

MyNZQA Learner portal

The MyNZQA Learner portal shows all your secondary school results, awards, qualifications, and endorsements.

In the MyNZQA Learner portal you can also:

- view your entries, results and scanned external assessment booklets and digital exam responses
- upload digital submissions for marking
- apply for reviews or reconsiderations
- request a Record of Achievement and NCEA certificates.

Information on how to create a MyNZQA Learner account is available at www2.nzqa.govt.nz/login/create-account/ on the NZQA website. You also use these login details to access digital external assessments.

Results released to universities

In January 2027, NZQA will send all your Level 2, Level 3, and University Entrance results to all New Zealand universities to help process pre-enrolments. If you do not want your results to be shared with universities, you **must** let your school/kura know.

Studying overseas

If you're planning to study overseas, contact the institution(s) where you intend to study as early as possible. Make sure you understand their enrolment requirements, procedures, and deadlines. Australian universities can access your results directly from NZQA systems, unless you have specifically requested that your results are not made available.

Completing a digital external assessment

NZQA offers digital external assessments in selected NCEA and New Zealand Scholarship subjects. Please refer to the www2.nzqa.govt.nz/timetable for the full list of subjects being offered on the NZQA website. Your school/kura will let you know which external assessments they are offering digitally and help you prepare.

In 2026, if a Level 1 NCEA exam is offered digitally, you'll need to do it on a computer. You can only use a paper version if you have an approved exception. Talk to your school/kura about this.

In addition to your usual preparation for external assessments, it is important to become familiar with the digital assessment platform. Practice activities and steps for preparing your device are available on the NZQA website under www2.nzqa.govt.nz/digital-assessment.

**Find out more at www2.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/about-ncea/
or talk with your school/kura.**



Learner Information Sheet

Entering NCEA and NZ Scholarship

A guide for students/ākonga, caregivers and whānau 2026



Tēnā koutou katoa

The **National Certificate of Educational Achievement** (NCEA) is the main national qualification for secondary school/kura students/ākonga in New Zealand. It is made up of internally and externally assessed standards listed on the www2.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/about-ncea/about-standards/. Assessment for externally assessed standards includes exams and portfolios of work.

NCEA is recognised by employers and used by universities both in New Zealand and overseas. New Zealand Scholarship is an award for top secondary school/kura students/ākonga. Students/ākonga who achieve NZ Scholarship and meet the requirements receive a monetary award. These requirements can be found in Schedule 1 of the Assessment Rules section of our website www2.nzqa.govt.nz/assessment-rules. Students/ākonga who receive multiple NZ Scholarships may also be recognised through NZQA's Top Scholar Award ceremony.

How do I enter for NCEA or NZ Scholarship?

When your school/kura first sends your entries to NZQA in Term 1, you are automatically entered for NCEA. If you are interested in entering for NZ Scholarship, your school/kura can help you enrol in this as well.

Results of every standard you achieve will be recorded on your New Zealand Record of Achievement.

NCEA Literacy and Numeracy

Literacy and Numeracy are important skills that we use every day. Literacy or Te Reo Matatini is the ability to read, write and speak. Numeracy or Pāngarau is the ability to use mathematics in daily life. To gain an NCEA qualification at any level, learners need to achieve a 20-credit co-requisite using

- the new Literacy and Numeracy standards
- Te Reo Matatini and Pāngarau standards.

Some approved literacy and numeracy-rich standards can also be used to achieve the co-requisite.

For more information about Literacy and Numeracy, please visit www2.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/subjects/litnum/.

Different types of assessment

Assessment for NCEA can be 'internal' or 'external'. Internal assessments are set and marked by your teachers. External assessments are set and marked by NZQA, and these include exams or work you submit, like art portfolios, performances, or written tasks.

If you are studying Te Marautanga o Aotearoa wāhanga ako, Te Reo Matatini me te Pāngarau, Te Ao Haka or Te Reo Māori, you may sit short exam-like assessments called Tūmahi Aromatawai Pātahi (TAPā) and submit collections of your work called Kete Manarua. For more information, please visit www2.nzqa.govt.nz/tapa-kete-manarua.

NCEA Levels and Certificates

NCEA Level Requirements

Level 1	60 credits are required at any level (Level 1, 2 or 3) Plus 10 Literacy or Te Reo Matatini credits and 10 Numeracy or Te Pāngarau credits (Co-requisite). For information about which standards apply go to: www2.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/subjects/litnum/standards/ .
Level 2	60 credits at Level 2 or above Plus Co-requisite requirements
Level 3	60 credits at Level 3 or above Plus Co-requisite requirements

You only need to meet the Literacy or Te Reo Matatini and Numeracy or Te Pāngarau co-requisite requirements once. You do not need to meet them again for other levels of NCEA.

If you have questions about Literacy or Te Reo Matatini and Numeracy or Te Pāngarau, talk to your school/kura.

Examinations Timetable

The 2026 Exam Timetable is available on the NZQA website www2.nzqa.govt.nz/timetable. Check with your teacher/kaiako if you have two or more of your subjects have exams at the same time. They will work with NZQA to manage these.

Authenticity and Assessment Rules

You must complete all work honestly and only hand in your own work that you have done yourself. You are not allowed to use chatbots, generative AI, paraphrasing tools, or other tools that can automatically rewrite or create answers for you. The use of these tools during an external assessment is considered breaking the rules or a "breach of assessment rules". For more information on breaches, please visit www2.nzqa.govt.nz/breaches.

Special Assessment Conditions (SAC)

If you have sensory, physical, medical, or learning difficulties, you may be able to get help to access assessments. This help is called Special Assessment Conditions. Your school/kura needs to apply to NZQA on your behalf to access this help and will explain what this means for you. There is no cost to you for this.

For more information, please visit www2.nzqa.govt.nz/sac.

How do I gain entrance to a New Zealand university?

University Entrance (UE) is the minimum requirement for getting into a New Zealand university from school. Many universities and other tertiary providers have further programme-specific entry requirements. You'll need to talk to them to find out the exact requirements for individual programmes of study, including limited entry programmes.

To gain UE you will need:

- NCEA Level 3
- 14 credits at Level 3 in each of three UE approved subjects
- Literacy - 10 credits at Level 2 or above, made up of:
 - 5 credits in reading standards
 - 5 credits in writing standards
- Numeracy - 10 credits at Level 1 or above, made up of:
 - co-requisite Numeracy unit standard (US 32406) or Te Pāngarau (US 32412); or
 - achievement in certain standards.

For more information about University Entrance, please visit: www2.nzqa.govt.nz/university-entrance.

Fees for International Students/ākonga

Entry for assessment for NCEA and NZ Scholarship is free of charge for Domestic students/ākonga.

International Fee-Paying students/ākonga engaging in any assessments must pay:

- *NCEA entry* *\$383.30 per year*
- *Each NZ Scholarship subject* *\$102.20 per subject.*

You pay international student fees to your school or kura. They will be able to tell you when and how much to pay. Your school or kura will pay fees to NZQA by 30 October 2026.