



South Australian
Certificate of Education

Welcome to the SACE



Government
of South Australia

Welcome

The South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) is an internationally recognised qualification for life.

The SACE is designed to help you to develop capabilities and provide you with skills and knowledge to live, work, and participate successfully in an ever changing society.

It will offer you flexibility to choose your subjects and complete the qualification in a timeframe that suits you and your lifestyle.

You will become a successful learner, a confident and creative individual who is an active and informed citizen ready to succeed in further education, training, or the workforce.

Exploring your capabilities

Develop 7 capabilities that will equip you to live and work successfully in the 21st century.



LITERACY

We develop skills to understand and interpret a variety of texts and people in a range of different situations and countries.



NUMERACY

We gain knowledge to use Mathematics to effectively interpret information and solve problems.



INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

We learn how to use current and emerging technologies and understand their impact on society and the workplace.



CRITICAL AND CREATIVE THINKING

We use critical and creative thinking skills to identify and analyse complex topics and questions.



PERSONAL AND SOCIAL

We are confident, self-disciplined and independent. We can work in a team and are resilient to deal with challenging situations.



ETHICAL UNDERSTANDING

We develop a deep understanding of ethical issues and how to manage them.



INTERCULTURAL UNDERSTANDING

We appreciate and respect other people's social and cultural backgrounds and learn about the diversity of our nation and the world.





= 200 credits

Your SACE journey

The SACE is flexible and students' schedules may differ depending on their school. To complete the qualification, you will need to attain **200 credits** from a selection of Stage 1 and Stage 2 subjects. A 10-credit subject is usually one semester of study, and a 20-credit subject is usually over two semesters.

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS

50 credits

- Exploring Identities and Futures (EIF) (10 credits)
- Literacy requirement (20 credits) demonstrated from a range of English subjects at Stage 1 or Stage 2
- Numeracy requirement (10 credits) demonstrated from a range of Mathematics subjects at Stage 1 or Stage 2
- The Research Project (10 credits) (Activating Identities and Futures from 2025)



STUDENT SELECTED SUBJECTS

90 credits

Choose and successfully complete a selection of Stage 1 and Stage 2 subjects, recognised VET courses, or community learning.



60 credits

Choose and successfully complete a selection of Stage 2 or VET subjects worth at least 60 credits in total.

Stage 2 subjects are externally assessed by the SACE Board of South Australia.

The SACE is flexible and schedules may differ depending on your school. The majority of students in South Australia will start their journey with **Exploring Identities and Futures in Year 10**, their chosen **Stage 1 subjects in Year 11** (including the compulsory Maths and English choices), and their chosen **Stage 2 subjects in Year 12** plus the Research Project (Activating Identities and Futures from 2025). To view all subjects offered by SACE visit sace.sa.edu.au

EXAMPLE OF ACHIEVING A MINIMUM OF 200 CREDITS

50 credits - compulsory

Exploring Identities and Futures (10 credits)

Stage 1 General Mathematics (10 credits – one semester)

Stage 1 Essential English (20 credits)

Stage 2 Research Project (10 credits) (Activating Identities and Futures from 2025)

Min. 90 credits

Stage 1 Biology (20 credits)

Stage 1 Italian continuers (20 credits)

Stage 1 Food and Hospitality (20 credits)

Stage 2 Food and Hospitality (20 credits)

Stage 1 VET: Certificate II in Food Processing (min. 40credits)

Min. 60 credits

Stage 2 Biology (20 credits)

Stage 2 Italian continuers (20 credits)

Stage 2 Essential English (20 credits)

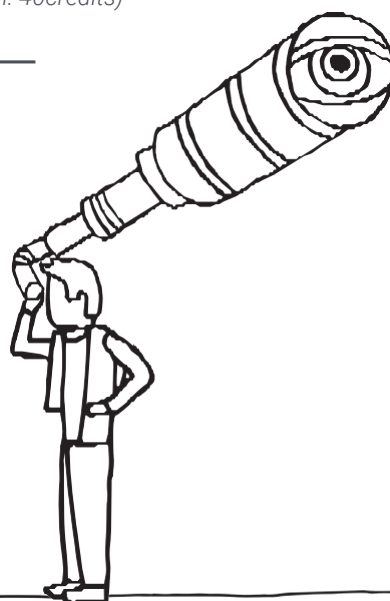


To view all subjects offered in the SACE visit sace.sa.edu.au

How it has changed

The SACE has evolved to provide you with **more flexibility** to choose subjects that reflect their interests, skills, and career goals, using a combination of SACE subjects, vocational education and training (VET), community learning, university, and TAFE studies.

SACE subjects are made up of investigations, performances, and other assessment tasks to demonstrate students' skills, knowledge, and personal capabilities throughout the year. Some subjects will have an end-of-year exam **worth a maximum of 30%** of the overall grade.



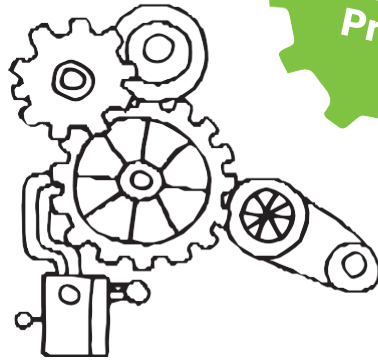
What is Exploring Identities and Futures (EIF)?

Your SACE journey starts with Exploring Identities and Futures (EIF).

- a 10-credit Stage 1 subject
- provides the opportunity to explore areas of personal value and interest
- you'll have more say over what and how you learn
- prepares you for a different way of thinking and learning in senior school
- encourages connections with other people at school or in your community
- build skills and capabilities that you will need to be successful after school

You will need to achieve at least a C grade.

What is the Research Project?

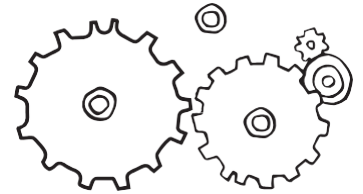


The Research Project is a compulsory Stage 2 subject usually completed in Year 12, however, some schools offer the subject to students in Year 11. It is a one semester (10 credit) subject.

The Research Project is an important opportunity to develop skills relevant to your future beyond school.

You will research a topic question in-depth that really interests you exploring that interest area using creativity and initiative, and develop the research, presentation and project management skills to help you to be successful at university, further study, work and life.

Students will develop the ability to analyse information, make judgments, and evaluate.



What kind of research questions do students investigate?

- 'How the media influences the Australian asylum seeker debate?'
- 'To what extent does the architectural redevelopment of the laneways in Adelaide contribute to making a more vibrant city?'
- 'What is the best method for upholstering a chair?'
- 'What is the future of the southern hairy-nosed wombat?'

Selecting a topic

- something you're interested in, but haven't had the chance to investigate
- interests outside school
- future plans and ambitions.

Students will need to **achieve at least a C- grade** in the Research Project to complete the SACE.

NOTE: Research Project will be replaced with Activating Identities and Futures in 2025.



What kind of learner are you?

The SACE is flexible and caters for learning both in and outside school.

Students can combine study and part-time work, a traineeship or school-based apprenticeship.

Students can receive credits for a wide range of activities and training:

- SACE subjects
- Vocational education and training (VET)
- Community learning
- University and TAFE studies

VET options are available at both Stage 1 and Stage 2 and include a wide range of industry areas, including construction, automotive, electro technology, hospitality, community services, health and information technology.

You can find a range of Stage 1 and 2 subjects, vocational education and training (VET) courses, plus other study options on the SACE website.

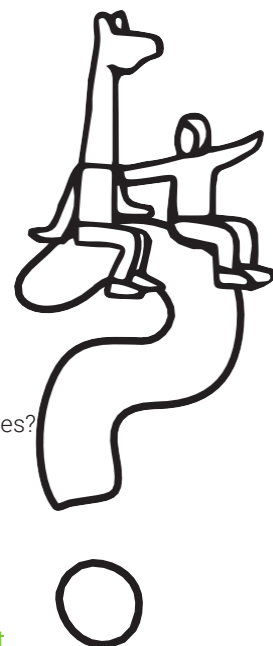


Use our SACE planner (page 8) to help with subject selection.

When choosing Stage 2 subjects, keep in mind any subjects that are required for university courses.

Choosing subjects

- What am I interested in?
- What am I good at?
- What sort of job, or types of work, will help me follow my interests?
- What subjects do I need to study to follow my chosen career pathway?
- What do I hope to gain from my studies?
- What have I learned during Exploring Identities and Futures (EIF)?



Try to choose subjects that will open doors to a range of careers within your area of interest.

This will give you greater flexibility if you want to change or modify your choice in the future.

You can find out more about credits, choosing subjects, and see the full list of Stage 1 and Stage 2 subjects on the SACE website.

Making sure it's fair

Student work in the SACE is assessed through the use of performance standards.

SACE subjects are assessed by your school at Stage 1. The responsibility for assessment at Stage 2 is shared between schools and the SACE Board, through moderation and marking processes.

Teachers and assessors use the performance standards to decide how well a student has demonstrated their learning.

The performance standards, which are provided in each subject outline, describe the level of achievement required to obtain a grade:

- from A to E for Stage 1
- from A+ to E- for Stage 2.

During your SACE journey

Special provisions are reasonable adjustments in assessment that positively enable eligible students to demonstrate the required knowledge, skills, and standards of Stage 1 and Stage 2 subjects.

The SACE Board and schools work in partnership to ensure special provisions are available to eligible students for both Stage 1 and Stage 2 school assessment and Stage 2 external assessment.

Special provisions may be granted on a short-term or long-term basis, depending on the grounds for eligibility and a student's particular circumstances.

Modified Subjects

The SACE Board offers Modified Subjects at both Stage 1 and 2 for eligible students with identified significant disabilities.

A student studying Modified Subjects will gain credits towards the SACE but is not graded for the subject. Instead, successful achievement will be recorded as 'Completed'.

Modified Subjects will be listed on your certificate.

The last step

At the end of Stage 2, you will receive your final results for all SACE subjects completed. These grades are available in Students Online, which is accessible from the SACE website.

On the same day, the South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre (SATAC) will provide eligible students with an Australian Tertiary Entrance Rank (ATAR) which can be used to apply for university.

After your SACE journey

Achieving the SACE is important if you want to study at TAFE or university, but there are also other pathways after secondary school. The SACE also sets the foundation to move from high school to employment.

University pathways

Successful completion of the SACE is the most common way for students to gain entry to local and international universities.

To be eligible to apply for university, South Australian students must have:

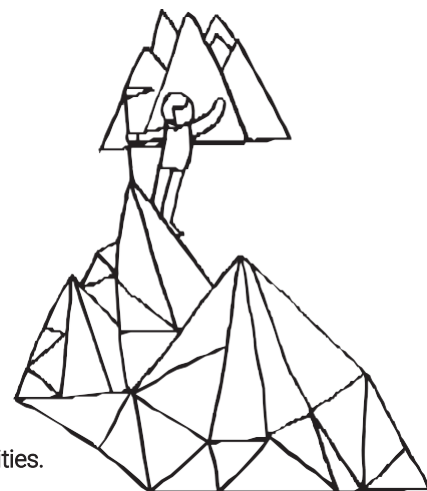
- completed the SACE with at least 90 credits at Stage 2
- gained a university aggregate and an ATAR (issued by SATAC)
- met any prerequisite subject requirements for their chosen university course
- complied with rules regarding subject combinations and counting restrictions

Application for entry to university courses is made through the South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre (SATAC). More information is available in the SATAC booklet and at satac.edu.au

TAFE pathways

TAFE SA offers courses to prepare you for employment in professional, para-professional, technical, and trade careers.

Details of these requirements and a list of all the courses offered by TAFE can be found at tafesa.edu.au





What is an ATAR?

An Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) is issued by SATAC and used by universities to select students for courses.

It ranks a student's overall achievement compared with all students and ranges from 0 to 99.95

The rank is calculated from your 90-credit, Stage 2 results.

For more information about the ATAR (including scaling of scores), go to satac.edu.au

Employment and training

VET courses can count towards your SACE at both Stage 1 and Stage 2. This means you can be working towards, or may even have gained, a VET qualification by the time you finish the SACE – giving you a head start on your career and employment.

After completing your SACE you can continue with your chosen pathway or start a new one, choosing from a wide range of industry areas, including construction, automotive, electro technology, hospitality, community services, health and information technology.



Need more information?

Your school

Your school's SACE coordinator, teachers, and other school leaders are here to help and can:

- offer advice and information on the subjects being offered
- help you select subjects that suit your interests and plans
- advise you about the best subjects to take to prepare you for tertiary education or employment
- advise you on vocational education and training (VET) options available, through school or a registered training organisation (RTO).

The SACE Board

If you are looking for further support through your SACE journey, more information can be found under 'Studying the SACE' at sace.sa.edu.au

Alternatively contact askSACE:

askSACE@sa.gov.au

T 1300 322 920



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The SACE planner

Exploring Identities and Futures = 10 credits

Credits

10

Literacy = 20 credits *Choose from a range of English subjects or courses*

Subtotal 10

Numeracy = 10 credits *Choose from a range of mathematics subjects or courses*

Subtotal 30

Stage 2 subjects or courses = 60 credits

Choose from a range of Stage 2 subjects and courses

Research Project = 10 credits

(Activating Identities and Futures from 2025)

10

Subtotal 70

Additional choices = 90 credits

Choose from a range of Stage 1 and Stage 2 subjects and courses

Subtotal 90

To gain the SACE, you must earn 200 credits



Compulsory Stage 1

Students must achieve a C grade or higher for Stage 1 requirements and a C- or higher for Stage 2 requirements to complete the SACE.



Compulsory Stage 1 and Stage 2



Compulsory Stage 2



Choice of subjects and/or courses (Stage 1 and/or 2)

Students must achieve a grade or equivalent for subjects and/or courses selected.

Total 200