

Benefits of externally moderated school-based assessment

- External moderation helps teachers improve their knowledge of assessment and their assessment practices, consequently improving their own teaching.
- Thousands of teachers receive training by the QCAA on how to make comparable judgments on student achievement.
- Students have the opportunity to demonstrate what they know and can do over a period of time and in situations that are similar to those they will encounter in further education, training and employment.
- Students are assessed using a variety of techniques, including group work, practical responses, non-written presentations and assignments, as well as supervised examinations. This range allows all valuable knowledge and skills to be assessed and caters for students' various learning styles.
- Teachers are able to give timely and comprehensive feedback to students about how to improve their learning.

Find out more

Visit the QCAA website at www.qcaa.qld.edu.au, or telephone (07) 3864 0299.



Externally moderated school-based assessment

For students completing Year 12 in 2018 and 2019



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QCAA
Queensland Curriculum
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Queensland students in Years 11 and 12 benefit from a system of externally moderated school-based assessment for Authority subjects.

Senior students are taught and assessed by teachers in their schools throughout Years 11 and 12. Their results in Authority subjects are recorded on the Senior Statement and gain credit towards the Queensland Certificate of Education. The results are also used to compile Overall Positions (OPs) and Field Positions (FPs) for tertiary entrance.

The Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) manages a system of external moderation that ensures students are treated fairly and standards are comparable from school to school.

School-based assessment

Teachers assess student progress throughout Years 11 and 12 and report on their students' achievements to parents and carers.

At the end of Year 12, teachers decide the exit levels of achievement to be awarded to their students.

External moderation

The QCAA's system of external moderation has seven phases, designed to ensure that the levels of achievement in Authority subjects match the requirements of syllabuses.

Quality assessment

The QCAA's system of external moderation facilitates the three functions of a quality assessment program:

- assessment *for* learning — teachers monitor student progress to inform their teaching
- assessment *as* learning — students reflect on their progress to inform their future learning
- assessment *of* learning — teachers use evidence of student learning to make judgments on student achievement against clearly stated standards.

The system has checks and balances in place to ensure reliability and validity of teacher judgments. Panels of experienced teachers with subject-area expertise review submissions of student work for similar judgments (reliability), and check assessment instruments against syllabus objectives and subject matter (validity).

The external moderation process

