

## Background

Each year the Queensland Studies Authority (QSA) issues Student Education Profiles (SEPs) to students who complete Year 12 in Queensland. The SEP may contain a Senior Certificate or it may contain a Senior Certificate and a Tertiary Entrance (TE) Statement. Schools approved by the Queensland Minister for Education that offer Authority subjects and/or Authority-registered subjects and agree to comply with the QSA's procedures may have Senior Certificates issued to their students at the completion of Year 12.

- All students who complete Year 12 with at least one result in an Authority subject, Authority-registered subject, or Recorded subject, receive a Senior Certificate. The Senior Certificate also reports the details of accredited vocational education and training (VET) and grades in the Queensland Core Skills (QCS) Test.
- A student is eligible for an Overall Position (OP) at the end of Year 12 provided that they have completed a minimum of 20 semester units of Authority subjects (including at least three subjects for all four semesters) and has sat for the QCS Test in that year. OP-eligible students receive a TE Statement reporting overall achievement on a ranking from OP1 (highest) to OP25 (lowest) and achievements in a maximum of five fields ranked from FP1 (highest) to FP10 (lowest) each.

Enrolment and certification statistics in this publication relate to internal students and to candidates for the Senior External Examination. Internal students are those who enrol to study full-time in an approved secondary school, where the minimum amount of timetabled school time provided for is 55 hours per semester per senior Authority or Authority-registered subject studied.

## Student Education Profiles (SEP)

In December 2004, the QSA issued 38 471 SEPs (excluding visa students<sup>1</sup>); 27 235 of these contained Tertiary Entrance Statements for Year 12 students who were OP-eligible, as well as the Senior Certificates included in all SEPs. SEPs were issued to 778 visa students including 677 Tertiary Entrance Statements for students who were equivalent OP-eligible.

<sup>1</sup> A visa student is a student who is not a citizen or permanent resident of Australia. Visa students are not regarded as OP-eligible. They may qualify for an equivalent-OP.

<sup>2</sup> In table 1, visa students are included in school totals.

Table 1: SEPs Issued

	Gender	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Government <sup>2</sup>	Male	11324	11291	11551	11403	11311
	Female	12430	12123	12471	12250	12119
	All	23754	23414	24022	23653	23430
Non-Government(Catholic) <sup>2</sup>	Male	3862	3863	3894	3937	3933
	Female	3895	3907	3874	3980	3973
	All	7757	7770	7768	7917	7906
Non-Government(Other) <sup>2</sup>	Male	3498	3550	3710	3899	3793
	Female	3720	3707	3830	3916	4120
	All	7218	7257	7540	7815	7913
All schools <sup>2</sup>	Male	18684	18704	19155	19239	19037
	Female	20045	19737	20175	20146	20212
	All	38729	38441	39330	39385	39249
OP-eligible (All schools)	Male	12332	12224	12406	12655	12186
	Female	15507	15079	15343	15318	15049
	All	27839	27303	27749	27973	27235
OP-ineligible (All schools)	Male	6062	6139	6474	6231	6418
	Female	4310	4395	4597	4517	4818
	All	10372	10534	11071	10748	11236
Equivalent OP-eligible (Visa students)	Male	258	287	240	314	364
	Female	196	222	183	259	313
	All	454	509	423	573	677
Equivalent OP-ineligible (Visa students)	Male	32	54	35	39	69
	Female	32	41	52	52	32
	All	64	95	87	91	101

## External Examinations

Senior External Examinations are conducted by the QSA for the purpose of issuing Senior Certificates to people undertaking Year 12 studies other than by full-time schooling. These include 'mature-age' students and those who are geographically isolated.

Nomination statistics for Senior External Examinations include everyone who nominated to sit for them. Some withdrew before the examination or failed to attend. Some Year 12 students, for good and sufficient reasons, may receive permission to nominate and sit for Senior External Examinations. Such students may be assessed in no more than two subjects externally.

Eighteen subjects were offered as 2004 Senior External Examinations: English, Indonesian/Malaysian, Chinese, Ancient History, Modern History, Geography, Economics, Legal Studies, Logic, Mathematics A, Mathematics B, Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Accounting, Visual Art, Drama, Australian Constitution - Spring Extension. A total of 762 candidates nominated to sit examinations in 2004, and 635 actually sat. Some students sat more than one examination. Results for 1100 External Senior Examinations were certificated.

## Certificate of Post-Compulsory School Education (CPCSE)

The Certificate of Post-compulsory School Education (CPCSE) records the learning achievements of students with special needs. In many cases these students were not eligible to receive the Senior Certificate. Students are eligible to receive the CPCSE if they have at least 12 years of schooling and are identified by the school as having an impairment or difficulties in learning that are not primarily due to socioeconomic, cultural and/or linguistic factors. In 2004 all CPCSE students who completed some form of VET had their achievements reported on their Senior Certificate; incomplete VET was reported on their CPCSEs. The CPCSE adds to the suite of certificates the QSA issues, and ensures that the educational achievement of all students can be recorded.

In 2004, 485 students from 136 schools received the CPCSE<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>3</sup> From 2008, the title of the CPCSE will change to Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement (QCIA). The first QCIAs will be available to young people in 2008.

Table 2: External Examinations

	Gender	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Nominations	Female	463	447	511	400	374
	Male	357	395	428	297	319
	All	820	842	939	697	693
Certificated	Female	700	572	703	620	565
	Male	561	563	645	516	480
	All	1261	1135	1348	1136	1045
Certificates with external result(s)	Female	383	353	435	346	318
	Male	289	316	346	253	262
	All	672	669	781	599	580

Table 3: CPCSEs issued

Gender	2002	2003	2004
Male	92	130	284
Female	83	105	201
All	175	235	485

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