

Education Qualification Levels

Schools sector	Vocational Education and Training sector	Higher Education sector
Certificate of Education	Certificate I	
Secondary	Certificate II	
Senior	Certificate III	
	Certificate IV	
	Diploma	Diploma
	Advanced Diploma	Advanced Diploma
		Associate Degree
		Bachelor Degree
	Graduate Vocational Certificate	Graduate Certificate
	Graduate Vocational Diploma	Graduate Diploma
		Masters Degree
		Doctoral Degree

Qualification level	Vocational Education and Training sector - Distinguishing outcomes
Certificate I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate knowledge by recall in a narrow range of areas • demonstrate basic practical skills, such as the use of relevant tools • perform a sequence of routine tasks, given clear directions • receive and pass on messages/information
Certificate II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate basic operational knowledge in a moderate range of areas • apply a defined range of skills • apply known solutions to a limited range of predictable problems • perform a range of tasks where choice between limited options is required • assess and record information from varied sources • take limited responsibility for own outputs in work and learning
Certificate III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate some relevant theoretical knowledge • apply a range of well-developed skills and solutions to a variety of predictable problems • perform processes that require a range of well-developed skills • interpret available information, using discretion and judgement • take responsibility for own outputs in work and learning • take limited responsibility for the output of others
Certificate IV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate understanding of a broad-range knowledge base • apply solutions to a defined range of unpredictable problems • identify and apply skills and knowledge of areas to a wide variety of contexts • identify, analyse and evaluate information from a variety of sources • take responsibility for own outputs in relation to specific quality standards • take limited responsibility for the quantity and quality of the output of others
Diploma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate understanding of a broad knowledge base including theory concepts • analyse and plan approaches to technical problems or management requirements • apply theoretical concepts or technical/creative skills to a range of situations • evaluate information and use for planning or research purposes • take responsibility for own outputs in relation to broad quantity/quality parameters • take some responsibility for the achievement of group outcomes
Advanced Diploma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate understanding of specialised knowledge with depth in some areas • analyse, diagnose, design and execute judgements across a range of technical/management functions • generate ideas through the analysis of information and concepts at an abstract level • demonstrate a command of wide-ranging, highly specialised technical, creative, conceptual skills • demonstrate accountability for personal outputs within broad parameters • demonstrate accountability for group outcomes within broad parameters

Qualification level	Vocational Education and Training sector - Distinguishing outcomes
Vocational Graduate Certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> requires a similar volume of learning to the Graduate Certificate: that is, typically six months full-time or the equivalent part-time high level employment-related skills and knowledge which in most cases are specified in sets of competency standards a focus on competency in a workplace environment offers a vocational education and training pathway to allow further specialisation within a systematic and coherent body of knowledge may involve full responsibility and accountability for all aspects of work of others and functions including planning, budgeting and strategy
Vocational Graduate Diploma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> requires a similar volume of learning to the Graduate Diploma: that is, typically twelve months full-time or the equivalent part-time for the Vocational Graduate Diploma high level employment-related skills and knowledge which in most cases are specified in sets of competency standards a focus on competency in a workplace environment offers a Vocational Education and Training pathway to allow further specialisation within a systematic and coherent body of knowledge may involve full responsibility and accountability for all aspects of work of others and functions including planning, budgeting and strategy

Qualification level	Higher Education sector - Distinguishing outcomes
Associate Degree	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> acquisition of the foundational underpinnings of one or more disciplines, including understanding and interpretation of key concepts and theories and how they are evolving within the relevant scientific, technical, social and cultural contexts development of the academic skills and attributes necessary to access, comprehend and evaluate information from a range of sources development of generic employment-related skills relevant to a range of employment contexts; a capacity for self-directed and lifelong learning
Bachelor Degree	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> acquire a systematic and coherent body of knowledge, the underlying principles and concepts, and the associated communication and problem-solving skills develop academic skills and attributes to undertake research, comprehend and evaluate new information, concepts and evidence from a range of sources develop the ability to review, consolidate, extend and apply the knowledge and techniques learned, including in a professional context acquire a foundation for self-directed and life-long learning demonstrate interpersonal and teamwork skills appropriate to employment and/or further study
Graduate Certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> broaden skills already gained in an undergraduate program develop vocational knowledge and skills in a new professional area
Graduate Diploma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> broaden skills already gained in an undergraduate program further specialise within a systematic and coherent body of knowledge, or develop vocational knowledge and skills in a new professional area
Masters Degree	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provide appropriate evidence of advance knowledge about a specialist body of theoretical and applied topics demonstrate a high order of skill in analysis through planning and execution of project work or a piece of scholarship or research demonstrate creativity and flexibility in the application of knowledge and skills to new situations, to solve complex problems and to think rigorously and independently
Doctoral Degree	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> carry out an original research project, or a project addressing a matter of substance concerning practice in a profession at a high level of originality and quality present a substantial and well-ordered dissertation, non-print thesis or portfolio, for submission to external examination against international standards