SACE 2019
South Australian Certificate of Education
What is the SACE?

The South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) is a qualification that demonstrates you have acquired a certain level of knowledge and skills important to your job, study and training goals.

You’ll be awarded the SACE if you successfully complete requirements that include a range of skills and subjects you may study at school or may have acquired through other education, training or experience.

The SACE – How do I get it?

There are two stages of the SACE – Stage 1 and Stage 2.

Most students start Stage 1 in Year 10, and finish it in Year 11. Stage 2 is usually studied in Year 12.

Year 10

Most students will start their SACE in Year 10 with the Personal Learning Plan (PLP).

The PLP is a 10-credit Stage 1 subject. All students need to achieve a C grade or better in this subject and this counts towards the SACE.

Studying the PLP at the start of the SACE gives you a good foundation for your Year 11 and Year 12 studies, and can help in your subject selection later on. It is a way to get you thinking about your options for the future and how the SACE can help you get there.

Year 11

Year 11 is when most students begin a full year of SACE study. You can choose from a range of Stage 1 subjects offered at Concordia, as well as Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses and other options.

In Stage 1, all of your assessment tasks (reports, presentations, etc.) will be marked by teachers at the school.

There are two compulsory requirements for the SACE that students usually complete at Stage 1 – a full-year of an English subject, and at least a semester of a Mathematics subject. You will need to get a C grade or better in both.

Your assessments in these two areas are marked by your teachers and checked by moderators outside the school to ensure that grades are consistent across schools.

The English and Mathematics requirements highlight the importance of graduating from school with literacy and numeracy skills.

Year 12

Like Year 11, you choose your subjects and courses – this time at Stage 2 – from those offered at Concordia.

At Stage 2, 70 percent of your assessment tasks (reports, tests, presentations, etc.) will be marked by teachers at Concordia and checked by moderators outside the school. This ensures that marking is consistent across schools.

The remaining 30 per cent will be assessed outside of the school. These assessments could take the form of examinations, performances or investigations.

There is one compulsory subject at Stage 2 – the Research Project. It is a one-semester (10-credit) subject that gives you the chance to research in depth a topic that you are interested in.

At Concordia the Research Project is usually completed in Year 11.
To gain your SACE you need to achieve 200 credits.

The compulsory parts make up 50 credits – 10 credits for the Personal Learning Plan, 20 credits of literacy, 10 credits of numeracy, and 10 credits for the Research Project.

You will also need to complete at least 60 credits from Stage 2 subjects – you can choose the subjects, but they have to be worth at least 60 credits in total.

You must achieve a C- grade or better in the 60 credits of your Stage 2 subjects, plus 10 credits of the Research Project, to gain your SACE.

The table on the opposite page shows the SACE requirements. Remember that 10 credits equates to one semester of study in a subject, and 20 credits equates to a full-year subject.

In the SACE, achievement in each subject is reported using grades. At Stage 1, the highest grade is A and the lowest is E. At Stage 2, the highest grade is A+ and the lowest is E-.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year 10</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Learning Plan</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year 11 (Stage 1) or Year 12 (Stage 2)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy (from a range of English subjects and courses)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeracy (from a range of mathematics subjects and courses)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year 12 (Stage 2)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Project</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Stage 2 subjects and courses*</td>
<td>60 or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year 11 or 12 (Stages 1 or 2)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other subjects and courses of the student’s choice</td>
<td>up to 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>200</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Many students will complete subjects or courses worth more than 70 credits at Stage 2.

SACE at Concordia College:

In Year 11, all students study Stage 1 Religion Studies (10 credits). In Year 12, all students study Faith Issues for Semester 1.

At Year 11, all students select a full year of **English** (20 credits) and at least one semester of **Mathematics** (10 credits) and then a **range of other subjects** (10 or 20 credits) to make up a total of 120 Stage 1 credits.

At Year 12, all students are expected to select **five 20 credit subjects**. Some students may wish to study four 20 credit subjects; this option can be discussed in a course counselling interview.

**One IB Diploma subject** can be counted toward the completion of SACE (including counting toward the **ATAR** university entrance).

A Certificate III in VET can count to a maximum of 20 credits in an ATAR and/or a TAFE SA Selection Score.
Subjects

Whether you want to go to university, study a trade or go straight into the workforce, the SACE can be tailored to suit your needs.

All SACE students need to complete the compulsory requirements, but your other subject choices are up to you.

It is important to check the Subject Handbook for the subjects Concordia offers – not every subject is offered at every school.

SACE subjects that are worth 10 credits are usually one-semester subjects, while 20-credit subjects usually involve a full year of study.

A complete list of SACE subjects at both Stage 1 and Stage 2 can be found on the SACE website, under the Subjects tab.

When deciding on your subjects for Year 11 and Year 12, remember to consider any prerequisite subjects for university courses you are interested in. You may need to study the Stage 1 subject to be able to enrol in the Stage 2 subject the year after.

There are also other ways to complete the SACE, such as:

• by earning credits for individual or community activities such as volunteering
• as an adult learner
• through recognition for other study achievements such as vocational education and training (VET) courses or international education.

Learning areas

Subjects are grouped into nine learning areas:

- Arts
- Business, Enterprise and Technology
- Cross-disciplinary
- English
- Health and Physical Education
- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Languages
- Mathematics
- Sciences

The SACE has more than 100 subjects to suit your interests and your study, training and career goals.

Your study plans must include enough Stage 1 and Stage 2 subjects to earn you the credits that, when combined with the compulsory subjects, will earn you the credits you need.
Vocational Education and Training (VET)

What is VET?
Vocational Education and Training (VET) enables students to acquire skills and knowledge for work through a nationally recognised industry-developed training package or accredited course. VET is delivered, assessed, and certified by registered training organisations (RTOs).

Undertaking VET may benefit students’ exploration of a variety of career pathways; it is not just reserved for a pathway within the trades (e.g., plumbing, automotive, and construction). Students can complete VET qualifications in a diverse range of industries, including business administration, veterinary nursing, aged care, or sport and recreation.

Why study VET?
VET is an excellent choice of study for many students. It always includes practical, hands-on learning, and it can lead to excellent jobs in many fields.

Studying VET as part of the SACE gives students a head start on a qualification, which is a great way to fast-track progress towards a rewarding career, while also developing independence and time-management skills.

What is the VET Recognition Register?
The VET Recognition Register is a useful tool that lists more than 300 of the most common VET qualifications undertaken by SACE students, and indicates how each qualification can contribute towards the SACE. The register can tell you the SACE level (Stage 1 or Stage 2), and the maximum and minimum SACE credits you could earn.

You can find the VET Recognition Register on the SACE website under Vocational Education and Training.

How do I get SACE credits for my VET?
Once you have chosen your VET options, the VET coordinator can help you work out how many credits you could possibly achieve at Stage 1 or Stage 2. The number of SACE credits you can gain is based on the amount of VET you do as part of your SACE.

Each qualification is different and has compulsory and elective options, so the SACE credits you end up gaining may vary depending on the VET qualification you are working towards.

You can earn up to 150 out of 200 SACE credits using VET, as long as you meet the literacy, numeracy, personal learning plan, and research project requirements.

Want more information?
Students who are interested in exploring VET options should visit the SACE website and make an appointment to see the VET & Careers Counsellor, Mr Robert Gogel.

Vetamorphus
Vetamorphus is a VET course delivered on-site at Concordia College. If you would like to explore this option, please visit the Vetamophus website www.vetamorphus.com or speak to Jason Kupke, Student Welfare Worker.
Other Recognised Learning

There are a number of other ways to gain SACE credits. Most students earn credits by studying subjects at school; however you can also gain SACE credits through recognition arrangements, such as Community Learning.

Studying for your SACE means you can gain SACE credits for skills and knowledge you gain in a range of community programs and other courses.

The learning that students undertake through VET, Community Learning and other recognised courses is called ‘recognised learning’ in the SACE.

Community Learning

Students can count up to 90 credits of community learning at Stage 1 and/or Stage 2 towards the completion requirements of the SACE.

However, recognition of community learning is not granted against the Personal Learning Plan (at Stage 1), the literacy or numeracy requirements, the Research Project (at Stage 2), or the requirement for 60 credits at C grade or better at Stage 2.

Community learning includes community-directed programs or self-directed programs approved by the SACE Board.

What is a community-developed program?

Organisations such as the Australian Music Examinations Board, The Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award, and the SA Country Fire Service develop and accredit their own programs that are eligible for recognition towards the SACE.

A comprehensive list of recognised programs can be found on the SACE website under Community Learning.

Students can apply to the SACE Board, via the school’s SACE Coordinator, for recognition of a community-developed program.

What is a self-directed program?

Individual students can participate in activities that are not formally accredited. Examples of this type of learning include:

- creating media productions (e.g. films, websites) outside school
- performing in sport at an elite level or officiating at sporting events
• planning and coordinating community events
• taking a leadership role in community groups
• taking a leadership role in the workplace
• taking responsibility for the care of an older adult or person with a disability
• teaching others specialised skills (e.g. dance).

Students need to submit an application form and attend an interview at their school to have their self-directed community learning recognised as part of their SACE.

Each student will be assessed against the two assessment criteria: knowledge and application, and reflection and critical thinking.

Other recognised learning

Local, interstate, or overseas students can be granted credit for appropriate qualifications, subjects, courses or learning experiences. These can include:
• adult qualification and learning experiences
• educational exchange programs
• intensive English programs
• International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme
• languages courses
• interstate and overseas qualifications

• university studies
• SACE Stage 2 exit assessment

Recognition towards the SACE is reported as a number of SACE credits ‘granted’, and is not accompanied by a result (e.g. a grade or score).

Further information on this type of learning can be found on the SACE website under Other Recognised Learning.

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A guide for SACE – Choosing what to study

Choosing what subjects to study at Stage 2 in the SACE may seem daunting – there are lots of options, after all. But have confidence in the work you have done so far, ask the right questions and use the right resources, and you can make informed choices that will get you where you want to go.

Review your Personal Learning Plan

In the Personal Learning Plan, you considered your strengths and interests – consider how these relate to the range of subjects available in Year 11 and Year 12. Have another look at the personal and learning goals you identified, and think about how these might flow into choices about further study and work after you finish secondary school. Let your interests and strengths guide you.

Talk to teachers, parents and friends

You may have an idea about the areas of learning you are interested in, such as the sciences, mathematics or humanities, but have you decided on the particular subjects you want to study? Your teachers can advise you about the subjects offered at Concordia, and what might fit best with your goals.

Talk to people who know you well, such as your parents and friends. As well as being a useful sounding board, they can give you the confidence and support to make choices that are right for you.

Think about future career requirements

Consider the type of career you may want to enter after school, and what pathways there are to that sort of career. If you want to study at university, you can use the SACE to gain an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) for entry into courses in SA and around Australia. Some university courses also have pre-requisite subjects. Many SACE students each year enter top universities around the world – if this is something you are interested in, you will want to look at the entry requirements.

If you want to study at TAFE SA, you will be looking at getting a TAFE SA Entry Score, which has its own requirements.

Use the SACE website

The ‘Studying the SACE’ section of the SACE website has lots of information on the topics covered in each subject – this should give you an idea of whether a particular subject is for you. You can use the information on the learning pages alongside the ‘Students Online’ tool to plan your SACE, look at different subject combinations and check your progress. Students Online can provide an overall picture of how you are doing in your SACE and how the subjects you choose can contribute to your certificate.
All About the Research Project

The Research Project subject gives you the chance to direct your own learning while expanding on your planning, research, analysis and communication skills. These are tools you can use throughout your life, both in your career and in further education.

The Research Project is a one semester, 10-credit Stage 2 subject, and you will need to get a C- grade or higher to gain your SACE.

Assessment

The Research Project is split into three sections, each worth a different portion of your final grade:

• Folio (30%)
• Research Outcome (40%)
• Evaluation (30%)

More information about each section of the Research Project can be found in the Learning section of the SACE website, under Research Project.

Research Project A or B?

There are two Research Project options – Research Project A and Research Project B. Both can count towards your Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

Students who undertake Research Project B must present their evaluation in written form.

Students studying Research Project A may present evidence in other forms, such as a PowerPoint presentation, short film.

Choice and Capabilities

Take time to consider what it is you may want to research – something you are interested in, or passionate about. Your idea should be challenging but achievable.

In the Research Project you can choose which capability or capabilities to develop and reflect on.

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

The capabilities that have been identified are:

• literacy
• numeracy
• information and communication technology capability
• critical and creative thinking
• personal and social capability
• ethical understanding
• intercultural understanding.

The capabilities enable students to make connections in their learning within and across subjects in a wide range of contexts.
Making the Grade – Understanding Performance Standards

Understanding the performance standards

What determines whether you receive an A, B, or C for the work that you do? And how can you get your work up to the next level? The answer is in the performance standards!

The standard of work you must demonstrate to achieve each grade in each SACE subject is described by a performance standard.

The standards outline how well you demonstrated what you know, can do, and understand, in relation to the criteria set out for each subject.

Whenever you are given a grade (A to E) for an assessment, you can check the performance standards to monitor your progress through the subject. They describe how well you have demonstrated what you know, can do and understand. They can also help you to set goals for improvement.

The performance standards can be found in the subject outline of each SACE subject – these documents can be found on the Subjects page on the SACE website.

Why use performance standards?

Having performance standards allows for fair grading across the state. All SACE teachers and assessors are marking with reference to the same performance standards, so students receive comparable grades.

As a student, you can use the grades and performance standards to help guide you from one level to the next.

You can look back and see where you have been and look forward to see what you want to achieve, with a clear idea about how to get there.
## Stage 2 Assessment

### School assessment: 70%

In Stage 2, you will be awarded grades in your assessments from A+ to E-, and for your final grade. Your teachers will assess 70% of your work, while 30% will be assessed by the SACE Board.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School assessment</th>
<th>Validating school assessment</th>
<th>Confirming or adjusting grades</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>These are the tasks set and assessed by the school, as part of each subject you are studying. Teachers undertake training to assess students’ work in line with the performance standards.</td>
<td>A sample of student work from the school, representing a range of grades across every Stage 2 subject, will be sent off to the SACE Board. Assessment experts will check to confirm the grades that have been given are accurate, fair and comparable with other students across the state.</td>
<td>Teachers across the state mark with reference to the performance standards in the subject outlines. There is a statewide process at the end of each year to ensure that grades given at one school are comparable with grades in another school. The process of confirming and adjusting school assessment grades is referred to as ‘moderation’.</td>
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### External assessment: 30%

The SACE Board marks the external assessment component of all subjects. These assessments can take the form of oral and/or written examinations, investigations or performances.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examinations</th>
<th>Investigations</th>
<th>Performances</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Some Stage 2 subjects have written exams, which are produced and assessed by the SACE Board. The majority of these examinations take place in Term 4, during October and November. The exam timetable is made available on the SACE website during the first semester of each year.</td>
<td>Many Stage 2 subjects have externally assessed investigations. These are first assessed by your teacher, then sent to the SACE Board for external assessment.</td>
<td>A range of Stage 2 subjects (drama, dance and some music subjects) have externally assessed performances. They are marked independently by subject teachers and SACE Board assessors at the time of each performance.</td>
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Results

At the end of your SACE journey, you will receive your Year 12 results.

On the day of results release, results will be sent through the post but students will also be able to access them online on the SACE website.

Following is a guide to understanding your results, and the information you will receive.

Results and Students Online

At the end of Stage 2, you will receive your final SACE results. If you’re studying Research Project in Semester 1, you can also access your results for that subject mid-year.

Once you log in to Students Online, you will see your grade for each subject, your Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) and/or TAFE SA Selection Score from SATAC, if applicable. If you’ve misplaced your original results or need a copy, you can also request replacement results.

On the screen

If you have your PIN and SACE registration number, you can access your results on the morning they are released, via the Students Online system.

If you can not remember your PIN, you can reset it to your date of birth on the Students Online login page www.sace.sa.edu.au/students-online.

On the day results are released, resetting PINs may take a few hours, so it pays to check that you can log in a week or more beforehand.

Once you log in to Students Online on the day of results release, you will have access to a range of information about your results.

+ Access your SATAC Tertiary Entrance Statement

Your Tertiary Entrance Statement will show your Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) and TAFE SA Selection Score.

+ About your SATAC Tertiary Entrance Statement

This section helps you understand your Tertiary Entrance Statement, and provides information about scaling, and how university aggregates and TAFE SA Selection Scores are calculated.

In the post

While most students check their results online, if you meet all requirements of the SACE, you will receive your SACE certificate in the post.

If you achieve a result in one or more Stage 2 subjects, you will receive a Record of Achievement. There is also an information booklet to help you understand your documents.
Teriary Entrance using the SACE

For the most up to date information about entry to university and to TAFE, please refer to the SATAC website: www.satac.edu.au

The new edition each year is accessible to all Senior School students.

The information below outlines the calculation of the ATAR (the Australian tertiary Admission Rank) for university entrance.

The ATAR, a percentile from 0-100, is calculated from the University aggregate.

A student’s university aggregate is the best possible score, out of 90 points, calculated from the options below, subjects to counting restrictions and precluded combinations. The counting restrictions and precluded combinations are explained on the SATAC website.

How you University aggregate is calculated:

60 + 30

Best scaled score (60 credit score)

Scaled score from the three best 20 credit Tertiary Admissions Subjects (TAS).

Normally, 10 credit subjects do not count towards this requirement but some 10 credit subjects in the same subject area, when studied in pairs, can substitute for a 20 credit subject. These are called Valid Pairs. Such subjects are identified by SATAC.

Flexible Option (30 credit score)

Score from the next best 30 credits of scaled scores or equivalents from:
- the scaled score of a 20 credit TAS;
- half the scaled score of one or more 20 credit TAS;
- the scaled score of one or more 10 credit TAS;
- scaled score equivalents for Recognised Studies to the value of 10 or the maximum of 20 credits.

Your university aggregate is the best possible score calculated from the above options subject to counting restrictions and precluded combinations.
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Some of the information contained in this brochure is provided courtesy of the SACE Board of SA. To find out more about SACE, visit www.sace.sa.edu.au