TLO and Principal Forum

Term 2 8 May 2025

Acknowledgment of Country

National Reconciliation Week 27 May – 3 June 2025

The theme *Bridging Now to Next* calls on all Australians to step forward together, building a more united and respectful nation.

Reconciliation Tasmania will be hosting events around the state. Free posters, downloads, activities for groups/individuals and digital content are available from Reconciliation Australia.



pataway / Burnie Tuesday 27 May 7am – 10am Burnie Arts & Function Centre

kanamaluka / Launceston Wednesday 28 May 7am – 10am Tailrace Centre

nipaluna / Hobart Tuesday 3 June 7am – 10am MyState Bank

Image: <u>National</u> <u>Reconcilation Week 2025</u> banner. Art: <u>Bree Buttenshaw</u>.

Agenda

| Reminder: TASC Updates | Reminder: 2025 EAS amendments | Reminder: Exam Attendance | Reminder: 2025 course movement dates |
|---|--|--------------------------------|--|
| Reminder: ATAR calculation change | Reminder: Registering for TCE Standards tests | Exam Errors External Review | Reasonable Adjustment applications |
| Quality Assurance | OSSA Project update | TCEA | Course accreditation update |

Reminder: TASC Updates

Reminder: TASC Updates

The <u>TASC Update</u> is sent to TLOs every fortnight.

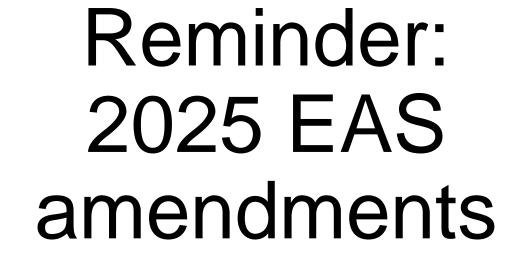
It is the **primary tool** TASC uses to communicate important reminders, updates, and key events with provider school TLOs and Principals.

Please ensure you prioritise reading the *TASC Update* as soon as is practical when it arrives in your Inbox and then disseminate the relevant content to your staff that week.

Feedback on the content, as well as the format and structure of the *TASC Update* is welcomed as we strive to provide the best possible service to our providers.

Send your feedback to <u>tlo@tasc.tas.gov.au</u>





Reminder: 2025 amendments to EAS

Every year the External Assessment Specifications Advisory Panel (EASAP) meets in March to review the External Assessment Specifications (EAS) for courses where amendments had been recommended.

- This year some amendments were made, and these were advertised in the TASC Update and published on the TASC website.
- Course document webpages were also updated.
- See the External Assessment Specifications 2025 page for more information.

TLOs should make sure your relevant course teachers are familiar with EAS changes so that they can prepare their students for external assessments effectively.

This is particularly important as you approach mid-year exams which many schools use as preparation for the TASC exams in November.



Reminder: Exam Attendance

Exam attendance

A reminder that this year's written exam period is from **Monday 10 November** to **Thursday 20 November**.

Students are expected to attend their scheduled Level 3 and 4 exams.

Derived exam ratings are restricted to students experiencing **unfortunate and** *unplanned* circumstances, such as being sick, an emergency or other exceptional unexpected circumstances.

Students travelling interstate or overseas at the time of the exams (due to a 'special event' - sporting, academic or cultural event, should be assisted by their school to request a <u>special exam centre</u>. **Apply before 1 July. Costs will be applicable.**

NB: this is NOT an option for family holidays.



What is a *special event*?

TASC has clarified the <u>evidence</u> that needs to be submitted when a student is selected to take part in a recognised National or International sporting, academic or cultural event that will occur at **the same time** as their exam.

This includes an officially sanctioned National/International event with a limited entry basis where a restricted number of people represent Tasmania, or Australia, or a specific cultural group.

Students must apply for a <u>special exam centre</u> if event attendance is likely to overlap with the two-week written exam period, and the **date of their selection for the event is BEFORE 1 July** (the closing date for special exam centre applications).

If selected AFTER 1 July, please contact the Assessment Team ASAP via a 'Special Exam Centre' Task in TRACS.



Reminder: 2025 course movement dates

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25

2025 course movement dates

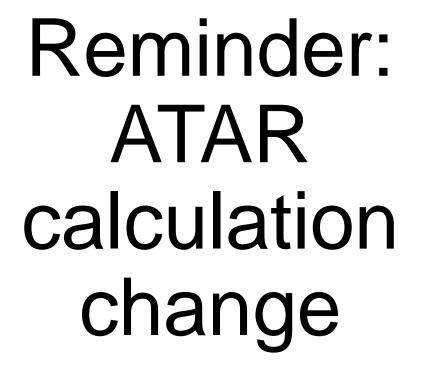
- Schools cannot move students *into* or *between* any Level 3 or 4 course after 25 July 2025 (first week of Term 3)
- Schools cannot make changes for any course on or after 1 September 2025. This includes moving students into, between, or out of any TASC course of any level.

After the closure dates, schools cannot make the specified course movement changes in TRACS. DECYP systems feeding into TRACS (i.e. EduPoint and Web Preferences) will not update student course enrolment information within TRACS.

Following these closure dates, schools may make a request to TASC for *unforeseen/exceptional* course changes.

Process details (including the evidence required) are provided on the <u>Course movements</u> page.





REMINDER: ATAR calculation change

The change to the ATAR calculation process applies from 2025 onwards. The requirements to receive an ATAR in Tasmania are set by the <u>University of Tasmania</u> as the Tertiary Admissions Centre (TAC) for Tasmania.

The change will see an ATAR calculated using an eligible student's best results in Level 3 and 4 courses over *two years* of senior secondary education (combination of two years from Years 11, 12 or 13). The change removes the requirement for three of the results to be from the final year of study.

TASC has published a range of new and updated factsheets related to course scaling, TE Score and ATAR calculation on our website at <u>University entrance</u>. These are very useful to help answer enquiries from parents and teachers and might be handy resources to have available at your upcoming parent/teacher sessions.



Reminder: Registering for TCE Standards Tests

Registering for online TCE Standards tests

Use of Computers and the Internet Standard

As of July last year, TASC no longer marks paperbased *Use of Computers and the Internet* TCE Everyday Adult Standard tests. **An on-demand online test is available for this Standard.** Most students will **not** need to sit an ICT safety net test, as they will meet this standard either through a course or the <u>transitional arrangement</u>.

Reading and Writing & Mathematics Standards

The registration window for the Term 2 testing period opens Monday 12 May and closes **Thursday 5 June**.

Information about how to register for these online tests is available on the TASC website at <u>Online</u> <u>safety net tests everyday adult standards</u>.

Preparing for online TCE Standards tests

Practice Tests for Reading and Writing & Mathematics Standards

To help prepare students to complete the reading, writing and numeracy components of the tests, teachers and students can access the <u>Practice and example tests</u>.

This may help teachers and students understand how the test website (hosted by the WA School Curriculum and Standards Authority) functions and the types of questions that can be expected in the reading, writing and numeracy components.



Exam Errors External Review

Outcome of External Review

As part of its response to the 2024 exam errors, TASC committed to a formal review of processes.

In addition to TASC's own internal review, during Term 1 this year Deloitte completed an External Review of TASC's 2024 *exam development processes*.

Thousands of documents were analysed and feedback from schools was considered. Interviews were conducted with TASC staff, Setters and Critics. Thank you to schools and sessional staff for their contributions.

The focus of this review was to *identify opportunities to improve processes and prevent errors in future.*

Deloitte's findings will be publicly announced soon and TASC will work hard to implement recommendations.



Reasonable Adjustment applications

RA reminders

- Even if a RA application hasn't been approved by midyear exams, schools should still implement the adjustments they've applied for.
- While schools are responsible for mid-year exams, working to make this experience as similar to the end of year exams as possible allows students to gain confidence working in exam conditions.
- Be mindful of your school's resources when you request a RA, especially with smaller/separate rooms and use of computer adjustments.
- A 'RA Enquiry' TRACS task can be used if you have a more general query (not related to an existing student application).



Key dates: Reasonable Adjustments

4 July 2025: Application deadline for RA applications.

21 July – 26 September 2025: Personal Circumstance applications open.

Rolling basis from May to mid-October 2025:

- Adjustments will be reviewed and confirmed by TASC before exams.
- TASC will send email confirmation of approved adjustments to students and their TLO during this period.
- Access the paper-based form at <u>Reasonable Adjustments</u>.
- The medical professional / school-based professional can complete the form in advance but *must* be submitted via TRACS within the application window.

More information is on the TASC website at <u>Reasonable Adjustments for</u> <u>Senior Secondary External Assessments - TASC</u>

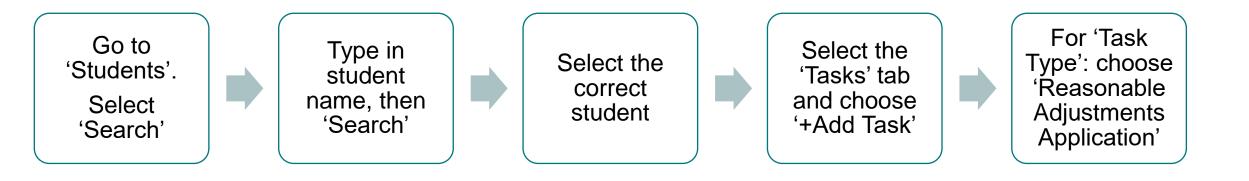
Submitting RA applications in TRACS

Things to remember:

- When submitting RA applications in TRACS, create a *separate* application task for each student.
 - RA information is confidential, so it's important that multiple students are not linked to one task.
 - Application forms for multiple students should not be attached to a single task for the same reason.
- Use a Student Task to submit the application. See the steps below for how to create a *Reasonable Adjustments Application* Task:



Remember to check that the Principal has signed the application before attaching it to the task.



Quality assurance

Quality Assurance meetings – September

TASC's Quality Assurance meetings will be held in the period **1 – 12 September**. Confirmed arrangements and meeting dates/venues will be published during Term 3.

The <u>2025 Quality Assurance Meetings – Information Kit</u> and specific requirements for relevant Level 2 courses are available on the <u>Quality Assurance meetings</u> page.



- Teachers should familiarise themselves with the requirements for the bodies of work they will need to bring to meetings in September. <u>QA Meeting Preparation</u> provides an overview of the QA meeting process.
- Other helpful QA resources are available on the <u>Tools for teachers</u> page.



OSSA Project Update

OSSA Project update

Current situation:

- Three delivery methods of Everyday Adult Standards (EAS) safety net tests (SNT):
 - o ICT online through Canvas
 - o literacy and numeracy online through OLNA
 - o literacy and numeracy offline through paper tests.
- Each method presents its own unique challenges.

The <u>OSSA Project</u>:

- seeks to implement a software solution to consolidate delivery methods of SNT and move all testing online. It is part of the broader online assessment scope.
- aims to see test content revised to better align with national standards and ensure students are equipped with the skills necessary to succeed beyond senior secondary education.
- aims to improve delivery of testing through on-demand access, better feedback on test outcomes, more relevant test content, and more consideration of RAs.
- is in the <u>planning</u> phase.

TASC encourage input and feedback through all stages of the Project. Questions, concerns or ideas regarding EAS SNTs or the OSSA Project can be directed to the OSSA Project Officer, Bridgette Banks at <u>bridgette.banks@tasc.tas.gov.au</u>

OSSA Project questions

- 1. What is your experience with safety net testing so far?
- 2. What do you like and not like about the process?
- 3. How do you find the digital testing processes currently in place compared to paper-based tests?
- 4. What forms of additional support or reasonable adjustments would you like to see provided for students who require these?
- 5. What has your experience been like in terms of uptake of new technology from teachers and students? Do you find that this is generally well received? Do you see recurring issues that hinder acceptance of new technologies?
- 6. Do you have any other feedback or concerns that relate to everyday adult standards, particularly in relation to testing, test content and/or test environments, availability or conditions?



TCEA applications open

The TCEA is designed for students for whom certificates such as the <u>Tasmanian Certificate of Education</u> (TCE) and the Qualifications Certificate do not provide an adequately just and fair account of their participation and achievements in their senior secondary schooling.

Applications for the <u>Tasmanian Certificate of Educational</u> <u>Achievement (TCEA)</u> are now open. Submit applications via TRACS using the 'TCEA Application' task type.

The <u>TCEA</u> page includes the:

- TCEA Guidelines (updated for 2025)
- TCEA application form (updated for 2025)
- sample Descriptive Texts.

NB: Applications close **Friday 4 July**. Schools will be notified of application approvals in August via TRACS.



Course Accreditation update

Course Accreditation

<u>Senior Secondary Provision</u> (SSP at DECYP) are currently undertaking a review of newly accredited courses *and* courses with accreditation periods ending in 2025.

Proposed amendments will be developed by SSP, responding to feedback from teachers and in collaboration with Subject Matter Expert groups. Accreditation will be actioned by TASC by the end of the year for delivery of courses in 2026.

Updates will be provided throughout the year in the *TASC Update* and on the TASC <u>Course accreditation</u> web page.

Questions or comments should be directed to <u>seniorsecondaryprovision@decyp.tas.gov.au</u>



TASC Student Declarations

TASC Student Declarations

The online <u>Student Declaration</u> form is now open.

By signing it, students are:

- declaring they will comply with the <u>TASC academic integrity</u> requirements (all students)
- declaring they will comply with the <u>TASC external assessment</u> rules (for Level 3 and 4 courses)
- providing identity and demographic information, with an email address where TASC will send a digital copy of their results
- confirming they understand their eligibility and responsibilities, and how assessment and results information is used.

Students will need:

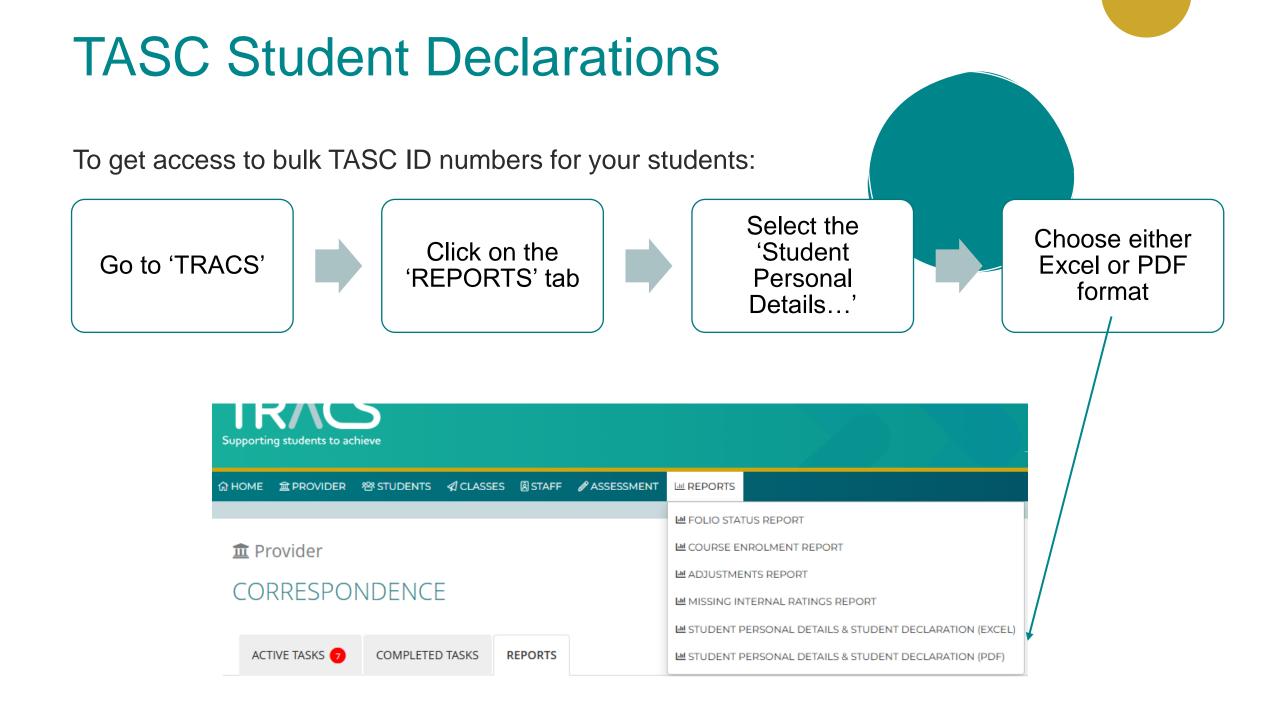
• TASC ID number, full name, DoB, phone, email (non-school)

It is a two-step process!

- 1. Complete the online Student Declaration (on TASC website)
- 2. Confirm the submission via email (check junk!)

NB: non completion may impact notification of results on Results Day.





Questions or comments?

Next forum:

31 July 2025

