



OP to ATAR – Queensland 2021

QTAC

What is QTAC?

- A not-for-profit organisation operating since 1975
- Owned by seven Queensland universities

What do we do?

- Assess approximately 75, 000 applications a year
- Make offers in 1,700 undergraduate courses on behalf of 16 institutions



OP to ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank)

- OP has been used in Queensland since 1992
- A new system of assessment and tertiary entrance is being introduced
- It will start with students starting Year 10 in 2018
- There will be a new curriculum including new subjects
- For tertiary entrance, OP will be replaced by ATAR

What is ATAR?

**Primary mechanism used nationally for tertiary admissions
Indicates a student's position relative to other students**

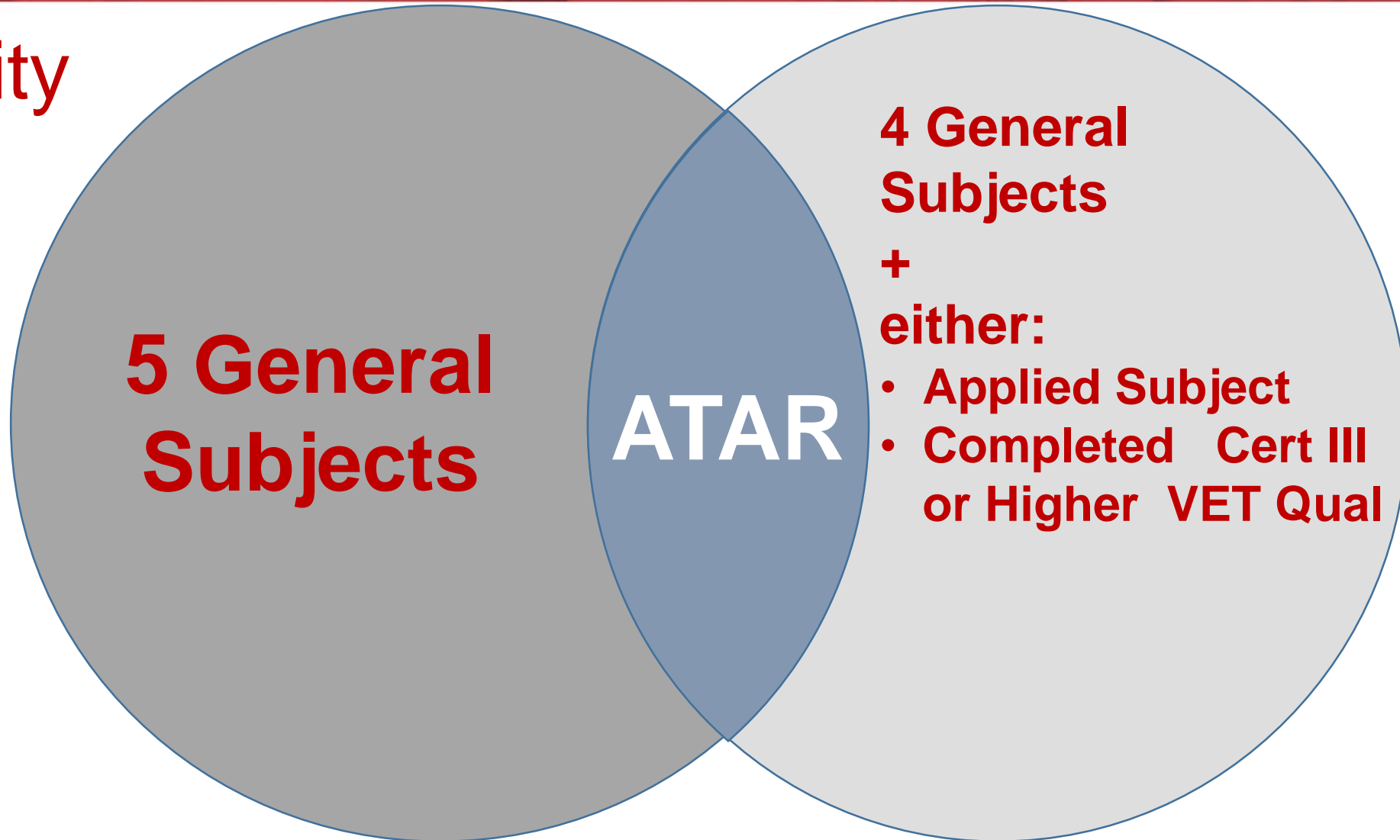
**2,000 point scale from 99.95 down to 0.00
ATARs less than 30.00 will be expressed as *“30 and below”***

**Will be calculated by QTAC for entry into courses in 2021
Will be the new standard pathway for Qld Year 12 students**

Comparison

OP	ATAR
Calculated by QCAA	Calculated by QTAC
Measure of a student's overall position compared to other students	Measure of a student's overall position compared to other students
5 subjects (20 semester units)	5 subjects
Subject scaling applied	Subject scaling applied
Common test (QCS)	No common test
English subject not mandatory	English subject mandatory
25 point scale	2,000 point scale
OP ineligible schedule	No ATAR ineligible schedule
Only used in Queensland	Used across Australia

Eligibility



English – Compulsory Subject

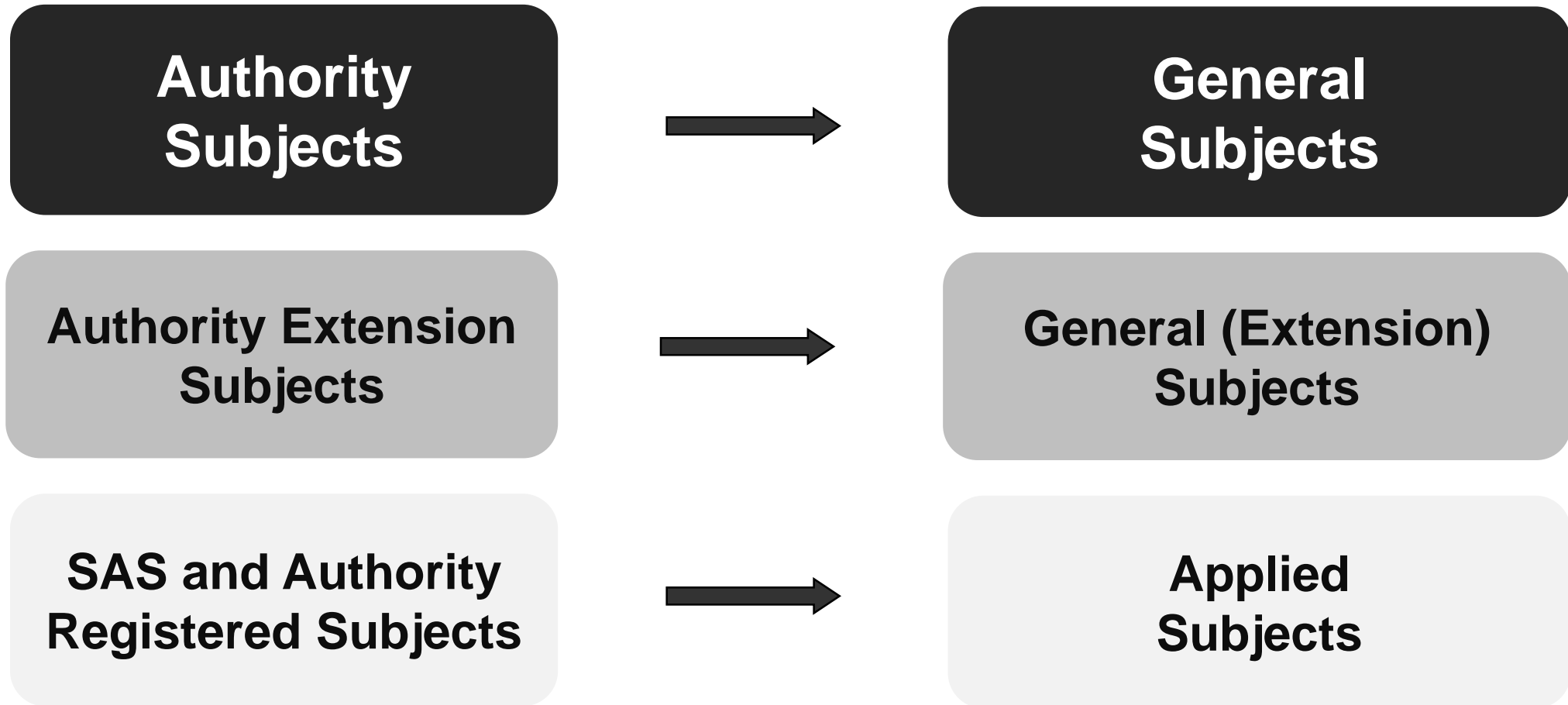
Students must successfully complete one of the following:

- English
- English as an Additional Language
- English & Literature Extension
- Literature
- Essential English

Successfully Complete? = “C” letter grade



Changes to Subjects



Name Change Example

Maths A



General Maths

Maths B



Mathematical Methods

Maths C



Specialist Maths

**Prevocational
Maths**



Essential Maths

Examples of General Subjects

- Accounting, Ancient History, Biology, Chemistry, English, Food and Nutrition, Digital Solutions, Dance, Drama, Engineering, General Mathematics, Mathematical Methods, Psychology

Examples of Applied Subjects

- Tourism, Fashion, Engineering Skills, Essential English, Essential Maths, Science in Practice, Hospitality in Practice, Recreation

Examples of Study Patterns for ATAR



- English
- Mathematical Methods
- Specialist Mathematics
- Physics
- Chemistry

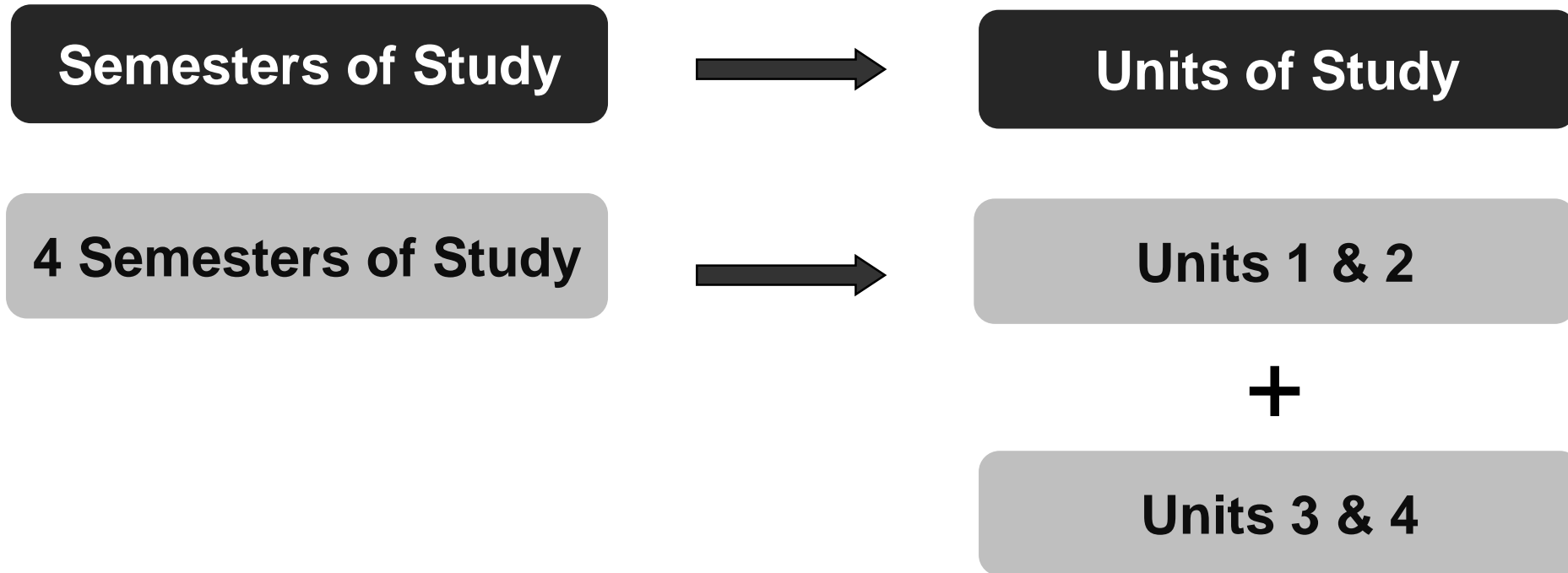


- Essential English
- Accounting
- Modern History
- Japanese
- Music

- English
- Dance
- Visual Art
- Study of Religion
- AQF Certificate III in Business



Other Important Changes



Units 1&2

- Formative units
- Provide feedback to students on their progress
- Between 2 and 4 assessments

Units 3&4

- Summative units
- Result to be based on
 - 3 Internal Assessments
 - +
 - 1 External Assessment
- Between 25% and 50% externally assessed
- May be started in Year 11

External Assessment

- Common to all schools
- Same time, same day
- Developed and marked by QCAA
- Conducted in term 4
- Assessing subject matter from units 3 and 4 only



External Assessment

- Mathematics and Science subjects will have 50% external assessment
- All other General subjects, will have 25% external assessment
- Marking done by accredited markers around Queensland
- 2017 – trials undertaken in a range of subjects, schools familiar with process. Info on QCAA website



Other Important Subject Changes

Level of Achievement



Letter Grade

+

Numerical Score

**Very High Achievement
High Achievement
Sound Achievement
Limited Achievement
Very Limited Achievement**



A to E Letter Grades

+

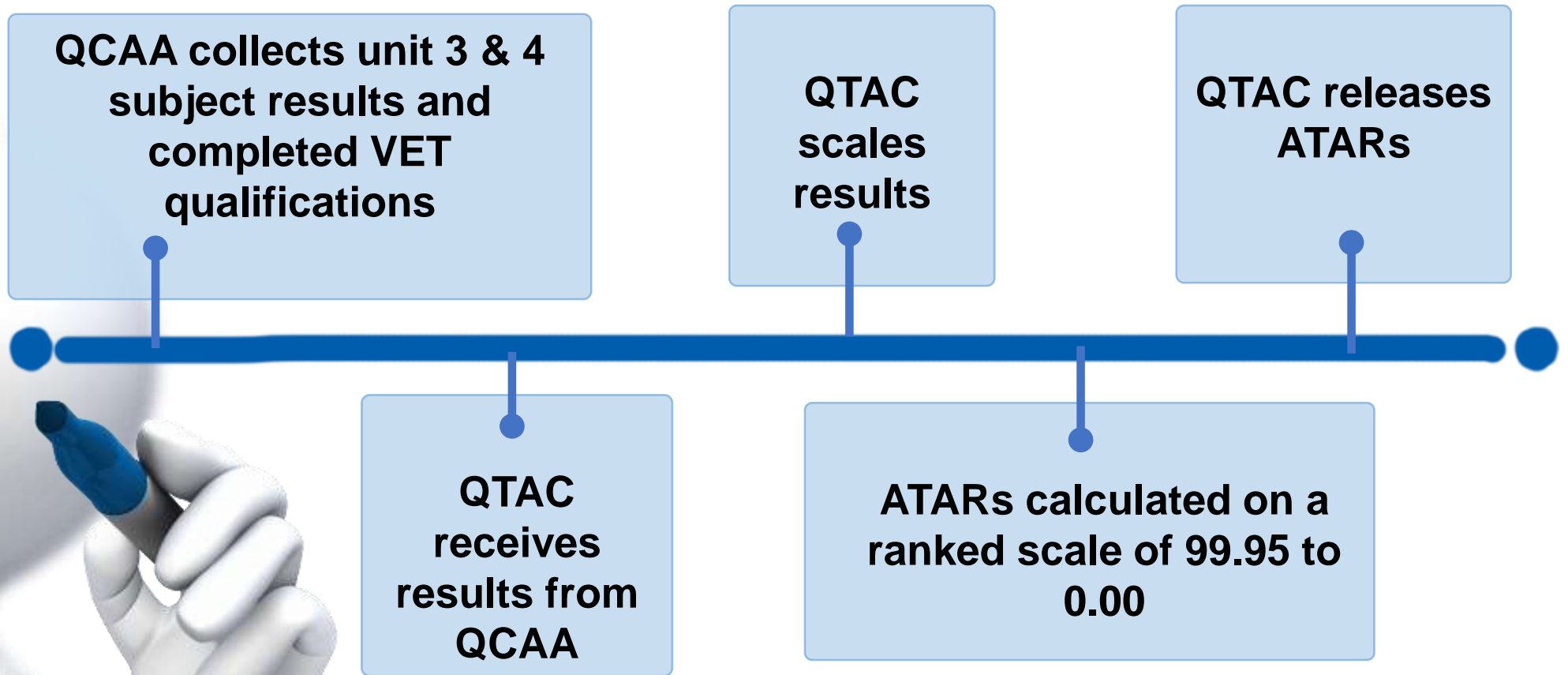
Score out of 100

Accumulating Results

- Most students will follow a traditional pattern of accumulating their results over two years of study in Grades 11 and 12
- ATARs can be calculated based on results from five consecutive years
- One eligible subject a year over a five year period would qualify for an ATAR



Sequence of Events



Subject Scaling

Scaling is necessary so that student results in different subjects can be compared fairly.

If a student of a given ability studies a less challenging Maths subject they might get a 90 / 100.

But if the same student studied a more challenging Maths subject they might only get a 80 / 100.

However, if scaling works, they should end up with the same scaled score.

Subject Scaling - Video

So, how does subject scaling look from a practical perspective?

Inter Subject Scaling Video



Important

Students should continue to choose subjects

- they enjoy,
- that they are good at, and
- that are prerequisites for the courses they want to apply for

Choosing to study 'easy' or 'hard' subjects will not help with scaling or results



VET for tertiary entrance

Completed Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses will still be used for tertiary entrance in two ways:

1. VET incorporation into ATAR; and/or
2. VET as the basis of admission



How will VET be included in the ATAR?

Each VET qualification level will have a single scaled score that can be included in the student's ATAR

E.g. Cert III in Hospitality and Cert III in Lab Skills will have the same scaled score, regardless of duration or content

A scaled score for a VET Diploma will be higher than a Certificate IV, which in turn will be higher than a Certificate III

VET as Basis for Admission

**SIT31007 Certificate III in Hospitality
(Catering Operations)**

Institutions are determining if, and how, VET will be considered for tertiary entry

**SIS40210
Certificate IV in Fitness**

Institution consideration is underway and expected to be made available by June 2018

**BSB50407 Diploma of
Business Administration**

Adjustment Schemes

- ATARs will be based on the actual subject results achieved by students which have been scaled
- Adjustment factors (EAS, subject, etc) will continue to be applied after the ATAR is calculated
- QTAC will continue to administer Adjustment Schemes which have been determined by individual institutions



Mythbusting

Can certain subjects like Physics increase a student's ATAR?

NO. A student can only maximise their ATAR by performing well in their subjects

What pattern of subjects will guarantee an ATAR of 99.95?

No pattern will. However, it is expected that very high ATARs like 99.95 may only be possible from ATARs based on General Subjects

Mythbusting

Does it matter what school the student attends or what postcode they live in?

NO. These will not feature in the ATAR calculation

Will QTAC have an ATAR calculator for students or schools to use?

NO. QTAC will only release the actual ATARs

Mythbusting

Will QTAC be giving the schools predictive subject scaling information before 2020?

NO. Until the 2020 student results are obtained, QTAC will not be scaling any subjects

Will QTAC be releasing the actual scaled subject information?

YES! It will be released as soon as possible in December 2020 and then annually

My Path

- Free tool developed by QTAC to assist schools, Year 10 students and families to transition to ATAR by 2020
- It helps students find out what kind of courses they might be interested in applying for in two years time

YEAR 10 GUIDE

MEETING PREREQUISITES IN 2020



**CHOOSE
THE FUTURE**

My Path

1

Checks ATAR eligibility

2

Ensures subject prerequisites are met for tertiary courses

3

Can be used for senior subject set planning

www.qtac.edu.au

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.qtac.edu.au/atar-my-path/atar/>. The browser's address bar shows "Secure" and the URL. The website's navigation bar includes links for "Home", "For institutions", "For schools", "For parents", a search bar labeled "Search the QTAC website", and an "Applicant log in" button. The main navigation menu features "Courses & institutions", "Applying", "Key dates & fees", "About us", "ATAR & My Path", and "Scholarships". The page title is "ATAR" with a breadcrumb trail: "Home > ATAR & My Path > ATAR". A "Print" icon is visible in the top right corner. On the left side, there is a vertical menu with "ATAR" (highlighted in red) and "My Path". The main content area is titled "Queensland ATAR" and features a video player for "ATAR 2020". The video thumbnail shows four cartoon students in school uniforms standing on a red carpet, with a large "ATAR" text overlay and a play button icon.

