



Glossary of Terms

Term	Description
Assessments	School assessments provide marks that describe a student's achievement in the given course relative to those of the other students in the school.
Board Developed Course	Board Developed courses are the large number of courses set and examined externally at the HSC examination and contribute to the calculation of the ATAR.
Board Endorsed Courses	Developed by schools, TAFE and Universities. They count towards the HSC but do not have a HSC examination and do not contribute to the calculation of the ATAR.
Competency	An Industry recognised skill.
Competency Based	Tasks which provide evidence that a student has achieved industry Assessment recognised skills in a course.
Content Endorsed courses	Designed by NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA). They appear on the HSC, are not HSC examinable and do not contribute to the ATAR.
EVET	Externally Delivered VET courses for secondary students by Registered Training Organisations.
Extension Courses	Additional Study of a subject at a higher level. Each extension is of 1 unit value.
Higher School Certificate	The Higher School Certificate (HSC) is an exit certificate that marks the (HSC) completion of 13 years of schooling. It is awarded and released by NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA).
HSC Minimum Standard	Students in NSW need a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy to receive the HSC. The minimum standard will ensure students have the basic reading, writing and maths skills needed for everyday tasks and future learning.
NESA	The NSW Education Standards Authority, under the Education Reform Act 1990 (NSW) awards certificates to students who comply with the Act and the Board's rules.
ROSA	Record of Student Achievement is an exit certificate that is awarded to students who leave school after year 10 and before they complete the HSC.

Syllabus	Schools and teachers use syllabuses to develop educational programs for students. A syllabus is available for each course developed by NESA. NESA syllabuses describe the knowledge, understanding, skills, values and attitudes that students are expected to develop at each stage of learning.
TVET	VET courses delivered to secondary students both off site and on site by TAFE
Unit	Each course is divided into units of study. Most courses are of 2 unit value, but it is possible to take more than 2 units in some subjects. There are some 1 unit courses.
University Admission	The Australian Tertiary Admission Rank is a rank calculated by the universities. It is a number between 0 and 99.95 which indicates a student's academic ranking based on their HSC performance in the state. The ATAR is used to assist universities to select students.
VET Courses	Vocation Education and Training courses are dual accredited. They are recognised by industry and NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) for the HSC and are based on national industry competency standards.
Year 11 & HSC courses	Courses are divided into Year 11 courses and HSC courses. Students must satisfactorily complete the Year 11 course as a prerequisite to undertaking the HSC course. Student must satisfactorily complete both courses to be eligible for the NSW HSC.