

# Memo

Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority

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16 April 2018

Senior secondary

Number: 025/18

## Online course for Accreditation (Course 6 — External assessment writing) released

### Purpose

To notify senior secondary principals, school leaders and teachers that the role-specific Course 6 for external assessment writers, which is part of the second stage of the Accreditation program, is now available on the QCAA Portal.

### Background

The QCAA's Accreditation program of professional learning is being delivered progressively throughout Semester 1, 2018. It includes two stages:

- Stage One courses are designed to support and strengthen quality assurance processes for summative internal and external assessment in the senior phase of learning.
- Stage Two, currently in development, focuses on the knowledge teachers need to become a QCAA Assessor in the new QCE system.

### Information

The Stage Two online courses are role-specific and explore and explain the quality assurance processes:

- Endorsement
- Confirmation
- External assessment writing
- External assessment marking.

**Course 6: External assessment writing** is the first of the Stage Two courses to be finalised. It focuses on the processes for writing items, instruments and marking guides for summative external assessments for General senior syllabuses.

Teachers interested in becoming QCAA Assessors for external assessment writing in the new QCE system will need to complete the prerequisite Courses 1 and 2 and their assessment modules before completing Course 6 and its assessment.

Course 6 is available through the QCAA Portal ([www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/portal](http://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/portal)).

Teachers who do not yet have QCAA Portal access will need to register for an account by following the instructions on the QCAA Portal landing page.

## Next steps

### Principals and senior leaders

- Ensure that all relevant staff members are aware of, and have access to, the Stage Two Accreditation Course 6 — external assessment writing.

### Teachers

- Complete the Stage Two Accreditation courses as part of your 2018 professional learning. These courses are eligible for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) credit under the Queensland College of Teachers CPD Framework. (QCAA will provide teachers with evidence of participation.)
- Consider becoming a QCAA Assessor and successfully complete the relevant assessment.

## Finding out more

For more information about the Accreditation Courses and becoming a QCAA Assessor visit [www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/new-snr-assessment-te/qcaa-assessors](http://www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/new-snr-assessment-te/qcaa-assessors).

Alternatively, please email Terry McPherson at [assessoraccreditation@qcaa.qld.edu.au](mailto:assessoraccreditation@qcaa.qld.edu.au), or phone (07) 3864 0272.

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