



MOUNT ALBERT
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Understanding NCEA

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NZQA vs NCEA



*New Zealand
Qualification Authority*

MCEA = MAGS Achievement Certificate



*National Certificate of Educational
Achievement – Level 1, 2, 3,*

University Entrance

NZQA Scholarship (different to a University Scholarship)

Corequisite exams

To gain the NCEA Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3 Qualification students must:

- Achieve Literacy (Reading/Writing)*
- Achieve Numeracy*

There are other possible ways to get Literacy or Numeracy for a few years but any credits gained for Literacy or Numeracy will not count for your overall NCEA certificate

NCEA Level 1, 2 or 3

To gain NCEA Level 1 students must:

- achieve Literacy & Numeracy*
- achieve a total of 60 credits at Level 1 or above*

To gain the NCEA Level 2 students must:

- achieve Literacy & Numeracy*
- achieve a total of 60 credits at Level 2 or above*

To gain the NCEA Level 3 students must:

- achieve Literacy & Numeracy*
- achieve a total of 60 credits at Level 3 or above*



University Entrance Qualification (UE)

[Link to Approved UE Domains](#)

To gain the University Entrance Qualification (UE):

- Achieved Level 3 NCEA (see previous slide)*
- Achieved UE Literacy (5 Reading/5 Writing) – Level 2 or above*
- Achieved 14+ credits within 3 (or more) UE approved subjects/domains.*

Some different Universities and different Degrees have more specific requirements than just gaining UE.

Assessment Types

[Link to Assessment types](#)

Externally Assessed Standards – Work which is set and assessed by NZQA (or MAGS for your MCEA). This includes end of year examinations and portfolios of work for some course – eg: Visual Arts and Technology

Internally Assessed Standards – Work which is set and assessed throughout the year by teachers.

Assessment Types

Standards are worth different number of credits

Achievement Standards (AS) – eg: 91026 (2.1)

- Not Achieved (no credits)*
- Achieved; Achieved with Merit; Achieved with Excellence (worth the same credits but go towards Course or Certificate Endorsement)*

Unit Standards (US) – eg: 21407

- Not Achieved (no credits)*
- Achieved*

Endorsement

[Link to NCEA Endorsement info](#)

Course Endorsement (eg: 11MA1 Excellence endorsement)

- Can be achieved in an individual course if students achieve 14 or more credits at Achieved, Merit or Excellence, but 3 must be from Externals and 3 from Internals*

Certificate Endorsement (eg: NCEA Level 2 Excellence)

- Gained by achieving 50 or more credits at Merit or Excellence at that Level or above. Eg: gaining NCEA Level 2 with 50 credits at Level 2 or 3. There is no requirement for some to be internals or externals.*



NZQA

Scholarship Awards

[Link to Scholarship subjects](#)

*Scholarship is a monetary award to recognise top secondary school students.
Can be awarded as Outstanding Scholarship.*

*Single subject =\$500; top subject =\$2000;
Other awards can be up to \$10,000 {need to have achieved at least 3
Outstanding Scholarships in one year}*

*Approximately 3 percent of all students studying each subject at Level 3 are
awarded Scholarships If they reach the standard set.*

*Scholarship exams are externally assessed and are an additional set of exams.
They do not attract credits, nor contribute towards a qualification.*