

Australian School-based Apprenticeships and the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate

Frequently Asked Questions

Question	Answer	What should I do?
What is an ASbA?	An ASbA is a great way for you to learn, work, and get a head start on a possible career.	You will complete subjects at school, do paid work, and study a national qualification at a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) like CIT.
How does an ASbA contribute to the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate?	You can contribute up to eight (8) of seventeen (17) standard units from an ASbA to the minimum requirements of the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate (SSC)	Speak to your school about a program of study incorporating both school and ASbA study.
Will I complete fewer classes at school?	<p>Depending on your ASbA and your school you will usually complete fewer school-based classes. This depends on the amount of work and training in your ASbA.</p> <p>Depending on ASbA you must complete the following minimum work and training:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate II – 11-20 hours per week • Certificate III – 15-20 hours per week <p>As a general example, an ASbA student may receive one or two class reductions to their regular school timetable.</p>	<p>In planning your school classes, you should keep in mind the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A course in English is compulsory. • Additional classes in line with your interests and needs should then be chosen. • You can't count classes that duplicate content (eg Hospitality at school and an Hospitality ASbA) <p>Your ASbA days might clash with your school classes. It is your responsibility to follow up with any work missed.</p>
Can I complete an ASbA and attain an ATAR at the same time?	Attaining an ATAR whilst completing an ASbA is possible. Whilst the ASbA does not generate a score to contribute to your ATAR it can contribute to the course requirements of a Tertiary Entrance Statement (TES).	You should speak to your ASbA Coordinator about the courses you need to complete at school in combination with your ASbA to achieve an ATAR.
How will an ASbA appear on my SSC?	<p>ASbA credit is awarded as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E Units for achievement of competencies* awarded by the RTO • W Units for workplace participation. <p>*Competencies are the work skills you learn to do in your ASbA, taught and assessed by the RTO.</p>	<p>Each semester, you will need to provide evidence to your school of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • your achieved competencies, for example a transcript from your RTO, or your USI online profile • your work participation, for example, work timesheets, or logbooks signed by your employer.

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<p>How are E Units calculated?</p>	<p>Each competency you complete has a different hour value. You can plan ahead to see how many units you can get.</p> <p>1.0 E Unit = 100 hours of completed competencies. Example: A student completes the following two (2) units of competency:</p> <p><i>HLTWHS001</i> Participate in workplace health and safety = 20 Nominal Hours</p> <p><i>SISOFLD001</i> Assist in conducting recreation sessions = 30 Nominal Hours</p> <p>Total hours = 50 = 0.5 BSSS E Units</p>	<p>Talk to your school, employer, or RTO about the competencies you will be doing.</p>
<p>What are W Units?</p>	<p>W Units recognise on-the-job participation in your ASbA</p> <p>1.0 W Unit = 55 hours of on-the-job participation</p> <p>There are limits to the number of W units that you can use to get your Senior Secondary Certificate. Refer to the BSSS website for the contribution of W units.</p>	<p>Each semester, you will need to provide to your school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work timesheets, or logbooks signed by your employer. <p>Speak to your school about W units.</p>
<p>What happens if I start my ASbA and don't like it, or want to change?</p>	<p>You can stop or change your ASbA at any time.</p> <p>The work you've done can be recognised on your SSC.</p>	<p>Speak with your ASbA Coordinator at school about any changes you are considering.</p> <p>Make sure you keep completing your school-based classes just in case.</p>
<p>What happens if I have questions or difficulties relating to my schoolwork or ASbA?</p>	<p>Your school is best placed to support you should you have difficulties in your ASbA or schoolwork.</p>	<p>Check in regularly or speak with your ASbA or VET Coordinator as soon as possible when questions arise, or if you experience any difficulties.</p>
<p>What if I have started my ASbA before Year 11?</p>	<p>You can continue with your ASbA in Year 11 and 12, however; only your work during Year 11 and 12 will go towards your SSC.</p>	<p>Speak with your school ASbA or VET Coordinators about continuing your ASbA and any changes to work and school days.</p>
<p>What is my next step if I want to complete an ASbA in Year 11 or 12?</p>	<p>Visit your school website and the BSSS for more information on ASbA. Click here for more information.</p>	<p>Contact your school for more information.</p>