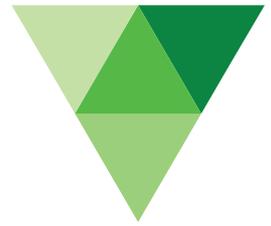


NCEA | Taumata Mātauranga ā-Motu Kua Taea

NCEA Review 2018

How NCEA is recognised overseas

1. A brief history of NCEA
2. Themes in NCEA literature
3. Purpose and outcome statements for NCEA
4. Trends in NCEA
5. Levels of NCEA
6. Connections with pathways into further education and/or employment
7. Course coherence in NCEA
8. Non-standards based learning and NCEA
9. Māori medium and NCEA
10. Literacy and numeracy requirements for NCEA
11. Accessing NCEA
12. Over-assessment and its impact on students and teachers
13. NCEA online
- ▶ **14. How NCEA is recognised overseas**
15. Quality assurance in NCEA



NZQA requires each qualification registered on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework to be regularly reviewed so that the qualification remains useful and relevant and continues to meet the needs of the learners, industry and stakeholders for which it was developed. NCEA is scheduled to be reviewed by December 2018.

This paper describes the current status of NCEA | Taumata Mātauranga ā-Motu Kua Taea¹ overseas and how it contributes to New Zealand's global education market.

Focusing question

Does the current international recognition of NCEA support the goals of providing flexibility for NCEA holders seeking further education in tertiary institutions overseas and contributing to New Zealand's global education market?

New Zealand's secondary school education system is recognised by the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) as a world leader. NCEA qualifications are highly regarded, both nationally and internationally, as credible and robust. NZQA ensures that this status is maintained.

New Zealand has been a signatory country to the European Convention on the Equivalence of Diplomas Leading to Admission to Universities since 1978, where signatory countries recognise each other's University Entrance qualifications.

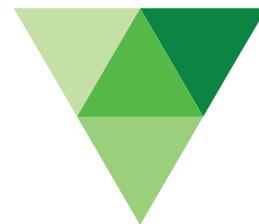
Why is international recognition of NCEA important?

The global education environment is rapidly changing and becoming increasingly borderless. International students who have gained NCEA qualifications in New Zealand want their qualifications to be recognised by future employers and tertiary education providers in their home country.

Similarly, New Zealand secondary school students want qualifications that are transferable and internationally recognised if they seek further education at an overseas tertiary education institution or employment in another country. NZQA can support students wishing to study in Australia by converting NCEA level 3 results into a percentile scale, called the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).

The international education market, which is worth approximately \$4 billion a year, is important to New Zealand's economy.

¹ Taumata Mātauranga ā-Motu Kua Taea is the Māori name for NCEA. "NCEA" is inclusive of both Māori and English medium.



Recognition agreements

One of NZQA's key goals is to establish agreements that recognise NCEA qualifications with at least 50 countries by 2020. A priority is the continued trust and confidence in New Zealand qualifications, by ensuring the national and international credibility and relevance of New Zealand qualifications, as listed on the New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF). This work ensures that learning outcomes for individual learners are transferable, and it also supports the international education market.

There are important differences between NCEA and school qualifications in other countries, and it can be difficult for countries with norm-referenced systems and qualifications to understand and interpret the standards-based nature of NCEA. For example, "E" means "Excellence" in NCEA but in countries that use an "A-E" ranking system, "E" indicates very poor performance. A strength of NCEA is that unlike some countries, NCEA credits can be achieved throughout the year and students can be working at multiple levels of NCEA within one year.