

# VCAL Update

## VCAL Regional Consultants

The Victorian Qualifications Authority (VQA) has appointed Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) Regional Consultants in each of the nine Department of Education and Training (DE&T) regions in Victoria. The role of the VCAL Regional Consultant is to provide assistance and support to government schools, non-government schools, Technical and Further Education (TAFE) institutes and Adult and Community Education (ACE) providers on key aspects relating to implementation of the VCAL this year. Each of the consultants are based in regional locations and will work closely with both the VQA and the respective regional offices of the Department. The consultants will also liaise with Local Learning and Employment Networks (LLENs), other education and training providers and community organisations and regional networks as appropriate.

The VCAL Regional Consultants are:

Region	Consultant name	Office location	Telephone number
Barwon South Western	Graham Lee	Geelong	(03) 5272 8300
Central Highlands Wimmera	Jeff Rootes	Ballarat	(03) 5337 8444
Gippsland	Onno van den Eynde	Moe	(03) 5127 0400
Goulburn North Eastern	Cheryl Fox and Marilyn Gander	Benalla	(03) 5761 2113
Loddon Campaspe Mallee	Graeme Lynas and Marilyn Tangey	Bendigo	(03) 5440 3110 (03) 5460 4566
Eastern Metropolitan	Sharon Capon	East Burwood	(03) 9881 0220
Northern Metropolitan	Annette Whiter	Fairfield	(03) 9488 9488
Southern Metropolitan	Emanuel Merambeliotis	Dandenong	(03) 9794 3555
Western Metropolitan	Tracey Henderson	Altona North	(03) 9314 7940

## VCAL accreditation

### Minor change to design rules

Award levels described in Part B:7 of the Course Accreditation Document of the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) are amended.

The change is to ensure that the award level credit in Intermediate VCAL, Further Education Certificates must be at least at Certificate II and for VCAL Senior, at Certificate III. This is consistent with the example on the next page part B:8.

The amendments are as follows:

Current	Proposed
<i>Intermediate</i>	<i>Intermediate</i>
Vocational Education and Training units/Further Education Certificates Levels I and II	Vocational Education and Training Certificates I and II Further Education Certificates II
<i>Senior</i>	<i>Senior</i>
Vocational Education and Training units/Further Education Certificates Levels II and III	Vocational Education and Training Certificates II and III Further Education Certificates III

## New VCAL Literacy and Numeracy units

The VQA has accredited new VCAL literacy and numeracy skills units. The development of these new units of curriculum is in response to recommendations of the VCAL Interim Evaluation Report.

The units, based on the Certificate of General Education (Adult), are designed for use by practitioners to cater for the applied learning needs of VCAL students.

The formal accreditation document for these new units with details of learning outcomes and assessment criteria is currently being printed and will be distributed to all VCAL 2003 providers.

The quality assurance process for these units is being developed using the same overall approach for other VCAL units.

Codes and names of the new units are as follows and are now 'live' on Victorian Administrative Software System (VASS):

Unit Code	Description
LITS021	VCAL Literacy Skills Intermediate Reading and Writing
LITS022	VCAL Literacy Skills Intermediate Oral Communication
NUMS021	VCAL Numeracy Skills Intermediate
LITS031	VCAL Literacy Skills Senior Reading and Writing
LITS032	VCAL Literacy Skills Senior Oral Communication
NUMS031	VCAL Numeracy Skills Senior
NUMS032	VCAL Advanced Numeracy Skills Senior

All of the above units can be used to meet VCAL Award level requirements. However, only the VCAL Literacy Skills Reading and Writing units can meet the VCAL literacy course requirements. The VCAL Literacy Skills Oral Communications units would be additional to a literacy unit credit.

## VASS – VCAL Enrolments

The VCAA advised VCAL providers of enrolment procedures for VCAL students in memos dated February and March 2003. The memos requested providers enter student personal details and enrol VCAL students in the appropriate VCAL accredited units, VCE Units, VET certificates and/or Further Education programs.

It is important that all VCAL students be enrolled onto VASS by 30 April 2003. Please contact your VCAL Regional Consultant should you require assistance with VCAL Learning Programs. VASS queries should be directed to the VCAA **Administrative Support Unit on (03) 9651 4482** or **1800 827 721**. Please leave a message on the Voice Mail service if we are unable to answer your call immediately. Alternatively, fax enquiries to **(03) 9651 4551** or email to [vass.support@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:vass.support@edumail.vic.gov.au)

## VCAL Unit Planning and Assessment Guide

The VQA and VCAA have developed a VCAL Unit Planning and Assessment Guide for VCAL providers.

This resource provides information on:

- designing assessment tasks for the VCAL levels
- assessment
- Quality Assurance process for VCAL Work Related Skills and Personal Development Skills Units
- planning assessment for adult learning principles and youth development principles
- VCAL unit assessment templates
- sample tasks and assessments, and
- guide to recognition of prior learning (RPL)

This resource will be distributed to VCAL providers in Term 2.

## VCAL Quality Assurance Process

The VCAA will provide quality assurance for the VCAL Units in the Personal Development Skills (PDS) and Work Related Skills (WRS) strands.

The quality assurance strategy will be based on the practice successfully implemented in the VCAL Trial and will involve a two-stage process. Stage 1 involves the establishment of an expert panel in each DE&T region to validate the assessment tasks proposed by each provider for each level of VCAL units delivered. Accurate and consistent benchmarks will be established with feedback provided to each VCAL provider.

Stage 2 involves the quality assurance of sample portfolios of student work assessed by the provider as satisfactorily completing the two VCAL units (PDS and WRS). Again, the regional expert panel will establish accurate and consistent benchmarks with feedback provided to each VCAL provider.

The VCAL Regional Consultants will facilitate the regional panels and a VCAL Unit Assessment Kit is being developed as a resource for new teachers of VCAL units.

## VCAL Professional Development and Learning Program

The VQA contracted Language Australia Limited to develop and deliver the VCAL Professional Development and Learning Program for VCAL practitioners.

The program will be delivered regionally, commencing with the initial workshop on 25 March 2003 in the Western Metropolitan Region.

The dates and venues for the VCAL Professional Development and Learning Program are as follows (details are also available at [www.aris.com.au/vcalpdlp](http://www.aris.com.au/vcalpdlp)):

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Venue</b>
<b>25 March</b>	Western Metropolitan	Wyndham Leisure and Events Centre 80–82 Derrimut Road Hoppers Crossing
<b>31 March</b>	Gippsland	Adult Community Education Sale 55 Raymond Street Sale
<b>2 April</b>	Northern Metropolitan	Jika International 551 Heidelberg Road Fairfield
<b>4 April</b>	Eastern Metropolitan	Industry Development Centre Swinburne University of Technology TAFE Croydon Campus 40 Norton Road Croydon
<b>8 April</b>	Central Highlands Wimmera	Bell Tower Inn 1845 Sturt Street Ballarat
<b>9 April</b>	Central Highlands Wimmera	Westlander Motor Inn Stawell Road Horsham
<b>Week beginning 14 April</b>		SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
<b>Week beginning 21 April</b>		SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
<b>30 April</b>	Southern Metropolitan	Baton Rouge 1233 Stud Road Rowville
<b>2 May</b>	Eastern Metropolitan	Maroondah Federation Estate 32 Greenwood Avenue Ringwood
<b>7 May</b>	Barwon South Western	Sundowner Mid-City Motor Inn 525 Raglan Parade Warrnambool
<b>8 May</b>	Barwon South Western	Department of Education and Training Vines Road North Geelong
<b>12 May</b>	Northern Metropolitan	Aborigines Advancement League 2 Watt Street Thornbury
<b>13 May</b>	Goulburn North East	Seymour Club 1 Elizabeth Street Seymour
<b>14 May</b>	Goulburn North East	Quality Hotel Wangaratta Gateway 29–37 Ryley Street Wangaratta
<b>19 May</b>	Loddon Campaspe Mallee	Mildura Grand Hotel Cnr. Seventh Street and Deakin Avenue Mildura
<b>21 May</b>	Loddon Campaspe Mallee	The Capital: Bendigo's Performing Arts Centre 50 View Street Bendigo
<b>23 May</b>	Southern Metropolitan	Baton Rouge 1233 Stud Road Rowville



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**VICTORIAN CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY**

41 St Andrews Place East Melbourne Victoria 3002 Australia

TELEPHONE +61 3 9651 4300 FACSIMILE +61 3 9651 4324

EMAIL [vcaa@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:vcaa@edumail.vic.gov.au)

WEB [www.vcaa.vic.edu.au](http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au)

