATAR Courses

It is not recommended to take less than four ATAR courses as it will not generate an ATAR score.

Vocational Education & Training

Vocational Education and Training qualifications are nationally recognised qualifications and provide pathways to employment and/or further training. If your educational program does not include four ATAR courses in Year 12, it is advisable to complete a Certificate II VET qualification or higher to achieve your WACE. You can begin training for your career while still at school by undertaking one or more VET qualifications in the industry areas that interest you.

VET Fee Structure & Information

A list of fees and charges is provided to students/parents prior to the commencement of the course. Please refer to the School's 2025 Contributions and Charges Booklet for information regarding course costs, deposits and refunds.

Refunds in the case of a student leaving the school, the Department of Education [Refund of Secondary Charges and Voluntary Contributions Policy](#) is applied. Refunds are paid according to the time that a student leaves the school, summarised below:

Refund/Billing Schedule for Charges and Voluntary Contributions in Secondary Schools

Term 1:	80-100 %
Term 2:	50-80%
Term 3:	30-50%
Term 4:	Nil

VET Courses and Personal Requirements

Students may also be required to purchase uniform, texts and personal stationery items. These requirements will be discussed at the time of student/parent interview.

Year 11/12 Personal Items Lists outline specific text and personal requirements. These are issued prior to enrolment.

VET Courses and Entry Requirements

There are no specific entry requirements for VET Programs. However, all students will need to attend an interview accompanied by their parent/guardian. Achievement at a minimum C Grade in Year 10 and Category 2 in OLN is desirable.

VET Course Delivery

VET qualifications are delivered over two years with a minimum of 4 hours per week dedicated to delivery. Students will also complete a minimum of 110 hours per year in Workplace Learning. Specific details of each program and work placement arrangements are explained in this booklet.

All VET courses are delivered face to face.

Busselton SHS is a Registered Training Organisation, RTO Code 50537. In the unlikely event that the RTO is unable to deliver services, risk management processes would ensure the outsourcing of qualifications to ensure delivery of qualifications as indicated at enrolment.

Vocational Education & Training

VET Courses – Complaints

Students are given every opportunity to access an equitable process for complaints. In the first instance, complaints should be outlined to the Program Coordinator or the VET Coordinator. Complaints will be dealt with fairly and with due consideration to time. If a situation is not resolved informally, the complaint should be made in writing and lodged with the VET Coordinator. This will be acknowledged within 2 working days. If the issue is not resolved by the VET Coordinator, the matter will be referred to the Principal for resolution as per the process for Complaints and Appeals.

VET Courses – Appeals

Students have the right to lodge an appeal against the assessment of a competency if:

- the assessment process didn't provide a fair and reasonable opportunity to demonstrate competence.
- they were not informed in advance of the assessment conditions or type of assessment
- they were ill at the time of the assessment (must be supported by a medical certificate).

In the first instance, students should discuss the appeal with the teacher. If not satisfied, the student should ask the VET Coordinator for an Appeals Record Form and submit to the Principal. The appeal will be processed according to the BSHS RTO Appeals process. If the appeal is successful at any stage you will be given the opportunity to be re-assessed. If the appeal judgement is unsatisfactory appellants will be advised to contact the Training Accreditation Council.*

**Processes for Complaints and Appeals are explained to students as part of their induction to competency based assessment and Competency Assessment Books at the commencement of their program.*



Year 11 Course Options

Students select one course per line. The options below are a guide. An individual learning program will be developed during the counselling interview.

SENIOR SCHOOL COURSE SELECTION					
LINE #	ATAR SUBJECTS		GENERAL SUBJECTS/ CERTIFICATE COURSES		
LINE 1	History	Psychology	Visual Art	Health & Physical Education Studies	-
LINE 2	Mathematics Methods	Mathematics Applications	Mathematics Essential		
LINE 3	Chemistry	Biology	Media	Wood Work	-
LINE 4	Human Biology	Geography	Food Studies	Metal Work	-
LINE 5	English		English		
LINE 6	Physics	Politics and Law	Certificate II Active Volunteering	Certificate II Building & Construction	Certificate IV Nursing

VET COURSES - Students select one industry study area

1) BUSINESS STUDIES	2) MANUFACTURING STUDIES	3) RECREATION STUDIES	4) BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION STUDIES
English	English	English	English
Mathematics Essential	Mathematics Essential	Mathematics Essential	Mathematics Essential
Accounting & Finance	Materials Design & Technology	Outdoor Education	Materials Design & Technology Metals
Applied Information Technology	Certificate II Engineering Pathways	Physical Education Studies	Materials Design & Technology Wood
Certificate II Workplace Skills	Certificate II Building & Construction	Certificate II Sports Coaching	Physical Education OR Visual Art
Workplace Learning	Workplace Learning	Workplace Learning	Certificate II Building & Construction



2025/2026 Senior School Courses



English

English: ATAR

Prerequisite – B Grade in Year 10 English and OLNA achieved.

The English ATAR course focuses on developing students' analytical, creative, and critical thinking and communication skills in all language modes, encouraging students to critically engage with texts from their contemporary world, the past, and from Australian and other cultures.

Through close study and wide reading, viewing and listening, students develop the ability to analyse and evaluate the purpose, stylistic qualities and conventions of texts and to enjoy creating imaginative, interpretive, persuasive and analytical responses in a range of written, oral, multimodal and digital forms.

English: General

Prerequisite – C grade in Year 10 English, minimum Category 2 in OLNA.

The English General course focuses on consolidating and refining the skills and knowledge needed by students to become competent, confident and engaged users of English in everyday, community, social, further education, training and workplace contexts.

The course is designed to provide students with the skills to succeed in a wide range of post-secondary pathways by developing their language, literacy and literary skills. Students comprehend, analyse, interpret, evaluate and create analytical, imaginative, interpretive and persuasive texts in a range of written, oral, multimodal and digital forms.



Health & Physical Education

Outdoor Education: General Prerequisite – Stage 6 or above swimming ability.
This course is only delivered in VET Recreation Studies.

Through interaction with the natural world, Outdoor Education aims to develop an understanding of our relationships with the environment, others and ourselves. The Outdoor Education General course focuses on outdoor activities in a range of environments, including bushwalking, sailing, climbing and orienteering. It provides students with an opportunity to develop essential life skills and physical activity skills, and an opportunity to develop a comprehensive understanding of the environment and develop a positive relationship with nature.

The course also provides students with opportunities to develop skills that will enable them to pursue personal interests and careers in outdoor pursuits, environmental management, or ecotourism.

Physical Education Studies: General Prerequisite – C grade in Year 10 Health and Physical Education, minimum Category 2 in OLNA.

Physical Education Studies contributes to the development of students' physical, social and emotional growth. The Physical Education Studies General course provides students with opportunities to understand and improve performance through the integration of theoretical concepts and practical activities. Through engagement as performers, leaders, coaches, analysts and planners of physical activity, students may develop skills that can be utilised in leisure, recreation, education, sport development, youth work, health and medical fields.

A photograph of a classroom where several students are seated at desks, working on laptops. The background shows a wall covered with educational posters, including one for 'ALLITERATION' and another for 'IMAGERY'.

Humanities & Social Sciences

Accounting and Finance: General

No prerequisite – only delivered in VET Business Studies.

The Accounting and Finance General course focuses on financial literacy and aims to provide students with the knowledge, understandings and a range of skills that enables them to engage in sound financial decision making.

Students develop an understanding that financial decisions have far reaching consequences. Through the preparation, examination and analysis of financial documents and procedures, students develop an understanding of the fundamental principles and practices upon which accounting and financial management are based.

An understanding of these principles and practices enables students to analyse their own financial data and that of small businesses, and make informed decisions based on that analysis.

Career and Enterprise General: General

No prerequisite – only delivered in VET Business Studies.

Career education involves learning to manage and take responsibility for personal career development. The Career and Enterprise General course involves recognising one's individual skills and talents, and using this understanding to assist in gaining and keeping work.

The course develops a range of work skills and an understanding of the nature of work. Key components of the course include: the development of an understanding of different personality types and their link to career choices; entrepreneurial behaviours; learning to learn; and the exploration of social, cultural and environmental issues that affect work, workplaces and careers.

Humanities & Social Sciences

Geography: ATAR

Prerequisite – B Grade in Year 10 HASS and English, and OLNA achieved.

The study of the Geography ATAR course draws on students' curiosity about the diversity of the world's places and their peoples, cultures and environments. It provides students with the knowledge and understanding of the nature, causes and consequences of natural and ecological hazards, how the world is globalised, land cover transformations, and the challenges affecting the sustainability of places. In the ATAR course, students learn how to collect information from primary and secondary sources, such as field observation and data collection, mapping, monitoring, remote sensing, case studies and reports.

Modern History: ATAR

Prerequisite – B Grade in Year 10 HASS and English, and OLNA achieved.

Studying the Modern History ATAR course enables students to become critical thinkers and helps inform their judgments and actions in a rapidly changing world. Students are exposed to a variety of historical sources, including government papers, extracts from newspapers, letters, diaries, photographs, cartoons, paintings, graphs and secondary sources, in order to determine the cause and effect, and the motives and forces influencing people and events. Through the process of historical inquiry, students are encouraged to question and evaluate historical sources; identify various representations and versions of history; use evidence to formulate and support their own interpretations; and communicate their findings in a variety of ways.

Politics & Law: ATAR

Prerequisite – B Grade in Year 10 HASS and English, and OLNA achieved.

The Politics and Law ATAR course provides a study of the processes of decision making concerning society's collective future. It aims to develop the knowledge of the principles, structures, institutions and processes of political and legal systems primarily in Australia.

It brings together the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government to demonstrate how society is governed and how each branch of government is held to account. It examines the democratic principles practised in Australia and makes comparisons with other political and legal systems.



Mathematics

Mathematics Specialist: ATAR Prerequisite – invitation to study.

This course provides opportunities, beyond those presented in the Mathematics Methods ATAR course, to develop rigorous mathematical arguments and proofs, and to use mathematical models more extensively. Mathematics Specialist contains topics in functions and calculus that build on and deepen the ideas presented in the Mathematics Methods course, as well as demonstrate their application in many areas.

The Mathematics Specialist course also extends understanding and knowledge of statistics and introduces the topics of vectors, complex numbers and matrices. Mathematics Specialist is the only ATAR mathematics course that should not be taken as a stand-alone course. It is recommended to be studied in conjunction with the Mathematics Methods ATAR course as preparation for entry to specialised university courses such as engineering, physical sciences and mathematics.

Mathematics Methods: ATAR Prerequisite – A grade in Year 10 Mathematics and OLNA achieved.

The study of calculus provides a basis for understanding rates of change in the physical world, and includes the use of functions, their derivatives and integrals, in modelling physical processes. The study of statistics develops students' ability to describe and analyse phenomena that involve uncertainty and variation.

This course focuses on the use of calculus and statistical analysis. Mathematics Methods provides a foundation for further studies in disciplines in which mathematics and statistics have important roles.

It is also advantageous for further studies in the health and social sciences. In summary, this course is designed for students whose future pathways may involve mathematics and statistics and their applications in a range of disciplines at the tertiary level.

Mathematics Applications: ATAR

Prerequisite – B Grade in Year 10 Mathematics and OLNA achieved.

This course focuses on the use of mathematics to solve problems in contexts that involve financial modelling, geometric and trigonometric analysis, graphical and network analysis, and growth and decay in sequences.

It also provides opportunities for students to develop systematic strategies based on the statistical investigation process for answering statistical questions that involve analyzing univariate and bivariate data, including time series data.

The Mathematics Applications ATAR course is designed for students who want to extend their mathematical skills beyond Year 10 level, but whose future studies or employment pathways do not require knowledge of calculus.

The course is designed for students who have a wide range of educational and employment aspirations, including continuing their studies at university or TAFE.

Mathematics Essential: General

Prerequisite – minimum Category 2 in OLNA and desirable C Grade in Year 10 Mathematics.

The Mathematics Essential General course focuses on using mathematics effectively, efficiently and critically to make informed decisions. It provides students with the mathematical knowledge, skills and understanding to solve problems in real contexts for a range of workplace, personal, further learning and community settings.

This course provides the opportunity for students to prepare for post-school options of employment and further training.

A photograph of two male students in a chemistry laboratory. They are wearing blue lab coats and safety glasses. The student on the left is leaning over a workbench, focused on a task. The student on the right is standing next to him, looking on. In the background, there is a blue chalkboard and various pieces of laboratory glassware, including a red rubber bulb and a glass flask.

Science

Biology: ATAR

Prerequisite – B Grade in Year 10 Science and OLNA achieved.

A unique appreciation of life and a better understanding of the living world are gained through studying the Biology ATAR course. This course encourages students to be analytical, to participate in problem-solving and to systematically explore fascinating and intriguing aspects of living systems, from the microscopic level through to ecosystems.

Students develop a range of practical skills and techniques through investigations and fieldwork in authentic contexts, such as marine reefs, endangered species, urban ecology and biotechnology. Students learn how to use scientific evidence to make informed decisions about controversial issues.

Biology ATAR leads to many career opportunities in areas as diverse as medicine, nursing, veterinary science, food and nutrition, environmental science, biotechnology and agriculture.

Chemistry: ATAR

Prerequisite – B grade in Year 10 Science and OLNA achieved.

Chemistry is often called the central science because it provides a foundation for understanding in many other sciences, including biology, physics, geology and environmental science. A strong understanding of Chemistry leads to a wide range of career opportunities in fields such as medicine, pharmacology, environmental science, materials science, mining and engineering. ATAR Chemistry is a prerequisite for medicine and dentistry and is recommended for many other university courses, particularly in the fields of biomedical science, pharmacology, engineering and metallurgy.

The ATAR Chemistry course incorporates many opportunities for students to develop real-world laboratory and analytical skills including volumetric analysis, chemical synthesis and the use of digital analytical equipment and software. Studying ATAR Chemistry teaches students to think critically and develop problem-solving skills. These skills can be useful in a variety of fields and can also help students to approach real-world problems with a more analytical and structured mindset.

Human Biology: ATAR

Prerequisite – B Grade in Year 10 Science and OLNA achieved.

This Human Biology ATAR course enables students to explore what it is to be human. For example, how the human body works, diseases and genetic conditions, human evolution, developing areas of research such as population genetics, and biotechnology. Through in-depth investigations and experiments students learn about human health in the contexts of genetics, infectious diseases, lifestyle choices, and they research current developments in disease prevention and medicine.

Practical tasks are an integral part of the course and develop a range of laboratory skills including microbiology and biotechnology techniques. Students learn to evaluate data and explore the evidence required to make informed decisions about lifestyle, diet, medical treatments, genetic testing and disease prevention.

Physics: ATAR

Prerequisite – A Grade in Year 10 Science and OLNA achieved.

Students must study Mathematics Methods ATAR in combination with Physics ATAR.

Physics is a fundamental science that provides a deep understanding of the natural world and the physical forces and laws which explain it. The Physics ATAR course provides students with valuable skills and knowledge for a future in various fields such as engineering, medicine, computer science, the energy industry, mining and many more. Physics ATAR is recommended for many science and engineering courses at universities in Australia.

Physics students develop strong analytical and critical thinking skills, as well as the ability to apply theoretical concepts to real-world situations. The course includes several core physics topics including the analysis of motion and gravitational fields, electromagnetism and electricity generation, and explores modern physics concepts including relativity, the Standard Model of particle physics and current cosmological theories.

At Busselton SHS we maintain a focus on relevant, engaging practical work to reinforce theory and develop strong investigating skills. Physics ATAR can be a challenging subject, but it can also be very rewarding. Physics ATAR enables students to develop their intellectual curiosity, creativity, and perseverance; all which are highly transferable life skills.

Psychology: ATAR

Prerequisite – B Grade in Year 10 HASS and Science and OLNA achieved.

In the Psychology ATAR course students will be introduced to psychological knowledge which supports an understanding of the way individuals think, feel and behave in different contexts. Students learn about major psychological theories, studies and models, and conduct scientific investigations.

Students develop skills to apply their psychological knowledge to explain thoughts, feelings and behaviours in the everyday world. Students apply the principles of scientific inquiry and ethical guidelines as they analyse data used to examine phenomena, such as developmental stages, memory, attention, attitudes, personality and social influence. An understanding of psychology is useful to individuals and those helping us improve ourselves, our relationships, and society.



A student in a blue shirt is working in a workshop. In the background, there are shelves with many tools, including wrenches and sockets, and a workbench with various equipment.

Technologies

Applied Information and Technology: General **Only delivered in VET Business Studies.**

The Applied Information Technology General course provides students with the knowledge and skills to use a range of computer hardware and software to create, manipulate and communicate information in an effective, responsible and informed manner.

Students develop an understanding of computer systems; the management of data; and the use a variety of software applications to investigate, design, construct and evaluate digital products and digital solutions.

The course offers pathways to further studies and a range of technology-based careers and a set of skills that equip students for the 21st century and give them an appreciation of the impact of information technology on society.

Materials Design and Technology (Metals): General **Prerequisite - Desirable C Grade in Year 10 Technologies and English and minimum Category 2 in OLNA.**

The Materials Design and Technology General course is a practical course. Students can choose to work with metal, textiles or wood, with the design and manufacture of products as the major focus.

Students have the opportunity to develop and practice skills that contribute to creating a physical product, while acquiring an appreciation of the application of a design process, and an understanding of the need for materials sustainability. Students will learn and practice manufacturing processes and technologies, including principles of design, planning and management.

Food Science and Technology: General

Prerequisite - Desirable C Grade in Year 10 Technologies and English and minimum Category 2 in OLNA.

The Food Science and Technology General course provides opportunities for students to explore and develop food-related interests and skills. Food impacts on every aspect of daily life and is essential for maintaining overall health and wellbeing. Students organise, implement and manage production processes in a range of food environments and understand systems that regulate food availability, safety and quality.

Knowledge of the sensory, physical, chemical and functional properties of food is applied in practical situations. Students investigate the food supply chain and value-adding techniques applied to food to meet consumer and producer requirements. Principles of dietary planning, adapting recipes, and processing techniques, are considered for specific nutritional needs of demographic groups.

Occupational safety and health requirements, safe food handling practices, and a variety of processing techniques, are implemented to produce safe, quality food products. This course may enhance employability and career opportunities in areas that include nutrition, health, food and beverage manufacturing, food processing, community services, hospitality and retail.

Materials Design and Technology (Wood): General

Prerequisite - Desirable C Grade in Year 10 Technologies and English and minimum Category 2 in OLNA. .

The Materials Design and Technology General course is a practical course. Students can choose to work with wood to design and manufacture products as their major focus.

Students have the opportunity to develop and practise skills that contribute to creating a physical product, while acquiring an appreciation of the application of a design process, and an understanding of the need for materials sustainability.

Students will learn and practise manufacturing processes and technologies, including principles of design, planning and management.



The Arts

Media Production: General Prerequisite – Desirable C Grade in Year 10 Media and English, and minimum Category 2 in OLNA.

The Media Production and Analysis General course aims to prepare students for a future in a digital and interconnected world by providing the skills, knowledge and understandings to tell their own stories and interpret the stories of others. Students are encouraged to explore, experiment and interpret their world, reflecting and analysing contemporary life, while understanding that this is done under social, cultural and institutional constraints. Students, as users and creators of media products, consider the important role of audiences and their context. This course focuses on the development of technical skills in the practical process.

Visual Arts: General Prerequisite – Desirable C grade in Year 10 Visual Art and English, minimum Category 2 in OLNA.

In the Visual Arts General course, students engage in traditional, modern and contemporary media and techniques within the broad areas of art forms. The course promotes innovative practice. Students are encouraged to explore and represent their ideas and gain an awareness of the role that artists and designers play in reflecting, challenging and shaping societal values. Students are encouraged to appreciate the work of other artists and engage in their own art practice.



2025/2026 VET Certificates

Vocational Education & Training Certificates

CHC24015 - CERTIFICATE II IN ACTIVE VOLUNTEERING

This certificate provides students with the ability to engage with their local school and wider community. The program enables learning to be provided in an environment which reflects the working circumstances of volunteers in our community under direct supervision.

Students will explore the varied dimensions of volunteering, basic emergency life support-skills, communication and organisational skills to effectively equip themselves moving into the workforce post-secondary schooling. Course completion requires a minimum of 20 hours of active volunteering.



Business Studies

BSB20120 - CERTIFICATE II IN WORKPLACE SKILLS

RTO Busselton SHS - 50537

Pathways

- A wide range of employment opportunities
- Traineeships
- TAFE and/or further training

Program (Year 11)

- English General
- Maths Essential General
- Applied Information Technology General
- Accounting and Finance General
- BSB20120 - Certificate II in Workplace Skills
- Workplace Learning (Endorsed Program)

Work Placement (1 day per week)

- Events Management
- Tourism
- Office Administration or Reception
- Accounting/Record Keeping
- Hairdressing/Beauty Therapy
- Teacher Assistant/Childcare
- Retail (e.g. fashion, surf wear, electrical goods)
- Information Technology
- Interior/Graphic Design

Qualifications

- WACE/Secondary Graduation
- BSB20120 Certificate II in Workplace Skills
- Work Safe Certificates

Course Benefits

- Exceptional employment prospects
- Valuable life skills
- High level computing skills suited to ANY workplace
- Increased confidence, communication and interpersonal skills
- A wealth of experience in the workplace including supporting wellbeing in the workplace and participating in sustainable work practices
- A strong sense of the types of work they would like to pursue a career in
- This course is well suited to students who are not yet sure of their career aspirations and would like to develop skills that will allow them to pursue a wide range of career options

Mode of Delivery

- On-site
- Face to face

Course Structure

- 4 days on-site
- 1 day work placement

Manufacturing Industries Studies

MEM20422 - CERTIFICATE III IN ENGINEERING - PATHWAYS

RTO Busselton SHS - 50537

CPC20220 - CERTIFICATE II IN CONSTRUCTION PATHWAYS

This is a proposed offering for the 2025 academic year. At the time of publication, no agreements have been entered in to with a Registered Training Organisation for the delivery of this qualification.

Pathways

- Apprenticeships/Traineeships
- TAFE and/or further training
- A wide range of employment opportunities

Program (Year 11)

- English General
- Maths Essential General
- Materials Design & Technology General
- CPC20220 Certificate II in Construction Pathways
- MEM20422 - Certificate II in Engineering - Pathways
- Workplace Learning (Endorsed Program)

Work Placement (1 day per week)

- Building Trades
- Automotive
- Horticulture
- Metals and Engineering
- Furnishing Industries

Qualifications

- WACE/Secondary Graduation
- MEM20422 - Certificate II in Engineering - Pathways
- CPC20220 Certificate II in Construction Pathways
- Work Safe Certificates
- White Card

Course Benefits

- Broad ranging practical skills
- Valuable life skills
- Workplace skills
- Communication Skills

Work Placement (1 day per week)

- On-site
- Face to face

Course Structure

- 4 days on-site
- 1 day work placement

Recreation Studies

SIS20321 - CERTIFICATE II IN SPORT - COACHING

RTO Busselton SHS - 50537

Pathways

- A wide range of employment opportunities
- TAFE: Certificate III/IV Fitness, Certificate IV Sport Development
- University Entry after completion of Certificate IV
- Navy, Army, Police Force

Program (Year 11)

- English General
- Maths Essential General
- Physical Education Studies General
- Outdoor Education General
- SIS20321 - Certificate II Sport (Coaching)
- Workplace Learning (Endorsed Program)
- Outdoor Education Camps – two in Year 11, two in Year 12
- Recreation Camp Year 12
- Opportunities to assist in conducting carnivals and events

Qualifications

- WACE/Secondary Graduation
- SIS20321 - Certificate II in Sport (Coaching)
- First Aid Certificate
- Sports Medicine Awareness Course
- Work Safe Certificates

Work Placement (1 day per week)

- Geographe Leisure Centre – Opportunity to do Pool Life Guard Certificate/Aust Swim Certificate
- Schools – Physical Education Placement, teacher assistant
- Recreation – Leisure Placements – Gyms, Horse Riding, Golf Course
- Childcare
- Retail (sports, surf shops)
- Government Agencies – Department of Transport, Dept Parks and Wildlife
- Tourism – Caves, Canoeing Tours, Surf School
- Dive Charters, Whale Watching, Professional Fishing

Course Benefits

- Exceptional employment prospects
- Opportunity to participate in Sport / Physical Activity
- Links established with South West TAFE and ECU
- Increased confidence, communication and Interpersonal skill

Mode of Delivery

- On-site and off-site (local Primary Schools – Geographe and West Busselton)
- Face to face

Course Structure

- 4 days on-site
- 1 day work placement

Building & Construction

CPC20220 - CERTIFICATE II IN CONSTRUCTION PATHWAYS

This is a proposed offering for the 2025 academic year. At the time of publication, no agreements have been entered in to with a Registered Training Organisation for the delivery of this qualification.

Pathways

- Apprenticeships/Traineeships
- TAFE and/or further training
- A wide range of employment opportunities

Program (Year 11)

- English General
- Maths Essential General
- Materials Design & Technology General (Wood & Metals)
- 1 General Course
- CPC20-220 Certificate II in Construction Pathways
- Workplace Learning (Endorsed Program)

Work Placement (Block placements - 4 weeks per year)

- Building Trades
- Construction

Qualifications

- WACE/Secondary Graduation
- CPC20-220 Certificate II in Construction Pathways
- Work Safe Certificates
- White Card
- First Aid

Course Benefits

- Broad ranging practical skills
- Valuable life skills
- Work place skills
- Communication Skills

Mode of Delivery

- On-site (Trade Training Centre)
- Face to face

Nursing/Health Pathway

ATAR/GENERAL & 5283IWA CERTIFICATE IV IN PREPARATION FOR HEALTH AND NURSING STUDIES

RTO 52790 South Regional TAFE - Busselton Campus

Pathways

- Direct University Entry
- Diploma of Nursing or other Allied Health Services – Bachelor of Nursing (or other Health Services)
- University Preparatory Course (ECU) – Bachelor of Nursing (or other Health Services)
- Articulation to University Nursing or other Allied Health Services, via TAFE and the University Preparatory Course
- A wide range of employment opportunities in the Health industry
- Note: external application and interview process for selection

Program (Year 11 and 12)

- To be discussed during counselling interview

Qualifications

- WACE/Secondary Graduation
- ATAR (Depending on chosen subjects)
- 5283IWA Certificate IV in Preparation for Health and Nursing Studies

Course Benefits

- Compressive grounding in Health Services
- Broad ranging practical skills
- Valuable life skills
- Communication Skills

Mode of Delivery

- 1 day off-site (Busselton South Regional TAFE - Busselton Campus)
- Face to face



School Assessment

Grades and school marks

To be assigned a grade in a WACE unit pair, you must have had the opportunity to complete your school's education and assessment programs for the unit, unless there are exceptional circumstances that are acceptable to the school.

Teachers of Year 11 and Year 12 students submit results to the Authority at the end of the school year based on assessments such as classroom tests, in-class work, assignments, practical work and examinations.

You will receive a grade A, B, C, D or E for each unit pair you have completed. The notation of 'U' can be used for non-final year students who, for reasons acceptable to the school, do not complete the assessment program. Only students who will be returning the following year to complete the assessment program can be awarded a 'U' notation.

You will also receive a school mark in the range 0 to 100 for each unit pair of an ATAR or General course you complete.

In Year 11 there may be occasions when you need to change your course enrolment at the completion of Semester 1 (e.g. you may nominate to transfer from an ATAR course to a General course). Only in these cases will you receive a grade and mark for each individual unit you have completed.

You will receive a 'completed' status instead of a grade for VETis course unit pairs. The notation 'completed' counts the same as a C grade. If you do not complete the requirements of a VETis course you will be awarded a 'U' notation (see above) and WACE credit may contribute as VET unit equivalence, depending on how much of the course you have finished.

Endorsed programs are not comprised of units, but a completed endorsed program is allocated one, two, three or four unit equivalents.

Adjustment of grades and school marks

During the school year, the Authority uses several procedures to ensure that the grades awarded by different schools are comparable. Grades assigned by your school are based on the Authority's grade descriptions for each course. The grades you receive from your school are provisional until confirmed by the Authority. Your school is required to advise you in writing if any changes are made to your provisional grades during the approval process. However, the Authority adjusts the grades assigned by a school only in exceptional circumstances.

School Assessment

Externally set tasks (EST)

An EST is a common task that all students enrolled in a General course will do in Semester 1 of Year 12. The task is set by the Authority, completed by students under test conditions, and is worth 15 per cent of the final mark for that pair of units. ESTs are marked by your teacher using a marking key provided by the Authority.

Authenticity of work

It is imperative that all work you submit for school assessment is your own. Any material that is included in your work that is not your own must be acknowledged appropriately.

Your school's assessment policy will outline the penalties for submitting another's work as your own. Work which could not be considered your own could include, but is not limited to:

- Copying someone's work in part or in whole, and presenting it as your own
- Buying, stealing or borrowing another person's work and presenting it as your own
- Paying someone to write or prepare work
- Submitting work to which another person (such as a parent, tutor or subject expert) has contributed substantially
- Using material directly from sources such as books, journals or the internet without reference to the source
- Building on the ideas of another person without reference to the source
- using the words, ideas, designs or the workmanship of others in practical tasks (performance, production or portfolio) without appropriate acknowledgement
- Using non-approved materials and/or equipment during an assessment task or examination
- Assisting another student to engage in an activity that will enable that student to have an unfair advantage over other students.

All the work you submit as part of the WACE practical component (ATAR and General Units 3 and 4) must also be your own work. Any material included in your work that is not your own must be acknowledged appropriately.

Review of school assessments

Schools must inform students in writing of their grades by a date specified annually by the Authority (usually in late October).

If you believe that your grade and/or school mark is incorrect, you should make a request in writing to your school for a review of the result.

The Busselton Senior High School Assessment Policy reflects the principles of the School Curriculum and Standards Authority policy, which can be found on our website.

WACE Examinations

(This section is relevant to students who intend to enrol in ATAR Units 3 and 4).

WACE Examinations

The Authority sets, administers and marks WACE examinations for Year 12 ATAR Units 3 and 4 in all courses. Each WACE examination assesses the specific content, understandings, knowledge and skills described in the syllabus for the pair of units studied. Each syllabus is available on the relevant course page of the Authority website at http://www.scsa.wa.edu.au/internet/Senior_Secondary/Courses/WACE_Courses.

All WACE examinations have written papers and some also include practical, oral, performance or portfolio examinations. The practical WACE examinations are held in the first week of the Term 3 school holidays, on weekends and the Queen's Birthday public holiday and during the second and third weeks of Term 4. Written examinations will start on the first Monday in November.

WACE examinations provide students and the wider community with confidence about the standards achieved at the end of Year 12. They also make it possible to compare the achievement of students, regardless of the school attended.

Enrolling in examinations

When you enrol in a Year 12 ATAR course, you will be automatically enrolled to sit the WACE examination in that course.

If you are applying for university admission, you should check that your course selections meet the entry requirements. University admission information is available on the TISC website at www.tisc.edu.au.

Special examination agreements

Special arrangements may be made if you have permanent or temporary disabilities that may disadvantage you in an examination situation. If your disability prevents you having reasonable access to an examination, your school must submit an application on your behalf. Information about how to do this will be made available to your school at the start of Year 12.

Exhibitions and Awards

(This section is relevant to all students who will achieve a WACE. It provides information about the exhibitions and awards granted by the Authority, which recognise individual excellence at the end of Years 11 and 12.)

Your achievements in Year 11 and Year 12 will be used to determine if you are granted an award by the Authority. Full details regarding exhibitions and awards are available on the Authority website at www.scsa.wa.edu.au/internet/Senior_Secondary/Exhibitions_and_Awards.

Eligibility for exhibitions and awards

To achieve a Beazley medal: WACE, a Beazley medal: VET, a general exhibition, a general exhibition (ATSI), a course exhibition, a VET exhibition, a certificate of excellence, a certificate of distinction or a certificate of merit, a student must:

- be an Australian citizen or a permanent resident of Australia
- have been enrolled as a full-time student in a registered secondary school
- have satisfied the requirements for a WACE at the time of the determination of the award/exhibition (except for course exhibitions and certificates of excellence).

Special general awards, special course awards, special VET awards, and special certificates of excellence may be awarded to students who do not meet the general eligibility criteria.

Peak Awards

Beazley medal: WACE

The Beazley medal: WACE is awarded for excellence to the eligible student who achieves the top WACE award score which is used to rank students for general exhibitions (see below).

Beazley medal: VET

The Beazley medal: VET is awarded to the eligible student who has demonstrated the most outstanding performance in a VET Certificate II or higher and in their other WACE achievements.

Awards for Outstanding Achievement

General exhibitions

Forty awards, known as general exhibitions, are awarded to eligible students who obtain the highest WACE award score. The WACE award score is based on the average of five scaled examination scores in ATAR courses, calculated to two decimal places, with at least two from each of List A and List B.

General exhibition (ATSI)

One award, known as the general exhibition (ATSI), may be awarded to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student who is eligible and achieves the highest WACE award score. To be eligible for this award, the student must be an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander as defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. A student may receive both a general exhibition and the general exhibition (ATSI).

Exhibitions and Awards

Special general award

A special general award is presented to a student not eligible for the award of a general exhibition because they have not satisfied the general criteria for eligibility, but who have otherwise achieved the requirements for the award of a general exhibition and whose WACE award score is not below the lowest score for which a general exhibition is awarded.

Awards for Outstanding Achievement in an ATAR Course

(These awards relate to ATAR courses only).

Course exhibitions (ATAR courses)

A course exhibition may be awarded to the eligible student obtaining the highest examination mark for each ATAR course, provided that at least 100 candidates sat the examination. To be eligible for a course exhibition, the student must have completed the pair of Year 12 units in the course in the year of the award and have not previously sat the WACE examination for that course.

Special course awards (ATAR courses)

A special course award may be presented to a candidate not eligible for a course exhibition because they have not satisfied the general criteria for eligibility but who have otherwise achieved the requirements for a course exhibition.

Certificates of excellence (ATAR courses)

Certificates of excellence are awarded to eligible candidates who are in the top 0.5 per cent of candidates in each ATAR course examination, based on the examination mark, or the top two candidates (whichever is the greater) in a course where at least 100 candidates sit the ATAR course examination. The number of certificates of excellence issued for each course is based on the number of candidates who sit the ATAR course examination. Where a course includes both written and practical components, the examination mark will be determined using an appropriate statistical process to combine the two examination marks.

To be eligible for a certificate of excellence, the student must have completed the pair of Year 12 units in the course in the year of the award and have not previously sat the WACE examination for that course.

Special certificate of excellence (ATAR courses)

A special certificate of excellence is awarded to candidates not eligible for the award of a certificate of excellence because they have not satisfied the general criteria for eligibility but who have otherwise achieved the requirements for the award of a certificate of excellence.

Exhibitions and Awards

Awards for Outstanding Achievement in VET VET exhibitions

A VET exhibition may be awarded to the eligible student who has demonstrated the most outstanding performance in an AQF VET Certificate II or higher and in their other course achievements. The student who is ranked first in the selection process for a VET certificate of excellence will be awarded the VET exhibition in that industry area.

Special VET awards

A special VET award may be presented to a student not eligible for the VET exhibition because they have not satisfied the general criteria for eligibility but who have otherwise achieved the requirements for a VET exhibition. Only one award will be available in an industry area.

Certificates of excellence (VET)

Certificates of excellence may be awarded to eligible Year 12 students who complete an AQF VET Certificate II or higher in one of the 13 training package industry areas and who are in the top 0.5 per cent of candidates. The units of competency achieved for the certificate may have been undertaken in VET is courses or other VET programs.

Special certificate of excellence

A special certificate of excellence (VET) may be presented to a student not eligible for the certificate of excellence (VET) because they have not satisfied the general criteria for eligibility but who have otherwise achieved the requirements for a certificate of excellence (VET).

Awards for outstanding achievement in the WACE

Certificates of merit and certificates of distinction

Certificates of merit and certificates of distinction recognise student achievement in the WACE and are dependent on the degree of difficulty of the courses and programs undertaken together with the student's level of achievement. These awards will be based solely on the grades awarded to students by their schools.



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