



Year 12 Finishing Day in Queensland schools

While senior assessment and tertiary processes are changing, participation, enrolment and attendance requirements are not.

The Year 12 Finishing Day is defined in legislation. These frequently asked questions provide information to assist schools in implementing the requirements of the legislation.

What is the Year 12 Finishing Day?

To receive a Senior Education Profile (e.g. a Queensland Certificate of Education), a student must have finished their senior secondary education.

The *Education (Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority) Regulation 2014* defines 'Finishing Day' for Year 12. For a Year 12 student, the Finishing Day is the last day a school can require a student to be in attendance.

The Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) publishes the date of the Year 12 Finishing Day and related information at www.qcaa.qld.edu.au/senior/certificates-qualifications/sep/finishing-dates-year-12

QCAA has confirmed Year 12 Finishing Days for 2019 and 2020:

- 2019 Finishing Day – Friday 15 November
- 2020 Finishing Day – Friday 20 November

Attendance requirements are determined through policies set by the school or school system.

In the new Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) system, Year 12 will be different. Will there still be a fixed Finishing Day?

Yes. Specifying the Year 12 Finishing Day in legislation maintains consistent requirements across Queensland in relation to completion of the Year 12 school year.

In the new QCE system, if students complete all required assessment earlier, do they need to continue attending school until the Finishing Day?

Year 12 students are required to physically attend up to and including the Finishing Day if it is a requirement of the school's educational program.

Each school principal determines whether a student's attendance in Year 12 has been compliant with the school's requirements for the educational program it provides. Associated policies and procedures are set by the system and/or school (if a non-state school), including requirements for physical attendance/non-attendance during assessment periods and the period between final assessments and the Finishing Day.

If a student's Year 12 assessments finish earlier than the Finishing Day, the school may determine that this constitutes completion of the student's educational program and as such meets the student's attendance requirements for the year. That is, the student is considered by the school to have met the requirement to attend up to and including the Finishing Day.

In the new QCE system, if Year 12 students complete all required assessments earlier, can the school still require them to continue attending school until the Finishing Day?

Year 12 students are required to physically attend up to and including the Finishing Day if it is a requirement of the school's educational program.

Each school principal determines whether a student's attendance in Year 12 has been compliant



with the attendance policies and procedures set by their system and/or school (if a non-state school).

Even when a student's Year 12 assessments finish earlier than the Finishing Day, the principal may determine that student attendance is required at any point between completion of final assessments and the Finishing Day (subject to standard absence procedures).

Attendance requirement policies must be formally communicated to parents and students to allow parents to ensure suitable care arrangements are put in place for the times students are not required to attend the school.

Under the new QCE arrangements, when will school-based apprenticeships/traineeships convert to full-time arrangements?

For students undertaking school-based apprenticeships or traineeships, training contracts will automatically convert to full-time arrangements the day after the Year 12 Finishing Day (unless the Department of Employment, Small Business and Training has received advice from the parties to the training contract that part-time arrangements are to be applied).

Subject to meeting the attendance requirements of the school, students may choose to take up additional hours under their school-based training contract before the conversion date.

Further information

For more information please contact:

- For state schools, your [regional office](#)
- For Catholic schools, please contact Yvonne Ries, QCEC on 07 3316 5810 or [yvonne@qcec.catholic.edu.au](mailto:yvonner@qcec.catholic.edu.au)
- For independent schools, contact ISQ on 07 3228 1515 or office@isq.qld.edu.au