

# Memo

Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority

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27 March 2017

Senior Secondary

Number: 019/17

## 2017 Queensland Core Skills (QCS) Test: Number of Year 12 students sitting the test

### Purpose

To ask chief supervisors to inform the QCAA of the number of Year 12 students intending to sit the QCS Test in 2017.

### Background

The QCAA conducts the QCS Test in Queensland secondary schools each year. Every student has a right to sit the QCS Test in the year they exit Year 12. All students who are eligible for an Overall Position (OP) **must** sit the test unless they have been granted exemption. Students who are OP-ineligible **may choose** to sit the test.

The quantity of test materials sent to each test centre is based on the total number of Year 12 students (OP-eligible and OP-ineligible) sitting the test, as indicated by the chief supervisor. Therefore, the QCAA seeks a realistic estimate of the number of students sitting the test.

### Information

A student's individual QCS Test result does not determine their OP. Subject Achievement Indicators (SAIs) are used to calculate a student's OP. This means that a student achieves their best OP by doing as well as they can in each of their subjects. QCS Test data from OP-eligible students is used for scaling purposes only.

OP-ineligible students may choose to sit the test. While being OP-ineligible does not exclude the possibility of a student going to university, it does limit the courses they can apply for in Queensland and interstate. However, a student who achieves a grade of C or higher in the QCS Test will meet the minimum literacy and numeracy requirements to be eligible for a Queensland Certificate of Education.

### What you need to do

1. Discuss the requirement to sit the QCS Test with OP-eligible Year 12 students and the advantages of sitting the test with OP-ineligible Year 12 students.
2. Update the QCS Test Administration database with the total number of students sitting the test by **Friday 14 April 2017**: [www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/qcs-test/administration/database](http://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/qcs-test/administration/database).
3. Inform the QCAA if any students from your school will be sitting the test at a different test centre by **Friday 19 May**. Complete the *Students sitting at an alternative test centre* form: [www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/qcs-test/administration](http://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/qcs-test/administration).

## More information

Please email [qcs.admin@qcaa.qld.edu.au](mailto:qcs.admin@qcaa.qld.edu.au) or phone (07) 3864 0227.

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