

Senior Secondary Course Accreditation Policy

Scope

This policy guides the senior secondary course accreditation functions of Tasmanian Assessment, Standards and Certification (TASC) as set out in the [Tasmanian Assessment, Standards and Certification Act 2003](#) (TASC Act).

The TASC Act, Part 3 – Senior Secondary Education requires TASC to accredit courses for senior secondary education in Tasmania and to develop a senior secondary course accreditation framework. TASC accredits Level 1 to Level 4 senior secondary courses for use in Tasmania, with accredited courses published on the [Courses](#) page of the TASC website.

Out of Scope

The responsibility for senior secondary curriculum, course development and implementation support rests with the Department for Education, Children and Young People (DECYP) in collaboration with the Independent and Catholic school sectors.

The following TASC functions and powers are not within the scope of this senior secondary course accreditation policy:

- to accredit higher education and other education [Functions, Section 10 (1)(b)]
- to accredit education programs for overseas students [Functions, Section 10 (1)(f)].

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that courses accredited by TASC align with the legislative requirements, are of high quality and meet the needs of Tasmanian students and the Tasmanian community.

Policy statement

Under the TASC Act, TASC has the power to accredit, and set standards for, senior secondary courses in Tasmania. This ensures the quality and integrity of qualifications and certificates it issues.

In accordance with the Section 24E, TASC is responsible for the senior secondary course accreditation framework. The course accreditation framework requires consultation with one or more organisations that represent all, or any group of, schools, and the approval of the Minister.

TASC course accreditation procedures ensure that the courses it accredits are of high quality and are suitable for delivery and assessment in Tasmanian schools. To further ensure the integrity of qualifications it issues, TASC uses quality assurance processes to monitor the delivery and assessment of its accredited courses.

Requirements

This policy will be implemented in accordance with the TASC Act.

Under Section 10 (1)(b), one of the functions of TASC is to accredit courses for senior secondary education.

Under Section 24E and 24F of the Act, TASC will develop a framework relating to the accreditation of senior secondary courses including:

- a. priorities for the accreditation of senior secondary courses; and
- b. the processes for determining whether or not to accredit any senior secondary course; and
- c. the standards which must be met by a senior secondary course for it to be accredited as a senior secondary course.

The framework may include any other matters the Minister considers appropriate.

Responsibilities

Roles and responsibilities are as outlined below.

TASC	• ensures the policy and associated procedures are adhered to • has oversight of the senior secondary accreditation framework • sets standards for the provision and assessment of TASC senior secondary accredited courses • develops clear documentation for course accreditation procedures • works in partnership with the Department for Education, Children and Young People to prepare senior secondary courses for accreditation • undertakes course accreditation procedures.
Secretary, DECYP	• develops courses for accreditation, in line with the TASC course accreditation procedures.
Accreditation Advisory Panel	• provides advice and recommendations to TASC regarding the accreditation of courses.
Course proponents	• develop courses for accreditation in line with the TASC course accreditation procedures following consultation with DECYP.

Associated documents and materials

[TASC Senior Secondary Accreditation Framework](#)

Definitions

course accreditation is a process undertaken by TASC that results in the formal approval of a senior secondary course which can then be delivered in registered Tasmanian schools.

quality assurance is a system of transparent processes which underpin confidence in the integrity and validity of TASC qualifications. A variety of quality assurance mechanisms is undertaken by TASC.

the **senior secondary course accreditation framework** includes the priorities, processes and standards relating to senior secondary course accreditation.

a **senior secondary course** is one that is usually undertaken in Years 11 and 12 at complexity level 1 and higher.

Authorisation

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