

VICTORIAN CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION OFFSHORE PROGRAM

Your pathway to the world



Message from our Chief Executive Officer



Thank you for your interest in the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) Offshore Program – a world-class senior secondary credential, recognised internationally for university entry.

The VCE equips students with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed beyond school, including in further study, training and employment in a global context.

There are currently 32 licensed programs operating across China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Timor Leste, Vanuatu and Vietnam.

More than 8,800 students have completed the VCE Offshore Program since it was established in 2001. Following this, more than 90% of offshore VCE graduates who apply for a tertiary pathway continue their education at Australian universities, demonstrating the program's high success rate for tertiary pathways in Australia.

We offer a unique school partnership model where each offshore provider works closely with a Victorian partner school. Offshore teachers are supported by experienced Victorian educators, strengthening teaching practice and assessment quality. The program develops students' global perspectives, builds teacher capability and supports schools to expand their international networks and cultural understanding.

I welcome enquiries from interested schools to explore sharing Victoria's world-class education with your students.

Andrew Smith
Chief Executive Officer
Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority

VCAA Vision and Mission

Vision

Clear and fair learning expectations with real pathways for all Victorian learners

Mission

We make sure curriculum, assessment and reporting are strong, fair and connected from early years to senior secondary



The VCE Offshore Program enhances our international reputation, attracts high-achieving students and empowers teachers to develop cross-cultural teaching skills and diverse assessment methods.

Students gain a globally recognized qualification and flexible pathways to overseas education, and cultivate critical thinking and practical skills while reducing exam-centric pressure."

David Qu
Mathematics teacher, Jining Confucius School

Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE)

The VCE is an internationally recognised qualification that can be used to apply to study at universities in Australia and around the world.

It is the senior secondary qualification undertaken by most students in Years 11 and 12 in Victoria, Australia, and incorporates a range of subjects across the humanities and social sciences, languages, the arts, technology, science and mathematics.

The VCE provides pathways to tertiary education, advanced certificate courses, training opportunities and employment. Students who complete the VCE Offshore Program are eligible for an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR), which can be used to apply for entrance into all Australian universities.

The school partnership model

The VCE Offshore Program is delivered through a unique partnership model in which offshore schools work directly with Victorian education providers. Your Victorian partner school will provide an induction program and ongoing support to your VCE teachers, including support material, school-based assessments and professional development. This model promotes strong relationships, knowledge-sharing and professional development between teachers, ensuring high-quality teaching and learning to help your students achieve their academic goals.

How does it work?

Teachers at a Victorian partner school are appointed as mentors for teachers at your school and together establish a shared vision for success. They will maintain regular contact throughout the program as they plan their learning and teaching program, develop and assess school-based learning, and collaborate on revision for external assessments.

What are the benefits?

The school partnership model gives your teachers the opportunity to develop their professional relationships, increase cultural capability and build their professional practice and expertise by working closely with our highly experienced Victorian VCE teachers.

Delivery of the VCE Offshore Program also contributes to your school's international networks and understanding, and can be complemented through activities such as teacher and student exchange programs and online collaborative learning with Victorian students.

Program delivery options

There are three models of VCE Offshore Program delivery, providing flexible options to suit your school's needs.

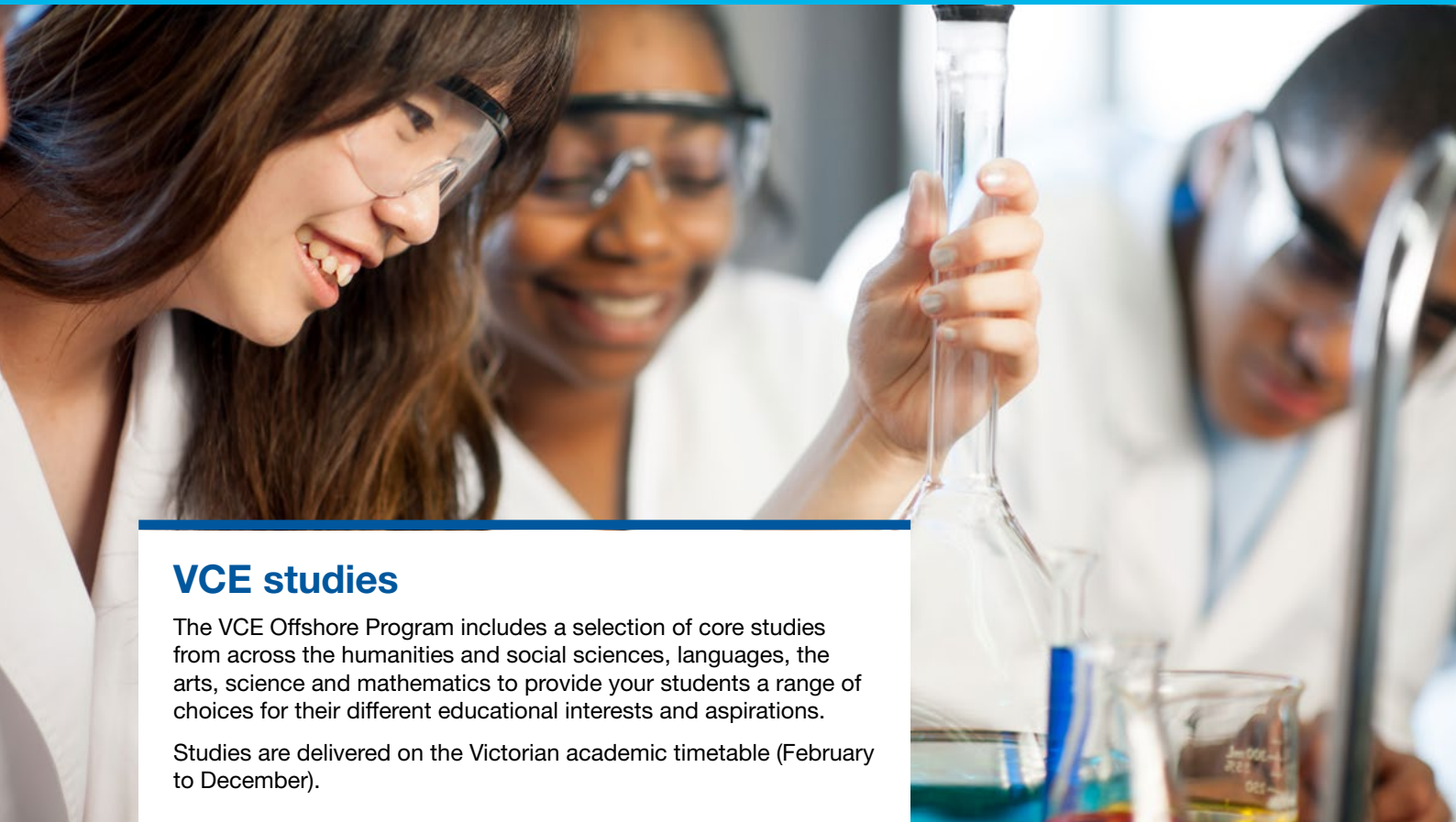
1. Completion of Units 1 to 4 over 2 years in the equivalent of Years 11 and 12.
2. Completion of Units 3 and 4 only in the equivalent of Year 12, with students applying for credit toward Units 1 and 2 on the basis of previous study.
3. Completion of Units 1 and 2 in the equivalent of Year 11 at their local school, before transferring to the Victorian school to complete VCE Units 3 and 4.

You may choose to deliver the VCE alongside your local curriculum, giving your students the best of both worlds.



Teaching the VCE has expanded my skill set, introduced me to new forms of pedagogy and has challenged me to help my students achieve the best possible outcomes.”

Offshore VCE teacher, China (2021)



VCE studies

The VCE Offshore Program includes a selection of core studies from across the humanities and social sciences, languages, the arts, science and mathematics to provide your students a range of choices for their different educational interests and aspirations.

Studies are delivered on the Victorian academic timetable (February to December).

Business and Economics

- Accounting
- Business Management
- Economics

Digital Technology

- Applied Computing
- Data Analytics
- Software Development

English

- Bridging English as an Additional Language
- English Language
- English and English as an Additional Language

Health and Physical Education

- Health and Human Development
- Physical Education

Humanities

- History

Languages

- Chinese
- French
- Indonesian
- Japanese
- Portuguese
- Vietnamese

Mathematics

- General Mathematics
- Mathematical Methods
- Specialist Mathematics

Science

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Psychology

Visual Arts

- Art Creative Practice
- Media
- Art Making and Exhibiting
- Visual Communication Design

Feedback from teachers

92%

of offshore VCE teachers say that teaching the VCE and working with a Victorian partner school has developed their teaching practice and expertise

94%

say that working with a Victorian mentor has been a valuable experience and developed their professional practice

Assessment

VCE Units 1 and 2 are marked by the participating teachers at your school, with students receiving S (Satisfactory) or N (Non-Satisfactory).

Units 3 and 4 have three graded assessments. Depending on the study, these may be school-based assessments and/or external assessments.

School-based assessments are completed at school. They are set and marked by your teachers. The VCAA reviews school-based assessments to ensure that all schools are marking to the same standard.

External assessments are set and marked by the VCAA. They are the same for all students taking the VCE study. External assessments are marked to the same standard by independent assessors who are experts in their area of study. Assessments are checked to make sure that marking is fair.

Exams are held each year in October and November (Victorian academic timetable).

Completion of the program

The VCE is awarded to students who successfully complete 16 units of study. The VCE Baccalaureate is an additional form of advanced certification available to high-performing students who choose to undertake both a languages study and a higher level mathematics study as part of their program, and have scores for at least five VCE studies.

Tertiary pathways

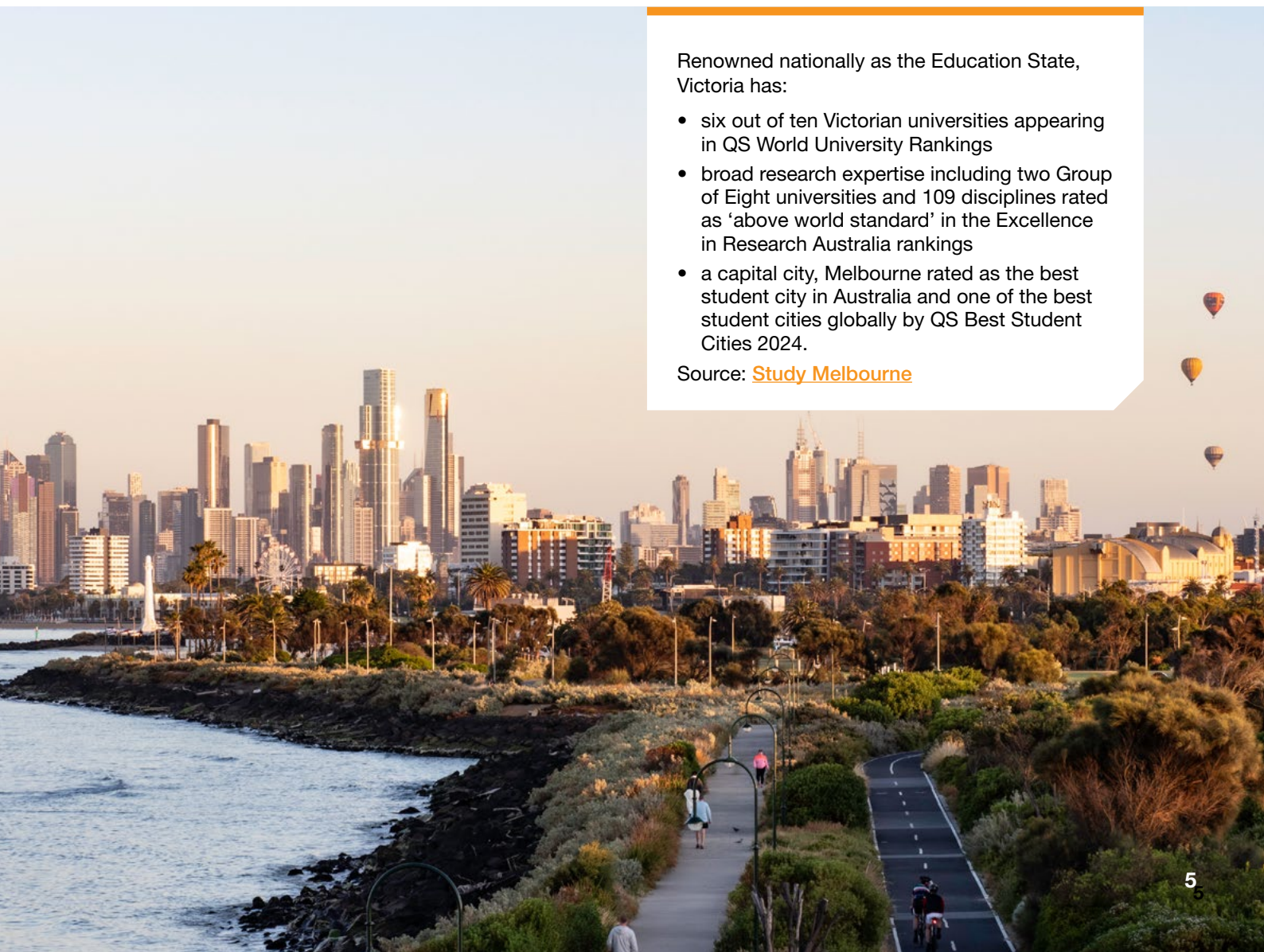
The VCE is an internationally recognised qualification, with approximately 90 per cent of graduates going on to tertiary studies in Australia each year.

Victoria is one of Australia's top destinations for international students, attracting over 200,000 students each year. Many VCE Offshore Program graduates choose to undertake their tertiary studies in Victoria, drawn by our state's exceptional educational offering, high employment rates, high standards of living and one of the most culturally diverse populations in the world.

Renowned nationally as the Education State, Victoria has:

- six out of ten Victorian universities appearing in QS World University Rankings
- broad research expertise including two Group of Eight universities and 109 disciplines rated as 'above world standard' in the Excellence in Research Australia rankings
- a capital city, Melbourne rated as the best student city in Australia and one of the best student cities globally by QS Best Student Cities 2024.

Source: [Study Melbourne](#)



Frequently asked questions

How do I participate?

To participate, an offshore school enters into a partnership agreement with a Victorian school that is licensed by the VCAA to deliver the VCE Offshore Program. You can liaise directly with your chosen Victorian school or contact the VCAA for further information about participating Victorian schools.

Is my school eligible?

Schools that can demonstrate sufficient student demand, appropriate staffing levels, adequate facilities and clearance of any local government permissions are eligible to participate in the VCE Offshore Program. Your school will need to provide facilities including information technology for staff and students, fully equipped science and language classrooms, and a library of English-language reading materials.

Your Victorian partner school can assist you in marketing and promotion, as well as in the establishment and administration of the program, and will provide ongoing support through mentors and program staff.

How much does it cost?

Fee structures are negotiated with participating partner schools. Charges to students must be set at a competitive and sustainable level.

How are the curriculum and assessments designed?

The VCE curriculum structure and assessment arrangements are provided by the VCAA. Classroom delivery is the responsibility of the offshore school, with ongoing support from your Victorian partner school mentors and program staff. School-based assessment tasks will be provided by your Victorian partner school, including design and oversight of pre-VCE preparatory English language program (where appropriate).

Can any student enrol in the program?

You will need to assess the suitability of prospective students before they enrol in the VCE Offshore Program. Academic ability and a strong command of the English language are the two key selection criteria.

Who maintains student records?

Responsibility for student records is shared by your school, your Victorian partner school and the VCAA. Your school will be required to maintain information on all VCE Offshore Program students, including tracking student pathways after their graduation.

Who advises on tertiary pathways for students?

Both partner schools are responsible for ensuring ongoing support for VCE Offshore Program graduates, including providing advice on international tertiary pathways.

Quality assurance

Annual audits of the VCE Offshore Program are conducted by the VCAA to ensure high-quality delivery of the program, and provide feedback to help build the capability of our international partners.

VCAA staff will travel to participating offshore schools to conduct audits. These visits involve meeting with school staff, inspecting school facilities and observing examinations. The visits also help the VCAA understand how to better support these programs.

A full audit of the VCE Offshore Program takes place every three years, with desktop audits undertaken in interim years.

Find out more

The Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) is a statutory body reporting to the Victorian Minister for Education and responsible for developing and implementing curriculum and assessment for all Victorian schools.

We welcome enquiries from educators, schools and education authorities interested in the VCE Offshore Program.

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VICTORIAN CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION (VCE)



The VCE is delivered to:

 **32**
schools
internationally

In partnership with:

 **5**
Victorian
schools

Benefits to schools:

- ✓ Internationalises schools
- ✓ Develops cultural capability and personal relationships
- ✓ Builds professional practice and expertise in VCE studies



International Education
Association of Australia 2020

**Excellence Award winner for Best
Practice in International Education**



8800+

graduates* with
pathways to:

92%[^]

Australian
universities

74%[^] to
Group of Eight
universities**



50+

universities
internationally



Including universities ranked
in the **Top 50 QS World
University Rankings**



[^] 2024 graduates commencing university in 2025

* Since 2000

** Australia's leading research-intensive universities

