

South African National Senior Certificate

The following information is provided to assist domestic students who have completed or are undertaking their senior secondary studies in South Africa and intend to seek admission to undergraduate study at The University of Queensland (UQ).

About the South African National Senior Certificate

In 2008 the South African National Senior Certificate (NSC) replaced the Senior Certificate as the senior leaving exit qualification. For the NSC, all subjects are now offered at the same level, which is the same as the former higher grade level. Each subject is worth 20 credits, except Life Orientation which is worth 10 credits. In order to receive NSC a student must have gained 130 credits exclusively in Year 12.

Entry requirements

For entry to all undergraduate programs at UQ applicants must meet two basic entry requirements:

1. Eligibility (i.e. satisfy the subject prerequisites and other requirements)
2. Merit (i.e. possess a selection rank high enough for a place in the program[†])

[†] Selection ranks range from 1 to 99.95 (maximum). As admission is competitive the minimum selection thresholds for programs can fluctuate from year to year.

For detailed program information, including prerequisite requirements and minimum selection thresholds from previous admission periods, please refer to study.uq.edu.au.

Satisfying subject prerequisites

The successful completion of the following South African senior secondary subjects at the specified grade level will meet the listed subject prerequisites for admission to most UQ undergraduate programs*.

Qld Year 12 Subject Prerequisites	South African Senior Certificate (pre-2008)	South African National Senior Certificate (since 2008)
English (Units 3 & 4,C)	English 1st Language (Higher Grade)	English Home Language or English (Additional First Language)
General Mathematics (Units 3 & 4, C)	Mathematics (Standard Grade)	Mathematical Literacy
Mathematical Methods (Units 3 & 4,C)	Mathematics (Higher Grade)	Mathematics
Biology (Units 3 & 4, C)	Biology (Higher Grade)	Life Sciences
Chemistry (Units 3 & 4,C)	Physical Science (Higher Grade)	Physical Science
Physics (Units 3 & 4,C)	Physical Science (Higher Grade)	Physical Science

Minimum grades required to pass prerequisites:

South African Senior pre-2008: grade of D (or 50%) or better
South African NSC since 2008: grade of 4 (or 50%) or better

*Contact UQ Admissions if applying for an Education program with this qualification.

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South Africa – National Senior Certificate (NSC) (since 2008) ¹			
Grade Average of best five subjects in final year ^{a, b, c, d}	Selection Rank	Grade Average of best five subjects in final year ^{a, b, c, d}	Selection Rank
6.78	99.85	5.87	91.00
6.75	99.80	5.83	90.50
6.73	99.75	5.80	90.00
6.71	99.70	5.77	89.50
6.69	99.65	5.73	89.00
6.67	99.60	5.70	88.50
6.64	99.55	5.67	88.00
6.62	99.50	5.63	87.50
6.60	99.45	5.60	87.00
6.58	99.40	5.57	86.50
6.55	99.35	5.53	86.00
6.53	99.30	5.50	85.50
6.51	99.25	5.47	85.00
6.49	99.20	5.43	84.50
6.47	99.15	5.40	84.00
6.44	99.10	5.37	83.50
6.42	99.05	5.33	83.00
6.40	99.00	5.30	82.50
6.37	98.50	5.27	82.00
6.33	98.00	5.23	81.50
6.30	97.50	5.20	81.00
6.27	97.00	5.13	80.00
6.23	96.50	5.05	79.00
6.20	96.00	4.98	78.00
6.17	95.50	4.90	77.00
6.13	95.00	4.83	76.00
6.10	94.50	4.75	75.00
6.07	94.00	4.68	74.00
6.03	93.50	4.60	73.00
6.00	93.00	4.53	72.00
5.97	92.50	4.45	71.00
5.93	92.00	4.38	70.00
5.90	91.50	4.30	69.00

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1. For students who completed studies pre 2008 please contact the UQ Admissions office regarding selection ranks

a. As certified by Umalusi with an achievement of the minimum requirement for admission to Diploma or Bachelor degree study.

b. Excluding the subjects Life Orientation and Mathematics (Third Paper).

c. A National Senior Certificate with an endorsement is assessed using a grade average of best four subjects. These qualifications are issued to candidates who are identified and registered as having special education needs.

d. Where: 7=80-100%, 6=70-79%, 5=60-69%, 4=50-59%, 3=40-49%, 2=30-39%, 1=0-29%.

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