



Our ref: 2026/18829[v3]

To the Principal
All Western Australian Secondary Schools

Dear Principal

CHANGES TO CERTIFICATE IV RECOGNITION FOR UNIT EQUIVALENTS TOWARDS THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION (WACE) FROM 2028

The Board of the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (the Authority) is undertaking the WACE Refreshment to ensure the WACE continues to maximise its value to students as they move into further education, training, and employment. I am pleased to provide you with an update on the Certificate IV WACE Refreshment.

To inform this WACE Refreshment, the Authority undertook research and consultation, including with students, vocational education and training (VET) coordinators and school principals across the school systems/sector from different locations and demographic groups, private training providers, TAFE colleges, regulatory bodies, industry and representatives from the tertiary sector.

As you will recall from earlier communications, from 2028, only Certificate IV qualifications that appear on the specified list published by the Authority will be eligible to contribute unit equivalents towards WACE achievement. Additionally, from 2028, only those Certificate IV qualifications specified on the list will be reported on the Western Australian Statement of Student Achievement (WASSA). This decision supports quality outcomes for students undertaking VET as part of their WACE studies.

Registered training organisations (RTOs) will be required to demonstrate how they will be able to deliver a Certificate IV qualification for unit equivalents to students in a particular school. This information will be required as a part of an RTO's application to deliver a Certificate IV qualification.

RTOs delivering the Certificate IV qualifications to secondary students in 2025 have been notified of the changes. This communication confirms that RTOs are responsible for applying to have Certificate IV qualifications added to the Authority's *Certificate IV Specified List*. In developing their applications, RTOs have been asked to confirm that they have consulted with schools. In their application, RTOs must also include evidence of industry support, a suitable training and assessment plan for a specific school cohort, and confirmation that the qualification does not duplicate WACE course content.

Schools are asked to note the changes to Certificate IV qualification recognition in their course counselling for Year 10 students in 2026. Schools are also encouraged to inform students and their families about the changes for Certificate IV qualifications.

The *Certificate IV Specified List* and further information about this WACE Refreshment, including Frequently Asked Questions, is available on the Authority website at <https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/vet/all-about-vet>. The Authority will update the *Certificate IV Specified List* when it endorses RTO applications to add Certificate IV qualifications for delivery to identified schools.

If you or your staff require further information about this WACE Refreshment, please contact the Authority's Programs and Vocational Studies team at VETinfo@scsa.wa.edu.au.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to supporting high-quality vocational education outcomes for Western Australian students.

Yours sincerely



**PAULINE WHITE
CHAIR
SCHOOL CURRICULUM AND STANDARDS**

25 March 2026