

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 2006, the QSA issued 39 579 SEPs (excluding visa students¹); 26 233 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 738 visa students including 616 Tertiary Entrance Statements for students who were equivalent OP-eligible.

¹ 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.

² In table 1, visa students are included in school totals.

Table 1: SEPs Issued

	Gender	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Government ²	Male	11551	11403	11311	11022	11205
	Female	12471	12250	12119	12309	12642
	All	24022	23653	23430	23331	23847
Non-Government(Catholic) ²	Male	3894	3937	3933	4008	3846
	Female	3874	3980	3973	4143	4216
	All	7768	7917	7906	8151	8062
Non-Government(Other) ²	Male	3710	3899	3793	4014	4146
	Female	3830	3916	4120	4216	4262
	All	7540	7815	7913	8230	8408
All schools ²	Male	19155	19239	19037	19044	19197
	Female	20175	20146	20212	20668	21120
	All	39330	39385	39249	39712	40317
OP-eligible (All schools)	Male	12406	12655	12186	11976	11375
	Female	15343	15318	15049	15051	14858
	All	27749	27973	27235	27027	26233
OP-ineligible (All schools)	Male	6474	6231	6418	6645	7448
	Female	4597	4517	4818	5281	5898
	All	11071	10748	11236	11926	13346
Equivalent OP-eligible (Visa students)	Male	240	314	364	335	304
	Female	183	259	313	283	312
	All	423	573	677	618	616
Equivalent OP-ineligible (Visa students)	Male	35	39	69	88	70
	Female	52	52	32	53	52
	All	87	91	101	141	122

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.

Fifteen subjects were offered as 2006 Senior External Examinations: English, Chinese, Ancient History, Modern History, Geography, Legal Studies, Philosophy & Reason, Mathematics A, Mathematics B, Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Accounting, Visual Art, Drama. A total of 520 candidates nominated to sit examinations in 2006, and 463 actually sat. Some students sat more than one examination. Results for 792 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 2006 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 2006, 576 students from 167 schools received the CPCSE³.

³ 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	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Nominations	Female	511	400	374	327	277
	Male	428	297	319	290	243
	All	939	697	693	617	520
Certificated	Female	703	620	565	458	398
	Male	645	516	480	393	394
	All	1348	1136	1045	851	792
Certificates with external result(s)	Female	435	346	318	281	247
	Male	346	253	262	236	216
	All	781	599	580	517	463

Table 3: CPCSEs issued

Gender	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Male	92	130	284	342	346
Female	83	105	201	256	245
All	175	235	485	598	591

Contact Us

For further information about this document contact:

Analysis and Evaluation Unit
Queensland Studies Authority
Phone: (07) 3864 0256
Email: analysis_evaluation@qsa.qld.edu.au