

## 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 2002, the QSA issued 38 820 SEPs (excluding visa students<sup>1</sup>); 27 749 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 510 visa students including 423 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	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Government <sup>2</sup>	Male	10326	10681	11324	11291	11551
	Female	11559	11981	12430	12123	12471
	All	21885	22662	23754	23414	24022
Non-Government(Catholic) <sup>2</sup>	Male	3495	3669	3862	3863	3894
	Female	3459	3766	3895	3907	3874
	All	6954	7435	7757	7770	7768
Non-Government(Other) <sup>2</sup>	Male	3156	3400	3498	3550	3710
	Female	3399	3535	3720	3707	3830
	All	6555	6935	7218	7257	7540
All schools <sup>2</sup>	Male	16977	17750	18684	18704	19155
	Female	18417	19282	20045	19737	20175
	All	35394	37032	38729	38441	39330
OP-eligible (All schools)	Male	11719	12061	12332	12224	12406
	Female	14495	15176	15507	15079	15343
	All	26214	27237	27839	27303	27749
OP-ineligible (All schools)	Male	4946	5348	6062	6139	6474
	Female	3648	3828	4310	4395	4597
	All	8594	9176	10372	10534	11071
Equivalent OP-eligible (Visa students)	Male	276	282	258	287	240
	Female	246	231	196	222	183
	All	522	513	454	509	423
Equivalent OP-ineligible (Visa students)	Male	36	59	32	54	35
	Female	28	47	32	41	52
	All	64	106	64	95	87

## 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.

Twenty subjects were offered as 2002 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, Music, Drama, Australian Constitution - Spring Extension, Australian Constitution - Spring Standard. A total of 1257 candidates nominated to sit examinations in 2002, and 974 actually sat. Some students sat more than one examination. Results for 1541 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 2002 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 2002, 174 students from 63 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	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
<b>Nominations</b>						
	Female	595	585	463	447	511
	Male	521	483	357	395	428
	All	1116	1068	820	842	939
<b>Certificated</b>						
	Female	907	884	700	572	703
	Male	856	739	561	563	645
	All	1763	1623	1261	1135	1348
<b>Certificates with external result(s)</b>						
	Female	486	479	383	353	435
	Male	421	385	289	316	346
	All	907	864	672	669	781

Table 3: CPCSEs issued

Gender	2002
Male	92
Female	83
All	175

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