

SACE overview

What is the SACE?

The South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) is an internationally recognised qualification that paves the way for young people to move from school to work or further training and study.

By completing the SACE, students prepare for further learning, work and life, by:

- Building essential skills and knowledge
- Making informed choices about future study and work, based on their strengths and interests
- Gaining a certificate that gives them a head-start on their pathway beyond school.

Students who successfully complete the SACE requirements are awarded the SACE certificate.

Capabilities

The SACE is underpinned by seven capabilities, which connect student learning within and across subjects as they are renewed.

The purpose of the capabilities is to develop in students the knowledge, skills, and understandings to be successful learners, confident and creative individuals, and active and informed citizens.

The capabilities are:

- literacy
- numeracy
- information and communication technology (ICT) capability
- critical and creative thinking
- personal and social capability
- ethical understanding
- intercultural understanding.

www.sace.sa.edu.au/about/policies

What subjects can students study?

For a full list of SACE subjects for use in curriculum handbooks, visit:

<http://www.sace.sa.edu.au/studying/subjects>

How do students get the SACE?

Students gain their SACE in two stages:

- Stage 1, which most students complete in Year 11
- Stage 2, which most students complete in Year 12.

Each subject or course successfully completed earns 'credits' towards the SACE, with a minimum of 200 credits required to gain the certificate.

Students receive a grade from A to E for each subject at Stage 1, and from A+ to E- at Stage 2.

To achieve the SACE, students must complete the following requirements with a C grade or higher at Stage 1 and a C- or higher for Stage 2:

- Personal Learning Plan (10 credits at Stage 1)
- [Literacy](#) – from a range of English subjects or courses (20 credits at Stage 1 or Stage 2)
- [Numeracy](#) – from a range of mathematics subjects or courses (10 credits at Stage 1 or Stage 2)
- Research Project – an in-depth major project (10 credits at Stage 2)
- Other Stage 2 subjects and/or courses totalling at least 60 credits.

In addition, students must also choose from a range of Stage 1 or Stage 2 subjects or courses worth 90 credits, and achieve a grade in these, to gain the SACE.

What is the Personal Learning Plan?

The Personal Learning Plan is a SACE subject that all students undertake at the start of their SACE, in Year 10 or 11. The subject is worth 10 credits and students need to achieve a C grade or higher.

The Personal Learning Plan helps students to:

- identify strengths and interests
- set personal and learning goals
- choose the right SACE subjects and study options for their future plans
- look at different career paths and choices
- gain skills for future study and employment, such as planning and research.

<http://www.sace.sa.edu.au/studying/subjects>

What is the Research Project?

The Research Project is a Stage 2 subject that all SACE students undertake. The subject is worth 10 credits, and students need to achieve a C- grade or higher to achieve their SACE. There are two Research Project options – Research Project A and Research Project B. Either Research Project A or Research Project B can be included as part of a student's Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

The Research Project enables students to:

- undertake in-depth research and study a topic of personal interest
- develop skills in planning, research, analysis and communication
- gain experience of tertiary-style study through self-directed learning.

<http://www.sace.sa.edu.au/web/research-project>

What is VET and how can I do it?

VET stands for Vocational Education and Training. VET gives students skills for work, particularly in the trades and industry. VET options in the SACE encourage students to complete, or make significant progress towards completing, VET qualifications while completing the SACE.

To complete the SACE, students must achieve at least 200 SACE credits; 150 of which can be gained through VET. The remaining 50 credits are derived from the Personal Learning Plan (10 credits), the Research Project (10 credits), the literacy requirement (20 credits), and the numeracy requirement (10 credits). Students can use a vocational context in completing these subjects.

The SACE Board determines whether the SACE credits earned for a particular VET qualification will be recognised at Stage 1 or Stage 2. Students can refer to the VET Recognition Register for more information about recognition at Stage 1 and Stage 2.

www.sace.sa.edu.au/web/vet/vet-in-the-sace



What is community learning?

Students are able to earn SACE credits for community learning in two ways – Community-developed Programs and Self-directed Community Learning.

Community-developed Programs include, for example, the Australian Music Examinations Board, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and the SA Country Fire Service.

Program details are updated as new course information becomes available.

Self-directed Community Learning is gained through informal community activities such as coaching a sports team, being the primary carer of a family member, or leading an environmental project in the community. Students will need to provide evidence of their learning for assessment so that the SACE Board can recognise these other kinds of community learning.

www.sace.sa.edu.au/learning/community-learning



University and TAFE SA entry

Gaining the SACE is the main method used by South Australian students to gain admission into university and TAFE courses.

Students who complete the SACE are eligible for university entry, provided they meet certain requirements.

TAFE SA recognises the SACE as meeting the Course Admission Requirements for most of its courses. It also considers a variety of other qualifications and experiences in its entry and selection processes.

Applications for university and TAFE courses are handled by the South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre (SATAC).

For more information about tertiary entry visit the SATAC website at www.satac.edu.au.

Detailed information about TAFE SA course admission requirements is available at www.tafesa.edu.au.

Students with disabilities

The SACE offers a range of modified subjects at Stage 1 and Stage 2 to provide opportunities for students with identified intellectual disabilities to demonstrate their learning.

A student's achievement in a modified subject will be reported as 'Completed', with the appropriate number of SACE credits. The SACE certificate will indicate that the student has achieved the SACE using one or more modified subjects.

www.sace.sa.edu.au/web/modified-subjects/



Special provisions

Students can apply for special provisions if they have an illness or impairment that affects their ability to participate in and/or comply with the conditions or requirements of an assessment task.

Schools are responsible for identifying and implementing reasonable adjustments that can be managed within the school context.

The SACE Board is responsible for considering and approving requests for reasonable adjustments in external assessments at Stage 2 that affect Board processes.

www.sace.sa.edu.au/web/special-provisions

Interstate, overseas and adult students

The SACE Board will grant status for equivalent learning in recognised areas for interstate, overseas and adult students.

www.sace.sa.edu.au/students/interstate-overseas-and-adult-students

Students Online

Students Online can help students:

- plan their SACE and look at different subjects, or subject and course combinations
- check their progress towards completing the SACE Board of SA
- access their results.

Students can log in to Student Online using their SACE registration number and PIN at:

<https://apps.sace.sa.edu.au/students-online/login.do>

Further information

Visit the SACE website, particularly the Studying the SACE section.

www.sace.sa.edu.au/studying