

SECTION 10: EXHIBITIONS AND AWARDS

Policy and guidelines 2008

Exhibitions and awards are granted by the Curriculum Council to senior secondary students studying the Council subjects/courses in 2008. The awards recognise individual excellence at the senior secondary level of schooling. Both general educational excellence and subject/course-specific excellence are recognised.

General criteria for eligibility for exhibitions and awards

To achieve a Beazley Medal: TEE, a Beazley Medal: VET, a general exhibition, a general exhibition (ATSI), a general exhibition (ESL/ESD), a subject/course exhibition, a certificate of distinction and a certificate of excellence, a student must:

- be an Australian citizen or a permanent resident of Australia
- be enrolled as a full-time student in a registered secondary school
- not have previously completed the subject/course external assessment used in determining the award
- have satisfied the requirements for a WACE at the time of the determination of the awards.

Special general awards, special subject/course awards and special certificates of distinction may be awarded to students who do not meet the general eligibility criteria.

Beazley medals

Beazley Medal: TEE

The Beazley Medal: TEE is awarded for excellence in tertiary entrance rank subjects or courses. It is awarded to the highest ranked eligible student, using the general exhibition criteria.

Beazley Medal: VET

The Beazley Medal: VET is awarded for excellence in studies that include workplace learning and VET. It is awarded to the eligible student who has demonstrated the best results in a vocational program.

Eligibility criteria

Students eligible for this award will have:

- at least five school assessments from:
 - E-code full-year (or equivalent) Curriculum Council subjects of which
 - two must be E-code wholly school assessed subjects (other than a SWL subject), and
 - at least one grade from an E-code structured workplace learning subject studied during Year 12 or complete at least two units of Workplace Learning (endorsed program).
 - Courses in which at least two units have been completed in Year 12, and/or
 - VET studies in a stand alone mode, from which the number of E-code full-year subject equivalents will be calculated at the rate of half of one subject per 55 hours for a maximum of two subjects.
- completed at least 110 hours of VET in a particular industry area (either completed in an integrated or stand alone mode).

School assessment award score

Students will be shortlisted according to the school assessment award score. A student's school assessment award score will be calculated from achievement in E-code subjects and/or courses studied in Year 12, and upon exhibitions and awards obtained in the year of the calculation or in the previous year. The calculation of this score will:

- be based on the school-assessed grade for E-code subjects, and the school assessment for courses units studied in Year 12, and
- take account of the two assessment scales from the two types of assessments (E-code subjects and courses studied in Year 12).

The accuracy of the database is paramount for the calculation of the school assessment award score. Late or inaccurate submission of students' results from schools will disadvantage students.

Selection criteria

The exhibitions and awards committee will determine the award winner from the shortlist according to the following criteria (listed in priority order):

- AQF level of the nationally recognised VET qualification

- coherence of the WACE program
- number of other Curriculum Council awards.

General exhibitions

Forty awards, known as general exhibitions, are awarded to the eligible students who obtain the highest Curriculum Council award score based on the average of five TEE subjects/WACE courses scaled marks, calculated to two decimal places. The subjects and/or courses (at least two units in each course) must have been studied and completed during the last two years of senior secondary schooling. Where candidates have accumulated scaled marks over two years, the following rules apply in calculating the Curriculum Council's award score:

- most scaled marks must have been obtained in the final year of senior secondary schooling.
- where a student has repeated a subject and/or course, the first scaled mark obtained is used. Scaled marks in repeated subjects and/or courses will count only once.

The following subject/course combinations will not be permitted in determining the Curriculum Council award score. In cases of such combinations, only the higher of the two scaled marks will count.

Biology and Human Biology
 Chemistry and Physical Science
 Chinese: Advanced and Chinese: Second Language
 Discrete Mathematics and Applicable Mathematics
 Discrete Mathematics and Calculus
 Earth & Environmental Sciences and Geology
 English (WACE course) and English Literature
 English as an Additional Language/Dialect and English as a Second Language
 English and English as an Additional Language/Dialect
 English (E-code) and English Literature
 English Literature and English as an Additional Language/Dialect
 Indonesian: Advanced and Indonesian: Second Language
 Japanese: Advanced and Japanese: Second Language
 Malay: Advanced and Indonesian: Advanced
 Malay: Advanced and Indonesian: Second Language
 Physics and Physical Science

Additional general exhibitions

General exhibition (ATSI)

One award known as general exhibition (ATSI) may be awarded to the top eligible Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student based on the average of five TEE subjects/courses scaled marks, calculated to two decimal places. The subjects and/or courses (at least two units in each course) must have been studied and completed during the last two years of senior secondary schooling.

The subject and/or course combinations not permitted in calculating of the Curriculum Council award score are listed in the general exhibition criteria. Rules regarding the inclusion of scaled marks in repeated subjects and/or courses are listed in the general exhibition criteria.

To be eligible for this award, the student must fit the Australian Bureau of Statistics definition of an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander.

In the event that this student wins a general exhibition, he or she will also receive the general exhibition (ASTI).

General exhibition (ESL/ESD)

One award known as general exhibition (ESL/ESD) may be awarded to the top eligible student with an ESL/ESD background based on the average of five TEE subjects/courses scaled marks, calculated to two decimal places. The subjects and/or courses (at least two units in each course) must have been studied and completed in the year of the award.

The subject and/or course combinations not permitted in calculation of the Curriculum Council award score are listed in the general exhibition criteria. Rules regarding the inclusion of scaled marks in repeated subjects and/or courses are listed in the general exhibition criteria.

To be eligible for this award, the student must meet the ESL/ESD background criteria used for studying English as an Additional Language/Dialect course.

In the event that this student wins a general exhibition, he or she will also receive the general exhibition (ESL/ESD).

Subject/course exhibitions

Category one (TEE subjects/courses)

A subject exhibition may be awarded to the eligible student obtaining the highest raw examination mark in the TEE for each subject, provided that at least 100 students sat the examination. To be eligible for a category one subject exhibition, the student must have achieved a grade of A in that subject in the year of the award being granted.

A course exhibition may be awarded to the eligible student obtaining the highest external assessment score for each WACE course, provided that at least 100 students sat the examination. To be eligible for a category one course exhibition the student must have completed at least two course units in the year of the award being granted. No course exhibition will be available for students who have not sat the examination in that course.

Background candidates sitting a LOTE subject which includes background and non-background candidates are not eligible for a subject exhibition in the respective subject.

Category two (wholly school assessed subjects and non-examination candidates)

A subject exhibition may be awarded to the eligible student who is the top student in each subject for the award of the certificate of distinction for wholly school assessed subjects.

A course exhibition may be awarded to the eligible student who is the top student in each course for the award of the certificate of distinction for non-examination candidates.

Certificates of distinction

Category one (TEE subjects/WACE courses)

Certificates of distinction are awarded to eligible students who are in the top 0.5 per cent of candidates sitting the examination or the top two candidates (whichever is the greater) in a TEE subject where there are at least 100 students sitting the examination. The determination is based on the combined mark (being an equally weighted combination of the standardised moderated school assessment and the standardised examination mark).

For courses, certificates of distinction are awarded to eligible students who are in the top 0.5 per cent of candidates sitting the external assessment or the top two candidates (whichever is the greater) where there are at least 100 candidates sitting the examination. The determination is based on the combined score (being an equally weighted combination of the statistically adjusted school assessment and the external assessment).

In the case of LOTE subjects which have background candidates, certificates of distinction will be granted to the top 0.5 per cent of eligible candidates or to the two top non-background candidates (whichever is greater). Background candidates sitting a LOTE subject, which includes both background and non-background candidates, are not eligible for a certificate of distinction in the respective subject.

Category two (wholly school assessed subjects/courses)

Certificates of distinction may be awarded to eligible students who are in the top 0.5 per cent of students in E code (Year 12) wholly school-assessed subjects with a mean enrolment of 100 or more in October of the previous two years.

If a wholly school-assessed subject has an enrolment of more than 100 students as at the end of processing enrolments (mid-July), then certificates of distinction and a subject exhibition are to be available for awarding in this subject and schools will be informed accordingly.

The wholly school-assessed subjects to be granted subject exhibitions, special subject awards, certificates of distinction and special certificates of distinction for 2008 will be compiled in October 2007.

An award may be awarded to eligible students who are in the top 0.5 percent of students in their final year of senior secondary schooling (Year 12) in a WACE course. There must be at least 100 Year 12 students enrolled in two units in the course for an award to be made in that course.

To be eligible for a certificate of distinction, a student must not have sat the examination and must have completed at least two units for that course during their final year of senior secondary schooling (Year 12).

Students who are not in their final year of senior secondary schooling and are enrolled in the subjects are eligible to be nominated for the wholly school-assessed subject awards. Should a student not in the final year of senior secondary schooling be nominated for an award, he or she would be granted either a special subject/course award or a special certificate of distinction.

Selection is by a panel appointed by the Curriculum Council. Panel members will be nominated by the school sectors and approved by the Curriculum Council. The selection process involves two stages:

- School nomination – completion of a nomination form from the Principal highlighting the subject achievement for a student likely to be in the top 0.5 per cent studying the subject/course.
- Interview or similar – short-listed students may be invited to demonstrate their understanding of, and achievements in, the subject through an interview, performance and/or submission of a portfolio of work, as determined by the selection panel.

Schools will be required to assist the student to attend the interview at the Council and will be responsible for meeting associated costs. Country nominees will be invited to attend an interview in person or through a video conference/teleconference as appropriate.

Details of the process for determining recipients of these certificates of distinction will be available on the Curriculum Council website www.curriculum.wa.edu.au from the beginning of Term 2, 2008.

Special general award

A special general award is presented to students not eligible for the award of a general exhibition because they have not satisfied the general criteria for eligibility but who have otherwise achieved the requirements for the award of a general exhibition and whose Council award score is not below the lowest score for a general exhibition.

Special subject/course awards

A special subject/course award may be presented to a student not eligible for a subject/course exhibition because they have not satisfied the general criteria for eligibility but who have otherwise achieved the requirements for a subject/course exhibition. Only one award will be available in a particular subject.

Background candidates sitting a LOTE subject which includes both background and non-background candidates are not eligible for a special subject award in the respective subject.

Special certificate of distinction

A special certificate of distinction is awarded to students not eligible for the award of a certificate of distinction because they have not satisfied the general criteria for eligibility but who have otherwise achieved the requirements for the award of a certificate of distinction. It will be awarded only to candidates within the top 0.5 per cent of candidates sitting the examination or students in the top 0.5 per cent of students enrolled in the subject for wholly school-assessed subjects.

Background candidates sitting a LOTE subject which includes both background and non-background candidates are not eligible for a special certificate of distinction in the respective subject.

Certificates of excellence

A certificate of excellence is to be awarded to each eligible student who, in their last three consecutive years of senior secondary school enrolment, obtain:

- at least 10 A grades in year-long subjects or course equivalents; or
- nine A grades in year-long subjects, if they have two course unit equivalent from endorsed programs (including VET units of competence); or

SECTION 10: EXHIBITIONS AND AWARDS

- eight A grades in year-long subjects, if they have four course unit equivalent from endorsed programs (including VET units of competence);
- (only the students enrolled in a school-based traineeship) at least six A grades in year-long subjects, if they have eight or more course unit equivalent from endorsed programs (including VET units of competence), and have been engaged in a school-based traineeship and have achieved a minimum of a Certificate II.

Completion of two course units is equivalent to a year-long Curriculum Council subject. Repeated course units can be used in the determination of this award.

A subject cannot be used more than once in the determination of this award and two A grades in semester-length Curriculum Council subjects may be deemed equivalent to one A grade in a year-long Curriculum Council subject.

At the time of the determination of this award, the student must have satisfied the requirements for the WACE.

General

Award approval

The final decision on the granting of each award is made by the Curriculum Council exhibitions and awards committee. For subject/course exhibitions (category one), the chief examiner or nominee is required to make the recommendation.

Certificates and medals

The winner of the Beazley Medal: TEE and the Beazley Medal: VET receives a medallion and cheque for \$2000. In the event of a tie for either award, each student in the tie is to be granted a medallion and \$2000.

- Winners of general exhibitions and special general awards receive a medallion, a certificate and a prize.
- Winners of a subject/course exhibitions and special subject/course awards receive a medallion, certificate and a prize.
- All other award winners receive a certificate.
- All certificates are suitable for photocopying.

Awards by nomination

The selection criteria and other promotional material for the certificates of distinction (non-exam) and certificates of distinction (WSA) to be posted on the web and sent to schools during Term 1.

Full-time student

A full-time student is one who is enrolled in at least four full-year or equivalent subjects/courses in a registered school.

Outstanding achievement

Where the number of candidates who sat a TEE subject/WACE course examination was below 100, the exhibition and awards committee may decide to award a subject/course exhibition or certificates of distinction if the achievement is of an exceptionally high standard.

Sickness/misadventure claims

A derived examination mark resulting from a sickness/misadventure claim can be included in the determination of a Beazley Medal: TEE, a general exhibition, a general exhibition (ATSI), a general exhibition (ESL/ESD), a certificate of distinction, a special general award or a special certificate of distinction.

Release of information

The name and school of award winners is published unless the award winner prefers otherwise. In such cases, only the name of the school will be published.

Sponsorship

The aim is that educational and business bodies will provide sponsorship for the exhibitions and awards, and that the prizes and presentation ceremony will be self-supporting through sponsorship.

The Curriculum Council secretariat will seek sponsorship for the exhibitions and awards. Sponsorship packages will be available for different levels of sponsorship.

Awards ceremony

A presentation ceremony is held in February. The ceremony is inclusive of all Curriculum Council exhibitions and awards.