



The Hon Adrian Piccoli MP

Minister for Education

MEDIA RELEASE

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HSC FIRST IN COURSE

With HSC results released to over 71,000 NSW students tomorrow, a handful have been able to celebrate early with the news they have topped the state in one or more courses.

NSW Minister for Education, Adrian Piccoli announced the 107 First in Course recipients at a ceremony attended by many of the students and their families today at the Australian Technology Park in Eveleigh.

“The HSC is a world-class credential, and it is important that we acknowledge these students who have worked so hard to reach the top of their courses,” said Mr Piccoli.

“Of course, behind every good student, there is almost always a patient, understanding and supportive group of family and teachers. Today’s ceremony is an acknowledgement of their efforts too.”

Highlights from this year’s First in Course list include:

- Equal first place was given in six of the 116 courses for which there were First in Course awards in 2011.
- Eight students received a First in Course Award for more than one course, with one student topping three courses.
- Nearly two-thirds of all First in Course recipients in 2011 are female.
- Over 20 students on the First in Course list live in regions outside of Sydney including: Molong, Nyngan, Finley, Port Macquarie, Hillston, Corndale, Albury, Ballina and Taree.

Mr Piccoli said that the diversity of students and courses showcased in the ceremony was a reflection on the success of the HSC.

“It used to be that the HSC was seen as just a pathway to university, and obviously it still retains that important role. Around 83% of HSC students in NSW are eligible to receive an ATAR – which is the entrance requirement for university.

“Today, the HSC continues to expand and offer students relevant and contemporary options.

“We’ve seen students accept awards today in subjects as diverse as Aboriginal Studies, Electrotechnology and Business Services, as well as a range of courses in the more traditional areas such as English, Maths and Science.

“This is a proud day for these students, their families and their teachers and on behalf of the NSW Government, I want to wish them all the very best for the future,” said Mr Piccoli.

HSC results will be delivered to students from 6am tomorrow through the internet, SMS and telephone.