

Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority

# MEDIA GUIDE FOR VCE EXAMINATIONS

# 2018

[www.vcaa.vic.edu.au](http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au)

## Enquiries

All media enquiries about Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) events should be directed to:

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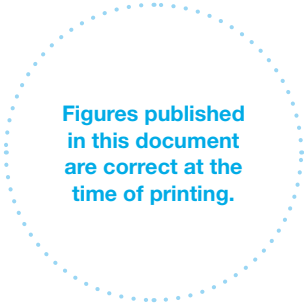
### **General information**

[www.vcaa.vic.edu.au](http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au)

## Media access to examinations

In the interest of Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) students, members of the media wishing to access schools to obtain television footage, photographs or student interviews during the end-of-year VCE examination period are requested to observe the following procedures:

- The VCAA requires that there be no media on school premises before the commencement of a VCE examination.
- The VCAA requires that there be no media on school premises during a VCE examination.
- Media seeking access to a government school are required to contact the Media Relations Branch of the Department of Education and Training (DET) on (03) 9637 2871 at least 24 hours in advance.
- Media seeking access to a non-government school should contact the school principal directly.
- All media should notify the school principal on arrival at school premises.



Figures published  
in this document  
are correct at the  
time of printing.

# Senior secondary education

Students in Victoria can choose from two senior secondary qualifications: the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) and the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL). Within both of these certificates students can undertake a School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship.

## Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE)

The VCE is the senior secondary qualification undertaken by most students in Years 11 and 12. The VCE provides pathways to tertiary education, advanced certificate courses and employment. Students are able to choose from over 100 VCE studies (including 48 VCE Languages) and 24 VCE VET programs.

VCE students are assessed on their school-based assessment and via external assessments. The results are moderated on a statewide basis to ensure results are comparable. Of those students eligible to complete the VCE in 2017, 97.8 per cent graduated with their VCE.

VET programs can be included, contributing towards satisfactory completion of the VCE and providing a nationally recognised vocational qualification.

The Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) uses VCE study scores calculated by the VCAA to calculate an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) score for students wishing to apply for tertiary entrance.

The VCE – Baccalaureate is an additional form of recognition available to students who choose to undertake both a Languages study and a higher-level Mathematics study as part of their program of study, and have study scores for at least five VCE studies. Refer to the VCE – Baccalaureate FAQs on our [VCE Studies page](#) for more information.

Industry Pathways in the VCE provides recognition for students who choose to complete a VCE program of study in a specific vocational area. Refer to the Industry Pathways in the VCE on our [VCE studies page](#) for more information.

## Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL)

The VCAL is available for students in Years 11 and 12. It gives them practical work-related experience, literacy and numeracy skills and the opportunity to build important personal skills for life and work. This can include recognition of learning in structured work placements, community projects and local and youth development programs.

### **The VCAL has four strands:**

- Literacy and Numeracy Skills
- Work Related Skills
- Industry Specific Skills
- Personal Development Skills.

VCE studies and VET certificates are often included in a VCAL program, with VET being compulsory for Intermediate and Senior VCAL students. Industry Pathways in the VCAL provide recognition for students who choose to complete a VCAL program of study in a specific vocational area.

Students who start VCAL and then decide they would like to complete their VCE are able to transfer between certificates. Students who complete an Intermediate or Senior VCAL may undertake the VCE in a subsequent year and will be eligible to complete the VCE according to the rules as specified by the VCAA.

## VCE examinations

The VCAA is committed to ensuring that examinations provide the best possible opportunity for students to demonstrate their learning.

The VCAA rules for VCE examinations are designed to achieve this and work to uphold our standards of fair and equal assessment.

### VCE examination rules

Students who allegedly breach VCAA rules for VCE examinations may be called before a Review Committee in December. Should the committee find the breach upheld, an appropriate penalty, in accordance with the *Education and Training Reform Act 2006*, will apply. Penalties may range from a reprimand to cancellation of a student's VCE.

#### Examples of VCE examination rules

- Students must not cheat or assist other students to cheat.
- Students must not take any action that gives or attempts to give them or another student an unfair advantage in an external assessment.

- Students must not possess mobile phones and electronic devices that are capable of storing, receiving or transmitting information or electronic signals, such as recorded music and video players, organisers, dictionaries and computerised watches, during an external assessment.
- Students detected with a mobile phone or electronic devices such as recorded music and video player, organiser, dictionary or computerised watch as outlined above, must, upon direction of the supervisor, surrender that device for inspection. Any confiscated device will be retained, pending any investigation into an alleged breach of VCAA rules.

## VCE examination administration and security

In May 2018 the VCAA provided training sessions for all newly appointed chief supervisors and VCE examination coordinators.

Additional training sessions are conducted in October for new chief supervisors and VCE examination coordinators appointed after the General Achievement Test (GAT) in June.

The VCAA ensures all experienced chief supervisors, VCE examination coordinators and appropriate school personnel are kept up to date with requirements for the conduct and administration of 2018 VCE external assessments. The *VCE Examination Manual 2018*, distributed to schools before the GAT, provides a confidential and comprehensive guide to these requirements.

There are 514 schools across Victoria operating as examination centres.

Schools operating as examination centres are visited periodically by the VCAA to audit VCE examination security arrangements and to observe the conduct of VCE examinations.

## How students get their results

The VCAA and VTAC offer four options for accessing VCE results and the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR): internet, email (VCE and VCAL results only), Results and ATAR app and mail.

### Internet

[www.resultsandatar.vic.edu.au](http://www.resultsandatar.vic.edu.au)

The internet service is free and available from 7.00am Friday 14 December until 5.00pm Tuesday 18 December.

### Mail

VCE and VCAL results and ATAR statements will arrive in the mail from Monday 17 December.

VCE and VCAL certificates are distributed by schools and colleges, rather than mailed with the results.

### Email (VCE and VCAL students with a VCE unit 3/4 enrolment results only)

Students with a unit 3 and Unit 4 enrolment and who have opted to receive their 2018 results via email will receive their results from 7.00am Friday 14 December.

The VCAA collected student personal email addresses for 2018 results delivery, following a successful pilot of the service in 2016.

This is an optional service; email addresses are primarily used for results delivery and associated processes, such as student consent confirmations.

Schools were advised that the address must be active and accessible by the student during the release of results in December through to the following April for communications regarding the Premier's VCE Awards.

The VCAA requested that student email addresses were nominated by the student and not simply populated by the school with school-issued email addresses. Student email addresses were confirmed with schools in Term 3.

### VCE Results and ATAR app

VCE results and ATAR will be available via the VCE Results and ATAR app from 7.00am Friday 14 December. Students will need their VCAA number and secure password of their choice to view their results and ATAR.

The VCE Results and ATAR app is free and available to download in the App Store and on Google Play.

### Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)

Student ATARs are calculated by the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC).

Before the release of ATARs, enquiries about the ATAR should be directed to VTAC:

**Phone** (03) 9926 1020

**Website** [www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au)

After the release of ATARs, enquiries about the ATAR should be directed to the Post Results and ATAR Service.

### Post Results and ATAR service (PRAS)

The Post Results and ATAR Service (PRAS) website contains detailed information from the VCAA and VTAC about student results and ATAR, as well as answers to frequently asked questions.

[pras.resultsandatar.vic.edu.au](http://pras.resultsandatar.vic.edu.au)

Students who have further questions after receiving their results and ATAR can contact PRAS by phone or email from **Friday 14 December** to **Tuesday 18 December**.

**Phone (metro)** (03) 9032 1717

**Phone (regional)** 1800 653 080

**Email** [pras@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:pras@edumail.vic.gov.au)



# 2018 VCE Examination Timetable

<b>Wednesday 13 June</b>	<b>10.00am – 1.15pm</b> General Achievement Test (GAT)
<b>Wednesday 1 August</b>	<b>10.00am – 11.10am</b> Extended Investigation: Critical Thinking Test (computer-based)
<b>Monday 8 October to Tuesday 30 October</b>	<p><b>Languages examinations oral component</b> (except Classical Greek, Classical Hebrew, Indigenous Languages of Victoria and Latin).</p> <p><b>Auslan Interactive Sign Examination</b> Students will be notified of dates, times and locations via advice slips from <b>Monday 6 August</b>.</p> <p><b>Performance examinations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dance</li> <li>• VET Dance</li> <li>• Drama: Solo</li> <li>• Theatre Studies: Stagecraft</li> </ul>
<b>Monday 8 October to Sunday 4 November</b>	<p><b>Performance examinations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Music Investigation</li> <li>• Music Performance</li> <li>• VET Music Industry: Performance</li> </ul> <p>Students will be notified of dates, times and locations via advice slips from <b>Monday 6 August</b>.</p>
<b>Monday 15 October to Friday 19 October</b>	<p>Extended Investigation Externally-assessed Task oral presentation</p> <p>Students will be notified of dates, times and locations via advice slips from <b>Monday 6 August</b>.</p>
<b>Tuesday 23 October</b>	<p><b>1.55pm – 5.00pm</b> Classical Greek</p> <p>This examination commences with a <b>5-minute reading</b> period.</p>

<b>Tuesday 23 October</b>	<b>2.00pm – 4.40pm</b> Armenian, Bosnian, Chin Hakha, Croatian, Dutch, Filipino, Hebrew, Hindi, Hungarian, Karen, Khmer, Macedonian, Maltese, Persian, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Sinhala, Swedish, Tamil, Turkish, Ukrainian, Yiddish Each examination commences with a <b>10-minute reading</b> period.		
	<b>2.00pm – 4.15pm</b> Arabic, Korean First Language, Korean Second Language Each examination commences with a <b>15-minute reading</b> period.		
<b>Wednesday 24 October</b>	<b>9.25am – 12.30pm</b> Classical Hebrew This examination commences with a <b>5-minute reading</b> period.		
<b>Wednesday 26 October</b>	<b>8.00am – 6.00pm</b> Auslan Sign Comprehension and Sign Production Examination Students are scheduled in one two-hour session. Each session is preceded by <b>10 minutes of reading/viewing</b> time.		
<b>Wednesday 31 October</b>	<b>9.00am – 12.15pm</b> English English as an Additional Language (EAL)		
<b>Thursday 1 November</b>	<b>9.00am – 11.45am</b> Psychology		<b>2.00pm – 4.15pm</b> Economics
	<b>Friday 2 November</b>		<b>2.00pm – 3.45pm</b> Further Mathematics Examination 1
<b>Monday 5 November</b>	<b>9.00am – 10.45am</b> Further Mathematics Examination 2	<b>11.45am – 2.00pm</b> Latin	<b>3.00pm – 5.15pm</b> Business Management Indigenous Languages of Victoria
	<b>Tuesday 6 November</b> <b>Melbourne Cup Public Holiday</b>		

<b>Wednesday 7 November</b>	<b>9.00am – 10.15am</b> Mathematical Methods Examination 1	<b>11.45am – 1.30pm</b> Dance Food Studies VET Business	<b>3.00pm – 5.15pm</b> History: Revolutions
<b>Thursday 8 November</b>	<b>9.00am – 10.45am</b> Product Design and technology Theatre Studies VET Hospitality	<b>11.45am – 2.00pm</b> Health and Human development	<b>3.00pm – 5.15pm</b> Mathematical Methods Examination 2
<b>Friday 9 November</b>	<b>9.00am – 10.15am</b> Specialist Mathematics Examination 1	<b>11.45am – 2.00pm</b> Physical Education	<b>3.00pm – 5.15pm</b> Accounting History: Ancient History Music Style and Composition Sociology VET Creative and Digital Media (computer-based)
<b>Monday 12 November</b>	<b>9.00am – 10.45am</b> Studio Arts VET Information, Digital Media and Technology	<b>11.45am – 2.00pm</b> Chinese Language, Culture and Society Industry and Enterprise Literature Outdoor and Environmental Studies	<b>3.00pm – 5.15pm</b> Specialist Mathematics Examination 2
<b>Tuesday 13 November</b>	<b>9.00am – 11.45am</b> Chemistry	<b>2.00pm – 3.45pm</b> Visual Communication Design	
<b>Wednesday 14 November</b>	<b>9.00am – 11.45am</b> Physics	<b>2.00pm – 4.15pm</b> Legal Studies	

<b>Thursday 15 November</b>	<b>9.00am – 10.45am</b> Agricultural and Horticultural Studies Music Performance VET Furnishing VET Health VET Hospitality: Kitchen Operations VET Integrated Technologies	<b>11.45am – 2.00pm</b> Australian Politics Geography Philosophy	<b>3.00pm – 5.15pm</b> Computing: Software Development Japanese First Language Text and Traditions
<b>Friday 16 November</b>	<b>9.00am – 10.45am</b> Art VET Equine Studies VET Music Industry: Sound Production VET Sport and Recreation	<b>11.45am – 2.00pm</b> English Language History: Australian History	<b>3.00pm – 5.15pm</b> Classical Studies Computing: Informatics Environmental Science
<b>Monday 19 November</b>	<b>9.00am – 10.45am</b> Systems Engineering	<b>11.45am – 2.00pm</b> Chinese First Language Global Politics Greek Religion and Society	<b>3.00pm – 5.15pm</b> Media
<b>Tuesday 20 November</b>	<b>9.00am – 10.45am</b> Drama VET Community Services VET Engineering Studies	<b>11.45am – 2.00pm</b> German Spanish Vietnamese First Language Vietnamese Second Language	<b>3.00pm – 5.15pm</b> Algorithmics French
<b>Wednesday 21 November</b>	<b>9.00am – 10.45am</b> VET Laboratory Skills	<b>11.45am – 2.00pm</b> Indonesian First Language Indonesian Second Language Japanese Second Language	<b>3.00pm – 5.15pm</b> Chinese Second Language Chinese Second Language Advanced Italian

# VCE Facts and Figures

## VCE graduates

**Number of students eligible to complete VCE in 2018**

52,360

**Number of students who graduated with VCE in 2017**

50,908

**Percentage of eligible students who successfully completed VCE in 2017**

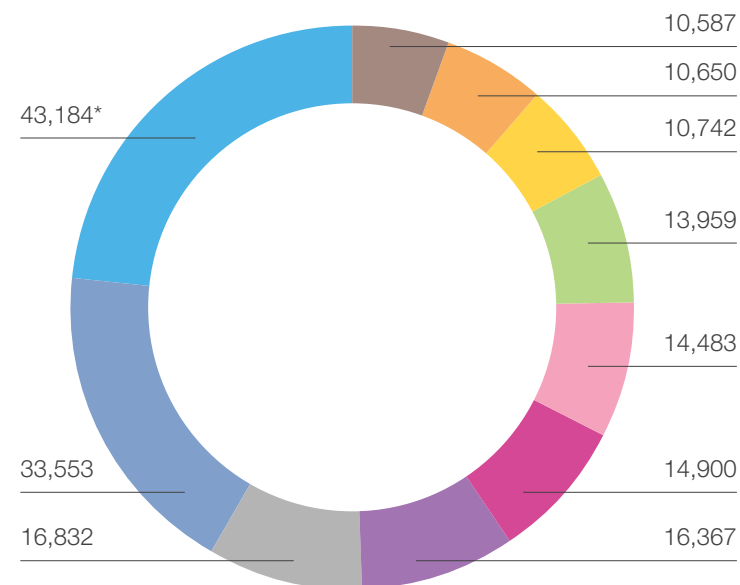
97.8%

**Number of students who achieved the VCE (Baccalaureate) in 2017**

3,939

## Top 10 VCE studies in 2018

- English\*
- Further Mathematics
- Mathematical Methods
- Psychology
- Health and Human Development
- Business Management
- Biology
- Physical Education
- Legal Studies
- Chemistry



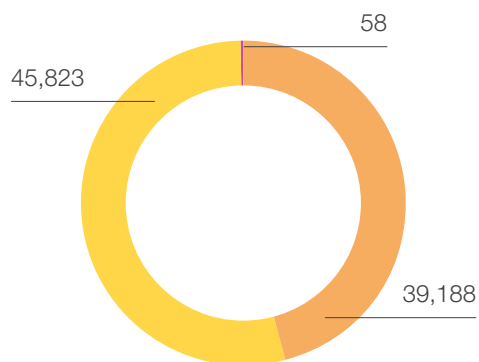
\* Does not include English as an Additional Language (EAL)

## Written examinations in 2018

### Students sitting at least one exam

85,069

- Female
- Male
- Gender X



### Students sitting the English exam on 31 October

43,184

### Students sitting the English as an Additional Language exam on 31 October

4,122

### VCE subjects with a written exam

109

### Exam centres operating in schools across the state

514

### Largest exam centre and number of students sitting exams

Bendigo Senior Secondary College  
1,140

### Smallest exam centre and number of students sitting exams

Balmoral K-12 Community College  
3

Keysborough Secondary College –  
Banksia Campus  
3

### Number of VCE Languages being examined

48

### Mature-age students sitting exams

418

### Assessors employed by the VCAA to mark written exams

3,000

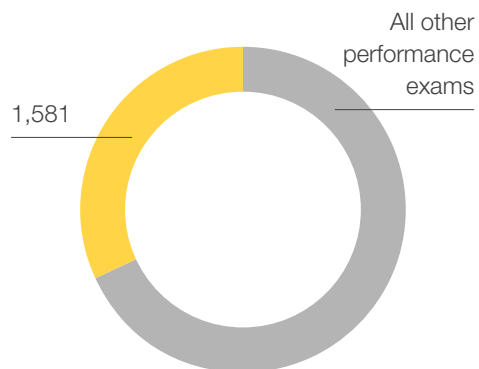
## Performance examinations in 2018

### VCE studies with a performance exam

7  
(Dance, Drama, Theatre Studies, Music Performance, Music Investigation, VCE VET Dance, VCE VET Music)

### Students doing a performance exam

4,977  
 ■ VCE Music Performance has the highest enrolment for a performance exam



### Assessors employed by the VCAA to mark the performance exams

374

### Venues used for performance exams

107

## Languages oral examinations in 2018

### VCE Languages with oral exams

44  
(except Classical Greek, Classical Hebrew, Latin, and Indigenous Languages of Victoria)

### Assessors employed by VCAA to mark the oral exams

622

### Venues used for VCE Languages oral exams

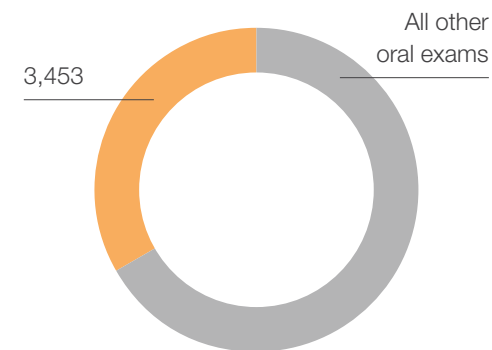
17

### Students doing a VCE Extended Investigation oral presentation in October

273

### Students being assessed in VCE Languages oral exams

10,390  
 ■ Chinese (Chinese First; Second; Second Language Advanced; and Chinese Language, Culture and Society) has the highest enrolment

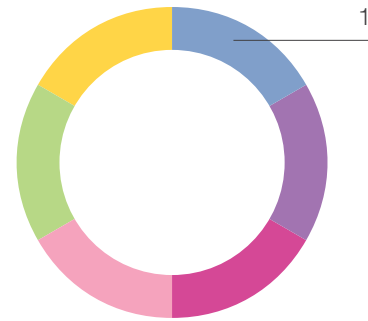


## Overseas students

### Victorian students sitting VCE written exams overseas

6

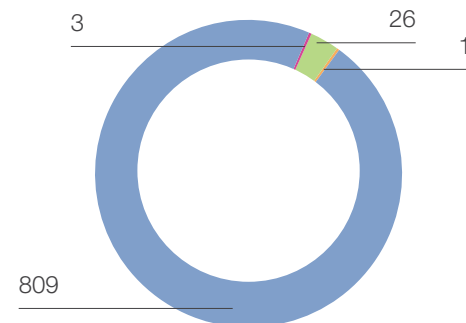
- Cambodia
- Estonia
- Finland
- Qatar
- Spain
- Switzerland



### Non-Victorian students sitting VCE written exams overseas

839

- China
- Philippines
- Timor-Leste
- Vanuatu



## Interstate students

### Number of students sitting VCE written exams interstate

14

## Regional exam centres

### Greater Geelong

#### Students sitting at least one written VCE exam

3,625

#### Students sitting the VCE English exam

2,016

### Greater Bendigo

#### Students sitting at least one written VCE exam

1,828

#### Students sitting the VCE English exam

814

### Ballarat

#### Students sitting at least one written VCE exam

1,814

#### Students sitting the VCE English exam

857

## 20 most popular VCE studies (Unit 3) 2013–2017, and preliminary 2018 enrolments

	2013 enrolments		2014 enrolments		2015 enrolments		2016 enrolments		2017 enrolments		2018 enrolments*†	
1	English‡	42,533	English‡	42,650	English‡	42,903	English‡	43,014	English‡	43,463	English‡	43,184
2	Further Mathematics	30,502	Further Mathematics	30,609	Further Mathematics	31,010	Further Mathematics	31,328	Further Mathematics	32,772	Further Mathematics	33,553
3	Mathematical Methods	15,986	Psychology	16,690	Psychology	16,781	Psychology	16,454	Mathematical Methods	16,265	Mathematical Methods	16,832
4	Psychology	15,719	Mathematical Methods	16,015	Mathematical Methods	16,189	Mathematical Methods	16,151	Psychology	15,923	Psychology	16,367
5	Health and Human Development	14,084	Health and Human Development	14,212	Health and Human Development	13,990	Business Management	14,709	Business Management	15,021	Health and Human Development	14,900
6	Business Management	13,633	Business Management	13,445	Business Management	13,854	Health and Human Development	14,615	Health and Human Development	14,625	Business Management	14,483
7	Biology	12,364	Biology	12,697	Biology	12,789	Biology	13,661	Biology	13,810	Biology	13,959
8	Physical Education	9,751	Physical Education	10,166	Physical Education	10,353	Physical Education	10,661	Physical Education	10,564	Physical Education	10,742
9	Chemistry	9,745	Chemistry	9,955	Chemistry	10,113	Chemistry	10,216	Chemistry	10,513	Legal Studies	10,650
10	Legal Studies	8,979	Legal Studies	9,376	Legal Studies	9,561	Legal Studies	9,803	Legal Studies	10,076	Chemistry	10,587
11	Physics	7,344	Physics	7,665	Physics	7,510	Physics	7,295	Physics	7,456	Physics	7,483
12	Visual Communication Design	5,953	History: Revolutions	6,001	History: Revolutions	5,886	Studio Arts	5,525	Studio Arts	5,398	Accounting	5,648
13	History: Revolutions	5,801	Studio Arts	5,522	Studio Arts	5,337	History: Revolutions	5,522	Visual Communication Design	5,298	Studio Arts	5,506
14	Studio Arts	5,514	Visual Communication Design	5,440	Visual Communication Design	5,330	Visual Communication Design	5,198	Accounting	5,254	Visual Communication Design	5,124
15	Literature	5,401	Literature	5,332	Literature	5,124	Accounting	4,962	History: Revolutions	5,014	History: Revolutions	4,953
16	Accounting	5,314	Accounting	5,131	Accounting	4,862	Literature	4,689	Media	4,921	Media	4,597
17	Media	4,360	Media	4,800	Media	4,825	Media	4,573	Literature	4,745	Specialist Mathematics	4,514
18	Specialist Mathematics	4,230	Specialist Mathematics	4,497	Specialist Mathematics	4,485	Specialist Mathematics	4,407	Specialist Mathematics	4,544	Literature	4,306
19	Food and Technology	4,016	Food and Technology	3,832	English as an Additional Language (EAL)	3,498	English as an Additional Language (EAL)	3,386	Food Studies	3,661	English as an Additional Language (EAL)	4,122
20	Product Design and Technology	3,570	English as an Additional Language (EAL)	3,297	Food and Technology	3,429	Food and Technology	3,219	English as an Additional Language (EAL)	3,629	English Language	3,576

\*Enrolment figures for 2018 are preliminary only. †Excludes subjects that are offered as part of the Northern Hemisphere Timetable ‡Does not include English as an Additional Language (EAL).

## VCAL Facts and Figures

### Senior Secondary VCAL enrolments 2017 and 2018

In 2017 there were 24,020 enrolments (61.7 per cent male, 38.2 per cent female and 0.1 per cent gender X) in the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL), across 460 providers. Of these enrolments, 60.5 per cent were from government schools.

There are three levels of certificate in VCAL – Foundation, Intermediate and Senior. Of the total 2017 enrolments, 27.2 per cent of students were enrolled in Foundation, 42.5 per cent in Intermediate and 30.3 per cent in Senior and Senior Extension.

Final VCAL enrolment figures for 2018 are not confirmed until mid-January 2019.

### Final VCAL enrolment figures for 2017

#### VCAL certificate enrolments

24,020

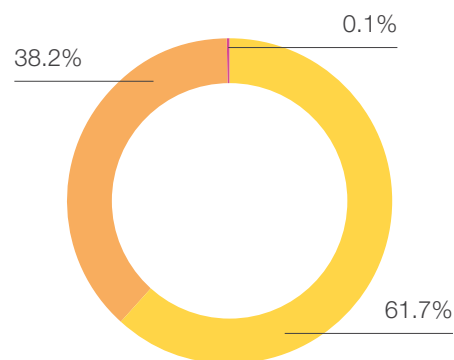
#### Number of VCAL providers

460

#### Percentage of VCAL students enrolled in government schools

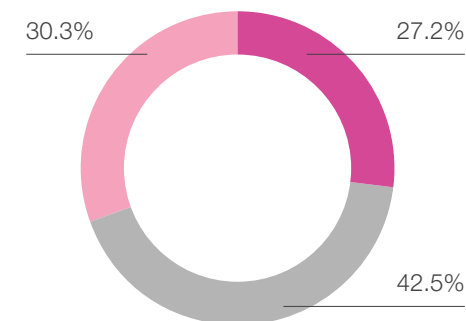
60.5

- Female
- Male
- Gender X



#### Percentage enrolled in Foundation, Intermediate, Senior and Senior Extension VCAL

- Foundation
- Intermediate
- Senior and Senior Extension





## VET Facts and Figures

### Senior Secondary VET enrolments 2017 and 2018

In 2017, 50,504 students were enrolled in at least one VET certificate. There were a total of 68,137 VET certificate enrolments.

There were 3,031 students who undertook a School-based Apprenticeship or Traineeship.

In order to become an apprentice or trainee, students must be in paid work and have a signed contract of training that is registered with the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority.

Final VET enrolment figures for 2018 are not confirmed until mid-January 2019.

### Final VET enrolment figures for 2017

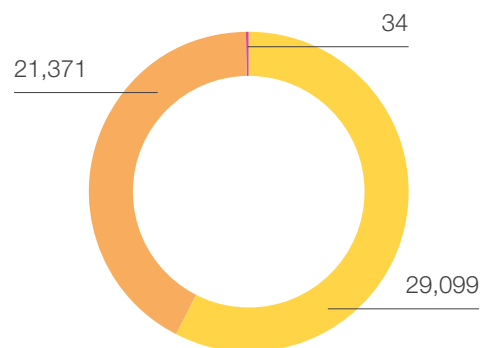
#### VET enrolments by VCE or VCAL students

50,504

■ Females enrolled in at least one VET certificate

■ Males enrolled in at least one VET certificate

■ Gender X enrolled in at least one VET certificate



#### Of these, the number of students who undertook a School-based Apprenticeship and Traineeship

3,031

#### Total number of VET certificate enrolments

68,137

#### Number of students undertaking scored assessment in a VCE VET program in 2018

8,614

#### Number of VCE VET programs with a written examination in 2018

14

Business; Community Services; Creative and Digital Media; Engineering Studies; Equine Studies; Furnishing; Health; Hospitality; Hospitality (Kitchen Operations); Information, Digital Media and Technology; Integrated Technologies; Laboratory Skills; Music Industry (Sound Production); Sport and Recreation

#### Number of VCE VET programs with a performance examination in 2018

2

Dance; Music Industry (Performance)

# Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority

## Who we are

The VCAA is an independent statutory body responsible to the Victorian Minister for Education, serving both government and non-government schools.

The mission of the VCAA is to provide the foundations for lifelong learning through high quality curriculum, assessment and reporting.

## What we do

The VCAA works in partnership with DET to support the implementation of the Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF). The VEYLDF links the five Learning and Development Outcomes to the first three levels of the Victorian Curriculum F–10 in the early years of school. The Outcomes provide a shared language for all early childhood professionals and families to use when planning for children’s learning and development.

The Victorian Curriculum F–10 sets out what every student should learn during their first 11 years of schooling (Prep to Year 10). The curriculum is the common set of knowledge and skills required by students for life-long learning, social development and active and informed citizenship.

Implemented by all Victorian government and Catholic schools in February 2017, the Victorian Curriculum F–10 incorporates the Australian Curriculum and reflects Victorian priorities and standards.

The VCAA also conducts the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing in Victoria on behalf of the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA). The NAPLAN tests measure students’ literacy and numeracy at Years 3, 5, 7 and 9.

At the senior secondary level the VCAA manages the VCE, VCE VET and VCAL.

For more information on the functions of the VCAA visit our website [www.vcaa.vic.edu.au](http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au)