



Guidance for universities

The South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) is recognised by leading universities around the world. Our students develop a unique set of academic knowledge and broader skills that prepare them for university success. Read more about our qualification and what our graduates could bring to your university.

Welcome to the SACE

The South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) is the official Senior Secondary Certificate of Education of the South Australian Government and is overseen by the SACE Board, a government agency.

In Australia's Northern Territory, the SACE program is delivered as the Northern Territory Certificate of Education and Training (NTCET).

The SACE has been available outside of Australia since 1982 through a network of accredited schools across the Asia Pacific region, including Malaysia, the People's Republic of China, Vietnam, and several South Pacific Island Nations.

About the SACE

The SACE program is designed for students aged 16-18 and is generally undertaken over two years and studied in Year 11 (Stage 1) and Year 12 (Stage 2).

Students typically study five subjects per year to complete a minimum of 190 credits of study.

SACE curriculum and assessment is world-leading in terms of its contemporary design, the balance of coursework and external examinations, and use of technology. This enables students to develop and demonstrate their knowledge and skills in a wide variety of ways.



Summary of key SACE features

Subjects	Students can choose from more than 100 subjects to complete the SACE
Mandatory subjects	English and Mathematics
Skill and knowledge development	Seven key personal capabilities—also known as 21st Century skills — are embedded into the SACE program including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Literacy• Numeracy• Information and Communication Technology• Critical and Creative Thinking• Personal and Social skills• Ethical Understanding• Intercultural Understanding
Assessment	In Stage 1 subjects, all student work is assessed by the school. In a Stage 2 subject, 70% of student work is assessed by the school, with 30% assessed externally
Performance standards and grades	Student work is assessed using performance standards. These standards describe the quality of student learning required to achieve each grade A to E for Stage 1 and A+ to E- for Stage 2.
Quality Assurance	The correct use of the performance standards is confirmed by a moderation process as part of the quality assurance guidelines. This ensures that students have fair, valid, and reliable results.
Regulator	The South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) is awarded by the SACE Board of South Australia; an independent, statutory authority legislated by the Government of South Australia under the SACE Board of South Australia ACT 1983. The SACE Board has responsibility for curriculum, assessment and certification in Years 11 and 12.

External Assessments and Examinations

External assessments, including examinations, are developed by panels appointed by the SACE Board. These are developed with close supervision, strong evaluative processes, and sound security measures. Our processes produce high-quality and valid examination papers that fairly measure the academic achievement of SACE students.

In Australia, all school examinations occur in November, with SACE results issued at the end of the year.

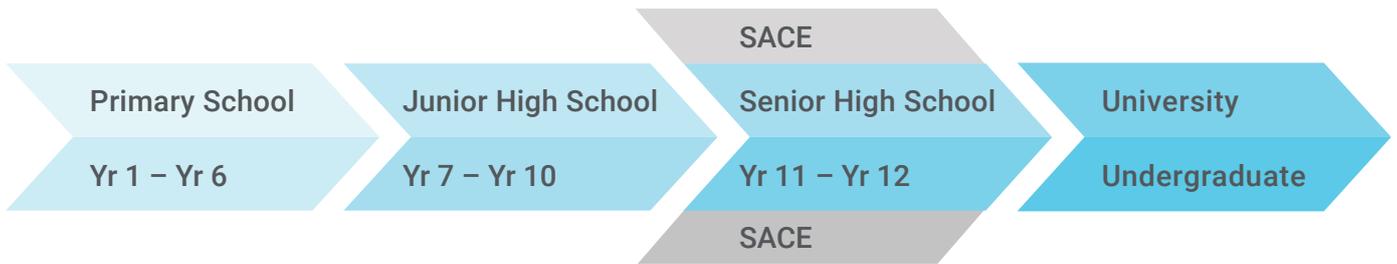
Qualification	Intake	Examinations	Results	Final Certificates Issued
SACE	From January	November	December	December
NTCET	From January	November	December	December

The SACE has two intakes for schools delivering the SACE program outside of Australia.

The mid-year intake (from July) is better suited to students preferring to study in the UK, USA or Canada.

Qualification	Intake	Examinations	Results	Final Certificates Issued
SACE	From January	March	April/May	April/May
SACE	From July	November	December	December

Education system in Australia



Certification

All students who successfully complete the SACE program receive the following:

- SACE Certificate
- Record of Achievement with their results for SACE subjects
- Tertiary Entrance Statement, which includes their Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR). Read more about the ATAR below.

SACE Certificate

The image shows a sample South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) for Sam Smart. The certificate is on a light green background with a repeating pattern of the letters 'S', 'A', 'C', and 'E'. The SACE logo is in the top left corner. The text on the certificate reads: "SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION", "This is to certify that Sam Smart has fulfilled the requirements of the South Australian Certificate of Education", and "Prof Martin Westwell, Chief Executive, SACE Board of South Australia". The registration number is 123456X and the date issued is December 2020. The certificate is issued by the Government of South Australia. Annotations with arrows point to the following elements: "Qualification" (SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION), "Confirmation the student has achieved the qualification" (has fulfilled the requirements of the South Australian Certificate of Education), "Year of graduation" (Date issued: December 2020), and "Qualification type" (This qualification is a Senior Secondary Certificate of Education in the Australian Qualifications Framework).

Record of Achievement

Record of Achievement

SACE Registration Number: 123456X

Date Issued: December 2020

Completion date

Sam Smart

has achieved the following results towards the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE):

Subjects studied at Stage 2

Stage 2	SACE Subjects	Credit Value	Result
2020	English	20 credits	B
2020	Chinese (continuers)	20 credits	B-
2020	General Mathematics	20 credits	B+
2020	Drama	20 credits	B-
2020	Research Project B	10 credits	B

Grades achieved

Stage 2	Recognised Courses	Credit Value	Result
2019	Vocational Education and Training Units of Competency towards: Certificate III in Screen and Media	20 credits	Granted

Subject credit value (10 credits equates to 6 months of learning and 20 credits equates to a full year of learning)

Subjects studied at Stage 1

Stage 1	SACE Subjects	Credit Value	Result
2019	English	20 credits	A
2019	Chinese (continuers)	10 credits	B
2019	Drama	10 credits	B
2019	General Mathematics	20 credits	A
2019	Psychology	10 credits	B
2018	Personal Learning Plan	10 credits	A

Grades achieved

Stage 1	Recognised Courses	Credit Value	Result
2019	Community Learning Duke of Edinburgh's Award	10 credits	Granted

This student has completed all the requirements of the South Australian Certificate of Education.
For further information on the SACE and its requirements, go to www.sace.sa.edu.au/roa

Martin Westwell

Martin Westwell
Chief Executive



Tertiary Entrance Statement and Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)

Students who successfully complete the SACE are eligible to receive an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR). This can be used for university admission in any state in Australia and towards university entry at many universities worldwide.

The process for converting a student's SACE results to an ATAR is a complex statistical process undertaken by the South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre (SATAC) on behalf of universities. For further information, visit <https://www.satac.edu.au/>

To meet the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) requirement for entrance into tertiary studies, students must successfully complete the SACE with a minimum of 90 credits from five subjects at Stage 2. Students who successfully complete the SACE International Program are eligible to receive an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) .

Tertiary Entrance Statement

Flinders UNIVERSITY **THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE** **University of South Australia** **tafesa**

Tertiary Entrance Statement

SACE Registration Number: **123456X**
Date Issued: **December 2019**

Sam Smart
This statement is issued by the South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre (SATAC). SATAC calculates the scores and ranks used for tertiary entrance selection, including the university aggregate and the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).
These scores and ranks are based on scaled scores. Scaled scores allow direct comparison of results for subjects with different learning outcomes. This in turn allows aggregated results for students with differing study patterns to be directly compared. See the reverse of this page for a full list of the scaled scores that have been calculated for any Tertiary Admissions Subjects you have completed to date.

University Entrance
The Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) is the primary selection criterion for school leavers seeking entry into most undergraduate university programs in Australia. To qualify for an ATAR, SACE students must successfully complete the requirements of the SACE and complete at least 90 credits of study at Stage 2 in accordance with the rules agreed by the universities as set forth in the Tertiary Entrance booklet published online by SATAC.

University aggregate
Your university aggregate is the basis for the ATAR. Your university aggregate is calculated from the scaled scores of Tertiary Admissions Subjects (TAS) as well as any Recognised Studies. The calculation considers every allowable combination of results to give the best possible aggregate. The maximum university aggregate is 90.00

Your university aggregate is 75.50

Australian Tertiary Admission Rank
Your Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) is an indicator of how well a student has performed relative to other secondary school students across Australia. It is derived from the university aggregate and is reported as a number between 0.00 and 99.95. ATARs below 30.00 are not reported on the Tertiary Entrance Statement.

Your ATAR is 88.90

TAFE SA Entrance
Some TAFE SA courses have Course Admission Requirements which applicants must meet to be eligible for selection. Course admission requirements can include one, or a combination of: entry assessment, SACE completion, presentation of a portfolio, audition, or prior vocational certificates.

SATAC

Issued without alteration or erasure

South Australian Institutions

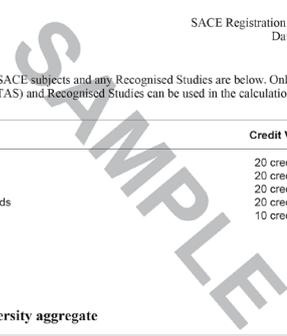
Year of graduation

Score used to calculate ATAR

ATAR

The Tertiary Entrance Statement is issued by SATAC (South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre) on behalf of Flinders University, the University of Adelaide, University of South Australia and TAFE SA. It records any university aggregate or ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank) you have achieved.

Tertiary Entrance Statement



Stage 2 SACE subjects		Credit Value	Scaled Score
2019	Biology	20 credits	17.10
2019	Chemistry	20 credits	17.30
2019	Geography	20 credits	15.90
2019	Mathematical Methods	20 credits	15.70
2018	Research Project B	10 credits	9.50

First 60 credits			Flexible Option
2019 Chemistry 17.30	2019 Biology 17.10	2019 Geography 15.90	2018 Research Project B 9.50
Sub-total: 50.30			2019 Mathematical Methods 15.70
			Sub-total: 25.20
			Total: 75.50

Scaled scores are used to calculate the university aggregate/ATAR and your TAFE SA Selection Score.

Scaling is a means to allow for comparison between students who have completed different subjects as part university and TAFE selection process for entry to university and TAFE SA courses.

Information about the way in which scaled scores are calculated (including a short video about scaling) is available from the SATAC website at www.satac.edu.au/resources-for-students.

Your university aggregate is calculated from 90 credits of study

Recognise the SACE program

SACE International graduates have entered prestigious universities around the world, including:

- All Australia universities including the Group of Eight
- New Zealand universities including: Auckland, Wellington, and Canterbury
- UK universities including: Cambridge, Oxford, and London School of Economics and Political Science
- USA universities including Cornell, Yale, and California-Berkley
- Canadian universities including Toronto, and British Columbia
- Universities across Asia including: National University of Singapore, University of Hong Kong, Singapore Management University

To recognise the SACE and to allow us to promote your undergraduate programs, please contact SACE.International@sa.gov.au. We will add your institution to our lists, helping you become instantly more visible to our students around the world.

Further information

Email: SACE.International@sa.gov.au

Website: <https://www.sacei.edu.au/>



Government of South Australia

