

The Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE)

Learn about the VCE and what it helps students do

Easy Read version



Your world.
Your VCE.



Department
of Education

How to use this guide



The Victorian Department of Education wrote this guide.

When you read the word 'we', it means the Victorian Department of Education.



We wrote this information in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.

Bold
Not bold

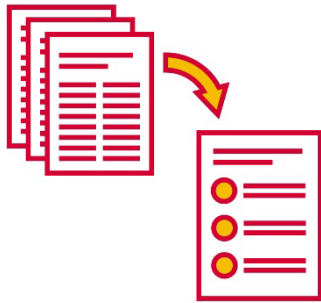
We wrote some important words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.



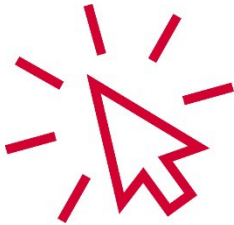
We explain what these bold words mean.

There is a list of these words on page **19**.



This is an Easy Read summary of another guide.

This means it only includes the most important ideas.



You can find the other guide on our website.

www.vic.gov.au/about-the-Victorian-Certificate-of-Education



You can ask for help to read this guide.

A friend, family member or support person might be able to help you.

What's in this guide?

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About the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE)



The **Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE)** is a certificate students can get if they:

- go to high school in Victoria
- and
- finish Year 11 and 12.

The VCE might be good for students who:



- like to learn in a classroom



- want to go to university as soon as they finish Year 12.



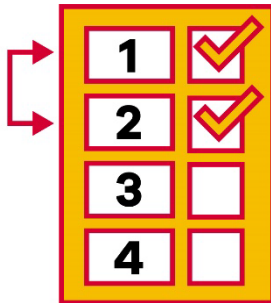
Students can choose different subjects to study for their VCE.

For example, they might study subjects like maths or English.

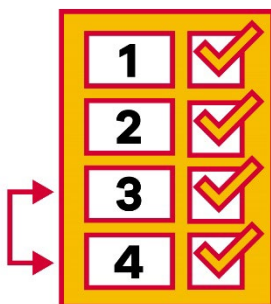


Each subject a student studies is split into 4 parts.

We call these parts 'units'.



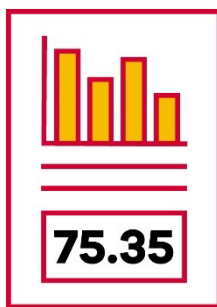
Most students study Units 1 and 2 of their subjects in Year 11.



And most students study Units 3 and 4 of their subjects in Year 12.



Students can get an **Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)** when they finish their VCE.



An ATAR is a number that scores a student against other students who studied in the same state.

An ATAR can be between 0 and 99.95.



Students might need an ATAR if they want to go to university in the year after they finish Year 12.

What students can do with the VCE

Students can use the VCE to:



- go to university



- take part in other **education** or training.



When students get an education, teachers support them to learn new:

- skills
- information.



Students can use the VCE to get a **traineeship or apprenticeship**.

A traineeship or apprenticeship is when people learn how to do a job while they are at work.



Students can also use the VCE to help them get a job when they finish Year 12.

What subjects students need to study



Students must do at least 16 units to finish the VCE.

This must include:



- Units 3 and 4 from 3 subjects



- 3 units of an English subject – this must include Units 3 and 4.



Students study for 2 years for their VCE.



In these 2 years, most students finish between 20 and 24 units.

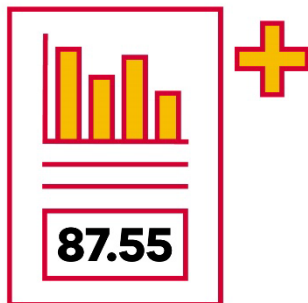


A student's **vocational education and training (VET)** studies can also be part of their VCE.



VET is skills training students can do for certain types of jobs.

Students can do VET as part of Year 11 and 12.



Some VET studies can be added to a student's ATAR.



Each school decides what VCE subjects and VET courses their students can study.

This means not all schools provide the same subjects and courses.



Students can ask their school what subjects they provide.



Students can also talk to their school's **careers counsellor** about how to study for the VCE.



A careers counsellor is someone who gives students advice about:

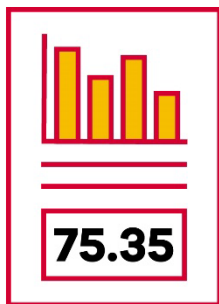
- their future jobs
- the skills they will need.

What students get when they finish their studies

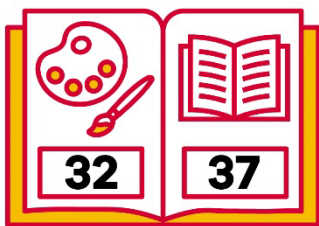
When students finish their studies, they will get:



- their VCE

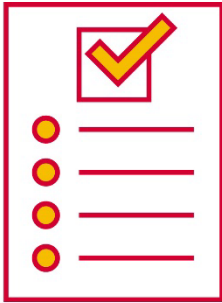


- an ATAR



- a document of the results from their studies.

If a student studies any VET courses, they will also get:



- a document that lists the units they finished



- their VET **qualification**.



If a person has a qualification, they have:

- studied or trained
- shown that they can do something the right way.

Example story



Deshi has always wanted to be a **lawyer**.

A lawyer is someone who:

- knows and understands the law
- helps people with their legal issues.



Deshi enjoys:

- studying business
- being part of the school's debating team.

Why they chose to study for their VCE



Deshi wanted to study law at university.

An ATAR would help them get into university.



They talked about what they could do with their:

- parents
- teachers
- school's careers counsellor.



Deshi talked to these people to make sure they were doing the right things to get an ATAR.



They also worked in an office to:

- get some experience
- make sure they liked this type of work.

What they chose to study for their VCE

Deshi chose to study subjects that:



- they liked

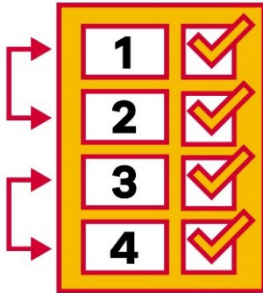


- would help them become a lawyer.



Deshi also chose to study some VCE subjects in Year 10.

They did this to get ahead in their studies.



In Year 10, Deshi chose to study Units 1 and 2 of the VCE physical education subject.

And in Year 11, they studied Units 3 and 4 of this subject.

In Year 11, Deshi chose to study Units 1 and 2 of:



- a VCE maths subject



- a VCE English subject.

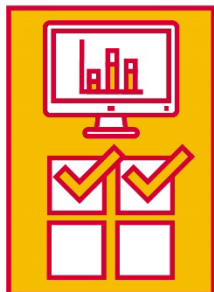
In Year 11, Deshi also chose to study
Units 1 and 2 of:



- a VCE history subject



- a VCE law subject.



In Year 11, Deshi also chose to study Units 1 and 2
of a VET course.



This VET course will help them work towards
a qualification in business.

In Year 12, Deshi chose to study Units 3 and 4 of:



- a VCE maths subject



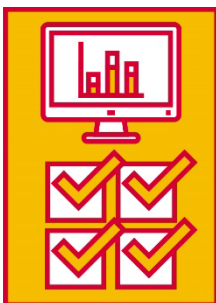
- a VCE English subject



- a VCE history subject.



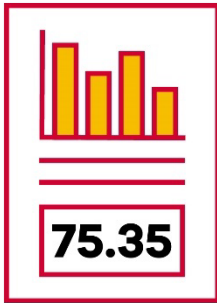
- a VCE law subject.



In Year 12, Deshi also chose to study Units 3 and 4 of their VET course.

Word list

This list explains what the **bold** words in this fact sheet mean.



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An ATAR is a number that scores a student against other students who studied in the same state.

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Careers counsellor



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- their future jobs
- the skills they will need.

Education



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Qualification

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Vocational education training (VET)



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Students can do VET as part of Year 11 and 12.

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