

22 September 2021

E te rangatira, tēnā koe & warm Pacific greetings to all

While Alert Level 3 may offer some additional freedoms, we are very conscious you will be balancing a return to school for a small number of your students today while continuing online delivery to others.

We know you will continue to provide every opportunity to support students, and hope that the following additional changes to NCEA will assist in this regard.

To recognise the extended disruption for senior secondary school students in Auckland, the Minister of Education has today announced a full reintroduction of the measures which applied for students in Auckland last year, when a similar total amount of time was spent in lockdown. In summary, these are:

- Auckland students will be entitled to 1 Learning Recognition Credit (LRC) for every 4 credits they achieve through assessment in the 2021 school year, rather than 1 LRC for every 5.
- Auckland students will be eligible for up to 16 LRCs at NCEA Level 1, and 12 LRCs at levels 2 and 3.
- The threshold for Auckland students to be awarded a Certificate Endorsement will be 44 credits at Merit or Excellence level, rather than the usual 50.

The changes to Course Endorsements and University Entrance announced on 2 September will continue to apply. This means:

- Auckland students will require 12 credits at Achieved, Merit or Excellence level to receive Course Endorsements, rather than 14.
- To be awarded University Entrance, students in Auckland will need to achieve 12 – instead of 14 – credits in each of 3 University Entrance Approved Subjects, as well as attaining NCEA Level 3 and meeting the usual literacy and numeracy requirements.

Schools outside of Auckland continue to be eligible for LRCs and other changes, with the rates and caps as outlined in [previous announcements](#).

We recognise that some schools outside of Auckland – particularly those near the border – will have been affected by the extended Alert Level situation in Auckland. These schools are encouraged to discuss their situation with NZQA, which will consider the most appropriate path to meet their students' needs.

Finally, we would like to thank you and your wider school community once again for the outstanding work you are doing to support students.

Ngā manaakitanga ki a tātou katoa. Kia haumaru te noho.



Grant Klinkum
Chief Executive
NZQA



Iona Holsted
Secretary for Education
Ministry of Education