

#6 NCEA Recognition Overseas

Myths

- NCEA is not recognised by overseas universities
- NCEA cannot be compared with overseas secondary qualifications

Facts

- Extract from 'Understanding NCEA - Factsheet Number 12

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) recognises New Zealand's education system as world-leading

NZQA is part of the National Academic Recognition Information Centres (NARIC) network. NARIC is consulted by member states of the European Union, the European Economic Area as well as by Central and Eastern European states

NZQA has equivalency arrangements in:

Australia: New Zealand's NCEA Level 3 is broadly equivalent to Senior Certificates of Education in Australia.

Great Britain: New Zealand's NCEA Level 3 is broadly equivalent to GCE A-Level and is accepted as such. NCEA is listed in the 'International Qualifications for Entry to Higher Education'.

Germany: German Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs have recommended that German universities accept NCEA results. German entry requirements are similar to New Zealand's.

Europe NARIC recognises that University Entrance and NCEA Level 3 (with Merits/Excellences in subjects to be studied at tertiary level) are comparable to those with overall GCE Advanced standard.

Thailand: Students completing high school qualifications outside Thailand need a Matthayom 6 equivalence certificate, issued by Thailand's Bureau of Educational Testing (BET) with agreed equivalence approximately NCEA Level 2.

India: Association of Indian Universities recognises NCEA Level 3 as equivalent to its university entrance requirements.

United States: As there is no central agency for admission to a tertiary institution in the United States, application for entry is to an individual institution and may sometimes involve an entry test. NCEA Level 3 with Merit/Excellence endorsements in courses/certificate is a definite advantage.

Some things to think about

Some examples of where students with NCEA go to study:

- Harvard
- Melbourne University
- Oxford University
- Australian National University
- Cambridge University
- Sydney University
- Duke University
- Aston University, Birmingham
- Yale
- Brown University
- Rhode Island School of Design
- New York Film Academy.....

Some comments:

"It is a complete nonsense to say that our national qualifications system does not give school leavers access to overseas universities. The reality is that a combination of Level 3 NCEA and Scholarship is getting students into top universities."

Roger Moses, Headmaster, Wellington College

"NCEA prepared our son very well for assessments in US universities. They don't have one-off end of year exams – the NCEA assessments that happen during the year better reflect what happens there."

Jonny Newbre, mother of Alex Hayashi – left Rangitoto College in 2007 and later accepted at University of California, Berkeley.