

Wednesday 18 December 2013

2013 HSC RESULTS RELEASED TO 74,000 STUDENTS

Students across NSW have started to receive their final Higher School Certificate results, as the Board of Studies NSW delivers the news to more than 74,000 students.

President of the Board of Studies NSW, Mr Tom Alegounarias said the results marked the end of years of hard work.

“When people think about the HSC, they often think of the exams, but in fact the HSC is a course of study. Each course requires students to submit assessment work over time, and for many courses, the exam itself includes a major work or performance piece.

“These courses are rigorous and testing because as students enter an international skills market they need a credential that is recognised and respected around the world,” said Mr Alegounarias. Mr Alegounarias said that 74,276 students had undertaken at least one HSC course in 2013. Of those, 66,841 will receive their full HSC, and 54,661 will be eligible for an Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank.

“This means around 82 per cent of all students receiving an HSC are pursuing a pattern of study that enables them to seek entry into university.

“The number of students awarded an HSC has grown by over 5,000 students since 2004. At the same time, the growth in the number of students eligible for an ATAR is less than 3,000.

“It’s encouraging to see that sort of stability in the ATAR-eligibility, but it is just as interesting to note that more and more students not looking for an ATAR are finding a pattern of study in the HSC that suits their purposes.”

Mr Alegounarias said that 10 per cent of student results were in a top performance band, with 96 per cent falling above the minimum standard expected.

“The proportion of results in the top band has been relatively stable since 2008 – which is exactly what we want to see.

“There has been a lot of discussion about so-called ‘grade creep’ in other jurisdictions around the world. What we’re seeing in NSW is solid evidence that our exams are pitched at the right level to test against the syllabus, and that our markers are maintaining a rigorous standard.”

Chief Executive of the Board of Studies, Ms Carol Taylor said that around 62,000 students had retrieved their HSC results by SMS or through secure websites by 9.20am.

“Some of us remember when students had to wait until January and haunt the mail box to get their results.

“Fortunately, advances in technology have changed that, with students now able to login from 6am to receive their results.

“For students with questions about their exam results, the Board has an Inquiry Centre that can be contacted on 1300 13 83 23.

“The Board also provides a number of post-results services that open this Friday. Students can use these services to order copies of their raw marks or their completed examination papers,” said Ms Taylor.

Post-results services can be accessed through the Board’s *Students Online* website. Eligible students will receive their ATAR from 9am tomorrow from the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC).

2013 HSC FACT SHEET

- A record 74,276 students achieved an HSC result in at least one course in 2013.
- 66,841 students will receive a full HSC.
- 54,661 – almost 82 per cent of those students receiving an HSC are also eligible for an ATAR.
- Around 30 per cent of students completed a VET (Vocational Education and Training) course.
- Around 45 per cent of students completed a science course. This result continues the NSW trend of increasing enrolments in most science courses over the last decade.
- Entries into maths courses remain at about 80 per cent of students. Entries into mathematics extension courses have remained stable since 2007.
- On Tuesday 17 December, the Minister for Education announced the award of First in Course results to 121 students, including three students with two First in Course results (69 per cent female, 32 per cent male).
- The Board of Studies NSW will release three further merit lists today (Wednesday 18 December), including All-Round Achievers and Distinguished Achievers.
- In 2013 there are 1,232 All-Rounder Achievers – students who received a top band result in at least 10 HSC units (58 per cent female and 42 per cent male).
- In 2013 there are 15,949 Distinguished Achievers – students who received a top band result for one or more courses (58 per cent female, 42 per cent male).
- Students retrieved their HSC results this morning from over 90 countries, including the United States, Hong Kong, China, the UK, India, Malaysia, South Korea and France.
- The largest number of students will receive their results by SMS, with over 27,300 students registering in advance to receive SMS results.
- Students using a computer to access their results mostly use a desktop, however close to half those students will use a smart phone or tablet.