

National Certificate of Educational Achievement (Level 1)

Level	1
Credits	80

Purpose

This is one of three National Certificates of Educational Achievement (NCEAs) designed to recognise the general achievement of 16 to 19 year old learners. The NCEAs are qualifications registered on the National Qualifications Framework and are intended to be accessible to all sectors of the target market.

The National Certificate of Educational Achievement (Level 1) is designed to:

- acknowledge achievement across a range of learning fields, particularly those identified in the New Zealand Curriculum, and to attest to minimum levels of literacy and numeracy;
- act as a learning goal; and
- attest to the ability to participate in, and benefit from, further study thereby promoting lifelong learning.

People certificated at level 1 have typically shown themselves able to work at directed activities with limited responsibility for decisions about the organisation of their work.

The NCEA (Level 1) can lead to NCEAs at level 2 and 3 or to other specialised qualifications at higher levels.

Both achievement standards and unit standards can contribute credit toward NCEAs. Achievement standards have been written in most conventional school subject areas by expert panels. They differ from unit standards in that they recognise three grades of award within the one standard – achievement, achievement with merit, and achievement with excellence. This allows for flexible assessment practices, and recognises a wide range of individual learning experiences, styles, and levels of attainment.

The NCEA qualifications and achievement standards are designed to:

- motivate learners to achieve to their potential and help them market their achievements;
- assist institutions to guide students and monitor achievement; and
- provide data to assist government and providers to monitor progress in relation to qualification-related education policies.

A range of national certificates exists on the National Qualifications Framework to certify achievement in specialist areas and credit towards those qualifications may also be used to meet NCEA requirements. Credit gained towards other qualifications may also be used to meet the requirements of the NCEAs, provided they are both quality assured and on the NZQA Approved List for NCEA Credit Inclusion.

The NCEAs at levels 1, 2, and 3 are government initiatives that replaced School Certificate, Sixth Form Certificate, Higher School Certificate, and University Entrance, Bursaries and Scholarship Awards.

Special Notes

The NCEA qualifications can be awarded with the endorsements *with merit* or *with excellence*.

Credit Range

	Literacy Requirement	Numeracy Requirement	Elective
Level 1 or above credits	8	8	64
Minimum totals	8	8	64

Requirements for Award of Qualification

The National Certificate of Educational Achievement (Level 1) will be awarded to people who are credited with a minimum of 80 credits at level 1 or above and who have met the literacy and numeracy requirements.

The National Certificate of Educational Achievement (Level 1) *with merit* will be awarded to people who meet the above requirements and who achieve a minimum of 50 credits with merit, or merit and excellence, from achievement standards at Level 1 or above.

The National Certificate of Educational Achievement (Level 1) *with excellence* will be awarded to people who meet the above requirements and who achieve a minimum of 50 credits with excellence from achievement standards at Level 1 or above.

Literacy and Numeracy Requirements

A minimum of 8 credits is required from the specified literacy subfields and/or listed standards and a minimum of 8 credits is required from the specified numeracy subfields and/or domain.

Elective

The balance of credits to reach a minimum total of 80 credits at level 1 or above may come from anywhere on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF).

Please note: NQF qualifications have components for which there are automatically transferable credits. Credits gained for the NCEA (Level 1) may be used towards meeting the requirements of the NCEA (Level 2) as well as other qualifications registered on the NQF.

Credit Exclusion

The National Certificate of Educational Achievement will not count credits twice for the same learning outcome. Where two registered standards assess substantially the same learning outcome they are considered mutually exclusive for this qualification. Details of mutually exclusive standards are provided in the NZQA *Rules and Procedures* publications available at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/acrp/secondary/7/exclusions.html>.

Credit Inclusion

The National Certificates of Educational Achievement have provision for recognition of credits from other qualifications that are both quality assured and on the Approved List for NCEA Credit Inclusion. Details of the process for applying for credit inclusion are outlined in the NZQA *Rules and Procedures* publications available at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/acrp/secondary/7/73.html>.

Credits from courses on the Approved List for NCEA Credit Inclusion are not awarded with grades and cannot count towards the award of the NCEA with endorsement.

Award of NQF Qualifications

Credit gained for a standard may be used only once to meet the requirements of this qualification.

Unit standards and achievement standards that are equivalent in outcome are mutually exclusive for the purpose of award. The table of mutually exclusive standards is provided in section 7 of the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) *Rules and Procedures* publications available at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/ncea/acrp/index.html>.

Reviewed standards that continue to recognise the same overall outcome are registered as new versions and retain their identification number (ID). Any version of a standard with the same Id may be used to meet qualification requirements that list the ID and/or that specify the past or current classification of the standard.

Summary of Requirements

- A minimum of 80 credits at Level 1 or above
- Literacy Requirement – A minimum of 8 credits as specified
- Numeracy Requirement – A minimum of 8 credits as specified
- Elective – Balance

Detailed Requirements

Literacy Requirement

A minimum of 8 credits

Humanities > Communication Skills > Interpersonal Communications

ID	Title	Level	Credit
1277	Communicate information in a specified workplace	2	3

Humanities > Communication Skills > Reading

ID	Title	Level	Credit
2989	Select, assess, and read texts to gain knowledge	2	3
25060	Independently read texts for practical purposes and to gain knowledge	1	6

Humanities > Communication Skills > Writing

ID	Title	Level	Credit
10792	Write formal personal correspondence	1	3

Field	Subfield	Domain
Humanities	English	Any
Māori	Reo Māori	Any

Numeracy Requirement

A minimum of 8 credits

Field	Subfield	Domain
Māori	General Education Māori	Pāngarau
Sciences	Mathematics	Any
	Statistics and Probability	Any

Elective

The balance of credits to achieve

A minimum of 80 credits at Level 1 or above

May come from anywhere on the NQF.

Transition Arrangements

Version 6

Version 6 was issued to update the standards listed in the Literacy Requirements set of the qualification following the review of Communication Skills standards.

Changes to structure and content

- Titles, levels, and credit values of Communication Skills standards were updated.
- Expiring unit standard 2977 was replaced by unit standard 25060.

This qualification contains a standard that replaced an earlier standard. For the purposes of this qualification, people who have gained credit for the expiring standard are exempt from the requirement to gain credit for the replacement standard – see table below.

Credit for	Exempt from
2977	25060

For detailed information see [Review Summaries](#) on the NZQA website.

Previous versions of the qualification

Version 5 was issued to include provisions for the award of the qualification with Merit and Excellence.

Version 4 was issued to amend the credit inclusion section of the purpose statement.

Version 3 was issued to amend the purpose statement and update the transition arrangements.

Version 2 was issued to take account of the review of unit standard 10792.

NQF Registration Information

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	February 2002	N/A
Revision	2	January 2003	N/A
Revision	3	August 2003	N/A
Revision	4	November 2006	N/A
Revision	5	January 2008	N/A
Revision	6	October 2009	N/A

Standard Setting Body

Ministry of Education
PO Box 1666
Wellington

Telephone 04 463 8000
Facsimile 04 463 8001
Email ncea.feedback@minedu.govt.nz

Planned Review

Any person or organisation may contribute to the review of this qualification by sending feedback to the standard setting body at the above address.

Next Review	2010
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Other standard setting bodies whose standards are included in the qualification

NZQA

Certification

The certificate will display only the NCEA logo, the Ministry of Education logo, and the NZQA logo.

Classification

This qualification is classified according to the NQT classification system and the New Zealand Standard Classification of Education (NZSCED) system as specified below.

NQT Classification		NZSCED	
Code	Description	Code	Description
	Multi-Field	120101	Mixed Field Programmes > General Education Programmes > General Primary and Secondary Education

Quality Management Systems

Providers and Industry Training Organisations must be accredited by a recognised Quality Assurance Body before they can register credits from assessment against standards. Accredited providers and Industry Training Organisations assessing against standards must engage with the moderation system that applies to those standards. Accreditation requirements and the moderation system are outlined in the associated Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP) for each standard.