



WACE requirements – FAQs for students in Years 10–12 in 2019

I'm in Year 11 now, can I withdraw from my Cert II (or higher)?

Only if you are intending to complete four or more ATAR courses in Year 12, otherwise you will still need your Certificate II or higher to meet the WACE requirements in 2020.

I'm in Year 12 now, does this mean I don't have to finish my Cert II (or higher)?

If you are studying four or more ATAR courses, you do not need to complete your Certificate II or higher to meet WACE requirements. If not, you will need to complete your VET qualification to ensure you are eligible for your WACE. Please also remember, as well as four or more ATAR courses or a Certificate II or higher, you need a minimum of 10 units (or the equivalent) in Year 12. Check with your school before making any decisions.

I'm currently in Year 10 and have started my Cert II (or higher), can I change my mind and take the General course option?

Yes. The WACE changes apply for students commencing Year 11 in 2020. Please talk to your school about planning your Year 11 and 12 education program.

How will I know if my senior secondary education program meets the WACE requirements?

The first option is to speak with your school. You can also access the *WACE Checker* on the Authority website, enter all of your courses, qualifications and intended grades to get an indication you are on track. Access the *WACE Checker* via: <https://wacechecker.scsa.wa.edu.au/>. A new version of the *WACE Checker* will be available on the website by the beginning of 2020 for students to check their eligibility for WACE in 2021.

If it turns out I'm doing Foundation courses in Year 12, do I need to do a Cert II (or higher)?

Yes. From 2021, students completing Foundation courses in Year 12 will be required to undertake the pathway requiring a Certificate II or higher VET qualification to achieve their WACE.

Completion of Foundation courses to achieve a WACE is best combined with the completion of a VET qualification to ensure best preparation for the workforce or further training.

Can I still do endorsed programs?

Yes. Of the 20 units students need to achieve their WACE, up to four units (two in Year 11 and two in Year 12), may be substituted through the completion of endorsed programs.

So, what has changed about the WACE?

The standard of the WACE has not dropped in any way. Nothing has been taken away, students have been provided with more choice in their senior secondary study programs.

We want all students to be enrolled in challenging senior secondary programs and some of you would benefit from having the option of choosing an additional course rather than undertaking a VET qualification.