



VET INDUSTRY SPECIFIC AND WACE COURSE COMPARISON

Last updated Jan 2016

	General WACE courses	VET industry specific WACE courses
Features		
Status	Authority-developed course	Authority-developed (packaged) course
Overview	General courses are for students who are typically aiming to enter further training or the workforce straight from school. These courses are not externally examined. However, they each have an externally set task (EST) which is set by the Authority.	VET industry specific courses are for students aiming to enter further training or the workforce straight from school. These courses include a full AQF qualification, mandatory workplace learning and contribute to the Certificate II requirement for a WACE.
Rationale	The rationale in each course makes explicit the purpose for learning.	The courses are based on nationally endorsed training packages and provide students with the opportunity to achieve nationally recognised Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) qualifications in a relevant industry context AND gain Authority course unit credit towards the WACE.
Course Offerings	A full listing of course offerings is available in the appendix section of the WACE manual.	There are 10 courses available which include training package qualifications at AQF level I, II and III. A full list of VET industry specific courses is available in the appendix section of the WACE manual
Course Outcomes	Statements of the knowledge, skills and attributes students should acquire as a result of what they are taught and what they learn in a course.	Learning outcomes for each AQF qualification are specified in the packaging rules within the relevant training package. VET industry specific courses provide opportunities for the completion of Certificate I through to Certificate III. Course requirements stipulate mandatory workplace learning which provides students with the opportunity to gain skills relevant to their industry qualification.
Course Structure	The course is organised into a Year 11 syllabus and a Year 12 syllabus. The cognitive complexity of the syllabus content increases from Year 11 to Year 12. The Year 11 syllabus is divided into two units each of one semester duration which is typically delivered as a pair. The Year 12 syllabus is divided into two units which are delivered as a pair. One course unit is typically 55 contact hours.	VET industry specific course units are packaged as either two or four WACE course units that are linked to a specified qualification. VET industry specific course units are paired in both Year 11 (Units 1 and 2) and Year 12 (Units 3 and 4). VET industry specific courses can be delivered over Years 11 and 12.
Organisation of content	Course content is organised into specific content areas that are expanded on within each course unit including specific recommendations for its undertaking. General capabilities such as literacy and numeracy are identified within the specified unit content.	A VET industry specific course includes a full, nationally recognised AQF qualification and mandatory industry related workplace learning. The courses are updated regularly as new versions of national training packages are endorsed and published on the official national register, Training.gov.au. Specific qualifications are outlined within each VET industry specific course syllabus along with the completion requirements. .
Course completion requirements	A unit is completed when all assessment requirements for that unit have been met. Only completed units will be recorded on the statement of student achievement. The school assessments from Year 12 General and Foundation courses include externally set tasks provided by the Authority and administered by the school.	Only upon completion of all components of the course will the full allocation of course unit credit be awarded and recorded on the Western Australian Statement of Student Achievement. Students may however be awarded course credit for the Year 11 (Units 1 and 2) component of a for a partially completed VET industry specific course at the Certificate II or III level if at least 110 nominal hours of the qualification has been completed and at least one workplace learning endorsed program unit in an industry relevant to the qualification.
Grade	Grade descriptors (A-E) for Foundation, General and ATAR courses are used in reporting student achievement at the end of a course unit pair.	The achievement descriptor 'Completed' is used to report student achievement at the successful completion of VET industry specific course units. The achievement descriptor 'Completed' contributes towards the WACE requirements in the same manner as a C grade or higher for all other WACE course units and not as unit equivalence. Regardless of the academic year in which a VET industry specific course is completed, WACE course credit is allocated across both Year 11 (Units 1 and 2) and Year 12 (Units 3 and 4).



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	General WACE course	VET industry specific
Assessment requirements	Teachers design school-based assessment tasks to meet the needs of students. Each course syllabus outlines the types of assessment required, the weightings of each type and the guidelines specific to the assessment for the course. These courses are not externally examined. However, they each have an externally set task (EST) which is set by the Authority.	Training package assessment guidelines provide advice on assessment for each unit of competency within a qualification. All delivery and assessment must be conducted or supervised by a qualified trainer and assessor in partnership with a registered training organisation which operates under a VET regulatory and quality framework.
Vocational education and training	Schools may decide to undertake their own processes to continue integrating a VET qualification into a WACE course however, no student work related to VET is to be used as evidence in the Authority's moderation processes of WACE courses and the Authority does not need to be notified of the delivery arrangement. Relevant training package information can be found at training.gov.au .	VET industry specific courses provide the opportunity to complete a Certificate I through to Certificate III. Information on the requirements for course delivery and workplace learning requirements are found within each course syllabus.
Teacher resources	Any recommended or set text lists are provided. Reference is also made to a detailed list of relevant textbooks, teacher references, teacher guides and manuals that can be found at http://det.wa.edu.au/curriculumsupport/detcms/portal/ .	Resources appropriate for the delivery of each VET qualification covered by the courses may be found on the relevant Training Package information page at: training.gov.au . The Post-Secondary Pathways documents have been developed to support each of the 10 VET industry specific courses. These can be found under each VET industry specific course syllabus under the relevant Support Materials at http://wace1516.scsa.wa.edu.au/syllabus-and-support-materials/vet-industry-specific

VET industry specific WACE course units and WPL** requirement

Syllabus	Course units	WPL
Certificate I	VEV(code ¹)	55 hours (equivalent to 1 unit)
Certificate II	VEV(code ¹)VTV(code ¹)	110 hours (equivalent to 2 units)
Certificate III	VEV(code ¹)VTV(code ¹)	110 hours (equivalent to 2 units)

**Some Industry Training Councils have requested a greater number WPL hours to be included in particular qualifications. WPL requirements are outlined in each syllabus.

¹ Unique course code linked to relevant qualification



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WACE requirement		Contribution to the WACE requirement			
Requirement	Explanation	ATAR	General/ Foundation	VET industry specific	VET credit transfer
Breadth and Depth	Complete a minimum of 20 course units or the equivalent consisting of :	✓	✓	✓	✓
	A minimum 12 course units in total (a minimum of 6 course units in year 12)	✓	✓	✓	✗
	A maximum of 8 unit equivalents (a maximum of four in Year 11 and four in Year 12)	✗	✗	✗	✓
	Two completed Year 11 units from an English course and one pair of completed Year 12 units from an English course	✓	✓	✗	✗
	One pair of Year 12 course units from each of List A (arts/languages/social sciences) and List B (mathematics/science/technology).	✓	✓	✗	✗
Achievement standard	Students must achieve 14 C grades in Year 11 and Year 12 course units, including at least six C grades in Year 12 course units.	✓	✓	✓	✗*
General requirements	Complete at least four Year 12 ATAR courses or	✓	✗	✗	✗
	Complete* a Certificate II (or higher) VET qualification.	✗	✗	✓	✓
	Demonstrate a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy	-	-	-	-

* VET credit transfer is not graded however, each unit equivalent achieved will directly reduce the number of C grades required to meet the C grade standard; up to a maximum of eight unit equivalents (a maximum of four units in Year 11 and four units in Year 12 may be used to meet the standard).



VET INDUSTRY SPECIFIC AND VET CREDIT TRANSFER COMPARISON

	VET industry specific courses	VET credit transfer qualifications
FEATURES		
Status	<p>Authority-developed course endorsed by the WA Industry Training Councils which comprises a nationally endorsed qualification (and or nationally recognised accredited course) and mandatory work place learning in a relevant industry context. WACE course unit credit is awarded upon successful completion of all components of the course.*</p> <p>*Course unit credit may be awarded for partial completion where the qualification component is at Certificate II or III level</p>	<p>Nationally endorsed qualifications (and or nationally recognised accredited courses) that are provided recognition through VET credit transfer in the WACE.</p> <p>VET unit equivalence is awarded upon successful completion of a nationally recognised qualification. *</p> <p>*Unit equivalence may be awarded for partial Certificate III or higher if the requirements of predetermined criteria are met.</p>
Offerings	10 courses available which include training package qualifications at Certificate Levels I, II and III	Any nationally recognised qualification may be provided recognition in the WACE.
Completion	<p>Must successfully complete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a full qualification according to the rules specified within a training package. Some VET industry specific qualifications have specified mandatory elective units of competency based on WA Industry Training Council advice. mandated Authority-developed workplace learning endorsed program units <p>Students can meet the minimum Certificate II requirement through the completion of a Certificate II or Certificate III qualification in a VET industry specific course</p>	<p>Must complete a full qualification to be awarded unit equivalence. A student may be awarded unit equivalence for the partial completion of a Certificate III or higher and deemed to have satisfied the Certificate II minimum qualification requirement, where it has been demonstrated that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> there has been insufficient time to complete the qualification by the end of Year 12, or there are age or other appropriate restrictions associated with the qualification (such as in a school based traineeship or apprenticeship), and the student is enrolled in and successfully completes the equivalent of at least four course units (220 nominal hours)² from Year 12 VET enrolments only.
Workplace learning	Mandatory industry related workplace learning is a requirement specified in the course.	No workplace learning requirement unless specified within the training package or an associated program (such as a pre apprenticeship)
Delivery	Must follow all training package rules and VET quality standards as specified by the relevant regulator under which the partnering RTO operates.	Must follow all training package rules and VET quality standards as specified by the relevant regulator under which the partnering RTO operates.
Assessment	Competency based assessment with students assessed as either competent or not yet competent against units of competency performance criteria and elements.	Competency based assessment with students assessed as either competent or not yet competent against units of competency performance criteria and elements.

² Nominal hours will not be calculated for results that identify that the student has already achieved the unit in previous years, or has been withdrawn, or where the student did not commence/participate in the first instance.