
NCEA QUALIFICATIONS

WHAT IS NCEA?

The National Certificate of Educational Achievement [NCEA] is awarded at three levels [One, Two, and Three]. To gain the certificate you must achieve the required number of credits at each level. Generally Year 11 students are working towards Level 1, Year 12 students are working towards Level 2, and Year 13 students are working towards Level 3. One of the benefits of NCEA is that a student does not have to follow this pattern, and can study at a range of levels across and within subjects.

HOW ARE NCEA RESULTS RECOGNISED OVERSEAS?

New Zealand's education system is world-leading as recognised by the OECD [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development]. A number of international agreements ensure NCEA results are understood and accepted overseas. NZQA is part of the National Academic Recognition Information Centres [NARIC] network. NCEA results are used to calculate the International Tertiary Admission Ranking System [ITARS]. This ensures a unified approach when New Zealand school leavers apply for entry to foreign universities.

CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

NCEA Level 1: 80 credits total at Level 1 or above, including 10 Literacy credits and 10 Numeracy credits.

NCEA Level 2: 80 credits total including 60 credits at Level 2 or above plus 20 credits at any level, including Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy.

NCEA Level 3: 80 credits total. Including 60 credits at Level 3 plus 20 credits at Level 2 or 3, including Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy.

REQUIREMENTS FOR UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE

Students must meet all of the following five criteria:

- ▶ Need to have attained NCEA Level 3 qualification (60 credits or more at Level 3).
- ▶ At least 14 credits in each of 3 approved subjects.
- ▶ Numeracy - 10 Numeracy credits at Level 1 or higher.
- ▶ Literacy - 5 credits in Level 2 reading and - 5 credits in Level 2 writing.

These Literacy and Numeracy credits can come from a range of subjects.

NZ SCHOLARSHIP

NZ Scholarship examinations are for more academically able senior students. They are assessed by NZQA examinations at the end of the year. There are considerable financial awards for those students who do well. Scholarship examinations are challenging and those students who are interested should discuss this with their teachers.

OTHER IMPORTANT LINKS

<http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/>

<https://www.careers.govt.nz/courses/still-at-school/how-to-understand-ncea/>