

ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies Media Release Year 12 Overview

2019



Students and special guests who attended the 2019 BSSS Recognition of Excellence Ceremony

Congratulations to all the students who received their ACT Senior Secondary Certificate and to the teachers, support staff, parents and carers, family and friends who guided and assisted them through a vital and often challenging time in their lives.

Education is a key element in enabling young adults to achieve their best in life and the attainment of the senior secondary certificate can have a profound impact on students' opportunities and life choices. The Class of 2019 is encouraged to pursue their learning, regardless of the context, in the years beyond school.

This year's outcomes show that 4,553 students achieved their senior secondary certificate. The certificate indicates the completion of a senior secondary educational program and certifies that students have demonstrated particular knowledge and skills. For some students their Certificates will reflect a generalist or more vocational orientation. For others their Certificates will reflect subjects directed specifically towards preparation for immediate post school study at university. A number of Certificates demonstrate learning that reflects both vocational and university aspirations.

School communities select from an extensive range of contemporary ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies (BSSS) accredited courses. These provide multiple pathways and opportunities to address the needs and interests of a diverse range of learners. Colleges deliver courses that prepare students for life, vocational and university pathways.

Students are required to study a course in English. A total of 4,188 students studied a course in Mathematics, 2,012 in Sciences and 1,394 in PE/Human Movement/Sports Science/Outdoor Education.

Twenty nine percent of students chose a senior secondary certificate pathway focussed on qualifications leading to post school training, work or alternative University entrance opportunities. Sixty one percent of students received a senior secondary certificate that also included a Tertiary Entrance Statement (TES). Eighty nine percent of students eligible for a TES earned an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) equal to or greater than 60. In twenty-two colleges students achieved ATARS equal to or greater than 95.

Ninety nine percent of students eligible for a TES earned the ATAR needed to enrol at an Australian University based on anticipated first round offer entrance requirements.

Seventy-eight percent of Indigenous students completed their senior secondary certificate.

Seventy-eight students with a mild to moderate intellectual disability received a senior secondary certificate.

New courses completed for the first time included: Health and Wellbeing and Outdoor and Environmental Education.

This year's outcomes show that 1,696 students were awarded a vocational qualification and 242 students had an Australian School-Based Apprenticeship (ASBA) recorded on their senior secondary certificate.

The BSSS recognises learning that occurs outside school. A total of 268 students received a VET qualification from an externally registered training organisation that was included on their senior secondary certificate. Examples include *Electrotechnology, Hair and Beauty Training and Community Services*.

A total of 173 students included an extension course studied at university on their senior secondary certificate.