

Calculating the raw score for scaling

Your SACE/NTCET results cannot be used directly in the selection process for university or TAFE SA courses. A mathematical process called scaling must first be used to ensure that results obtained in different subjects can be directly compared. The results must also be converted to numerical values to allow a university aggregate to be calculated.

Your overall subject grade is not used to create a raw score. Instead, the A+ to E- grades for your achievements in each of the school assessed components of a subject are used, as well as the numeric result of the external assessment (e.g. examination and or an investigation).

Raw scores are on a scale of 0 – 15.0 with a decimal place. Where a subject has a school assessed component of 70%, its contribution to the raw score is out of 10.5 (70%) and therefore the external assessment contribution is out of 4.5 (30%).

This example shows a typical calculation for Jane, who has studied the Stage 2 subject Tourism.

Contribution of the school-based assessment types

As well as the final subject grade for each subject result, there are also A+ to E- grades for the individual assessment types. It is these grades that are used to create a numeric equivalent to contribute to the raw score.

Each grade level in the SACE/NTCET is ascribed a numeric equivalent value as shown in the table opposite.

| SACE/NTCET grade level/numeric score comparison table | |
|---|---------------|
| Grade | Numeric value |
| A+ | 15 |
| A | 14 |
| A- | 13 |
| B+ | 12 |
| B | 11 |
| B- | 10 |
| C+ | 9 |
| C | 8 |
| C- | 7 |
| D+ | 6 |
| D | 5 |
| D- | 4 |
| E+ | 3 |
| E | 2 |
| E- | 1 |
| N | 0 |

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Tourism has three school-based assessment types:

School-based assessment (70%)

- Assessment type 1: Folio (20%)
- Assessment type 2: Practical Activity (25%)
- Assessment type 3: Investigation (25%)

Jane achieves a B, a B- and a C for these three assessment types respectively (that she has received a final subject grade of B- is irrelevant). The grades are converted to their numeric equivalents:

| Numeric equivalents for SACE/NTCET grades | | | |
|---|----|----|---|
| Assessment type | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Grade | B | B- | C |
| Numeric equivalent | 11 | 10 | 8 |

The contribution towards the raw score for each assessment type is calculated from each assessment type's contribution to the final subject grade by multiplying the numeric equivalent by the percentage:

| Contribution to raw score of assessment types | | | |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Assessment type | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Grade | B | B- | C |
| Numeric equivalent | 11 | 10 | 8 |
| Contribution of the assessment type to the final subject grade | 20% | 25% | 25% |
| Contribution of individual results to the raw score | 20% of 11 = 2.2 | 25% of 10 = 2.5 | 25% of 8 = 2.0 |

These are summed to give a raw score out of 10.5: $2.2 + 2.5 + 2.0 = 6.7$

Contribution of the external assessment

Instead of A+ to E- grade for the external assessment component, the numeric result of the external assessment component is used to contribute to the raw score.

Numeric results vary from subject to subject. Some subjects have an investigation marked out of 60, others have examinations marked out of 200.

Regardless of the numeric scale, results are converted to a score out of 4.5. How this is achieved is shown here:

Example: Investigation result of 43/60

Contribution to the raw score:

$$\begin{aligned} &= 43 \text{ (the actual result)} \times 4.5 \text{ (the max contribution)} \\ &\div 60 \text{ (the max result)} \\ &= 3.225 \end{aligned}$$

The external assessment contribution to the raw score often includes decimal places.

Jane's subject Tourism has an external examination out of 80, and she has received 56/80.

The contribution of this result to the raw score is:

$$\begin{aligned} &= 56 \text{ (the actual result)} \times 4.5 \text{ (the max contribution)} \\ &\div 80 \text{ (the max result)} \\ &= 3.15 \end{aligned}$$

The final raw score

The final raw score is simply the sum of the scores contributed by these two steps.

Jane's raw score is $6.7 + 3.15 = 9.85/15$.

This raw score is now used in the scaling process which will, in turn, calculate the scaled score Jane will receive for Tourism.

Contact SATAC

Level 6, 431 King William
Street, Adelaide, SA 5000
Telephone (08) 8224 4000
or 1300 138 440
satac.edu.au