WACE requirements Year 12 - 2015

These are the minimum requirements for students to receive a Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE – also referred to as graduation).

**Breadth and depth requirement**

Complete a minimum of 20 course units or the equivalent.

The 20 course units must include at least:

- four course units from English, Literature and/or English as an Additional Language/Dialect, studied during Year 11 and Year 12 (at least two of these units must be completed in Year 12)
- one pair of course units from each of List A (arts/languages/social sciences) and List B (mathematics/science/technology) completed in Year 12.

**Achievement standard requirement**

Achieve a C grade average or better across the best 16 course units of which at least eight must be completed in Year 12.

Endorsed programs and/or VET credit transfer can reduce the required number of course units by up to six units.

**English language competence requirement**

Achieve a C grade or better in any Stage 1 or higher course unit from English, Literature and/or English as an Additional Language or Dialect.

For students who have not achieved a C grade in one of their English, Literature and/or English as an Additional Language or Dialect course units, schools will need to compare a selection of the student’s work with the work samples provided by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority to verify the student has demonstrated the required standard.

**Explanatory notes relating to WACE requirements**

Up to 10 unit equivalents may comprise endorsed programs and/or VET credit transfer. Unit equivalence for endorsed programs is determined by an endorsed programs panel in relation to one unit of a WACE course.

(i) There is no limit to the number of unit equivalents that can be accumulated for VET credit transfer but a maximum of 10 can be counted towards meeting WACE requirements.

Students can repeat course units. However, those course units that have the same unit code, e.g. 3AMAT, and are repeated, do not contribute to the WACE requirements more than once.
Year 12 students enrolled in a pair of Stage 3 course units must sit the WACE examination in that course, unless exempt. Students enrolled in Stage 2 course units may elect not to sit the external examinations – the associated form must be completed. If they do not sit, or do not make a genuine attempt in this WACE examination, the grades for the pair of units completed in that year will not contribute to the calculation of the C grade average requirement, but they will still count in the breadth and depth requirement.

Year 12 students who are enrolled to complete, in the current year, at least 220 nominal hours of VET (from related industry areas) and are enrolled in three or fewer Stage 2 and/or Stage 3 pairs of units are eligible to apply for an exemption from sitting the WACE examinations. Completion of an Endorsed program and/or VET credit transfer can reduce the required number of course units as shown in the table below.

**Reduction of course units and courses for calculation of the C grade average if unit equivalents from endorsed programs and/or VET credit transfer are included.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total number of unit equivalents completed over Years 10 – 12</th>
<th>Total number of course units over which the C Grade average is calculated</th>
<th>Total number of course units that must be completed in Year 12 and used in the C grade average calculation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 2</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 or 3</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 or 5</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 to 9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 or more</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If 50 per cent (five or more unit equivalents) of a student's final year of senior secondary program comprises VET and/or endorsed programs, then the breadth-of-study requirement for both a List A pair of units and a List B pair of units is waived.