



NCEA Co-requisite Readiness

Readiness for the Common Assessment Activities (CAAs) means students are demonstrating literacy and numeracy skills at the appropriate level. There are also a range of other factors to consider when determining if a student is 'ready' to be assessed.

Knowing when a student is ready for the Common Assessment Activities (CAAs) will provide them with the best opportunity to be successful and have positive assessment experiences. There are several considerations when determining readiness, which are discussed below.

Academic readiness

A key part of knowing if a student is ready to sit the CAAs is to understand if they have mastered Phase 3 - Year 8 and are beginning to work at Phase 4 – Year 9 of the English and/or Mathematics and Statistics curriculum. Tools that may currently be used in your school/kura that could help to determine academic readiness include:

- SMART
- e-asTTle
- PAT
- English Language Learning Progressions
- Teacher observations and conversations with learners
- Progress and Consistency Tool (PaCT)
- Progress descriptors

Data from these assessments can add to your understanding of whether a student is ready to sit the CAAs. For more information about each of these tools see [Are your learners ready?](#)

Digital readiness

To make sure students are ready to sit a digital assessment they need to get familiar with the digital assessment platform, practice using the device they will use for the digital assessment and set up a NZQA student login and remember the login details. Further information on digital readiness can be found at [Preparing for digital assessment as a student: NZQA](#).

Emotional readiness

Considering emotional readiness is important when entering a student for the NCEA Co-requisite. Learners should only be entered when they are ready and have a reasonable chance of success. If students are not ready, repeated assessment attempts may affect their confidence and create a negative assessment experience. Further advice to help students can be found at [Managing exam or assessment pressure - NZQA](#).

Exam strategy readiness

Preparing students with what to expect and how to approach the NCEA Co-requisite can help them to make the most of the assessment opportunity. Things to consider could be:

- Learning the language of assessment
- Using the whole time provided for the assessment or using as much time as needed (there is no time restriction on CAAs)
- Cross-checking, re-reading and reviewing answers
- Completing all parts of the assessment and answering all questions
- Understanding different types of questioning
- Clues given in formatting of questions e.g. space provided for the answer.

A look at previous assessments can also help students know what to expect [Find past digital external assessments » NZQA](#).

Special Assessment Conditions (SAC) readiness

The Common Assessment Activities (CAAs) have been designed to enable schools/kura to meet the accessibility needs of their students more easily. Schools and kura can decide:

- Who supervises the CAAs
- What time and day/s the CAAs are held during assessment week
- Whether groups of students sit the assessment on the same day or across multiple days
- Room configuration for the assessments
- SACs are available for any student requiring support.
 - A SAC application is not required for students who are completing assessments for the NCEA Co-requisite for Literacy, Numeracy, Te Reo Matatini and Pāngarau.
 - Schools and kura determine the type and level of support that students may require based on the student's needs and the professional judgement of the teacher or kaiako.
 - If a student has SAC entitlement for other assessments, this must also be made available to them during the co-requisite. The student must not be disadvantaged.
 - Practicing with the SAC support prior to the assessment is beneficial for students.

Clarification of SAC conditions and guidance can be found here [Special Assessment Conditions - NZQA](#), [Literacy and Numeracy Assessment Information | NCEA](#), and [Guidelines for SAC provision in Digital Exams and CATs - NZQA](#).

Parents and whānau involvement

Parents and whānau play an important role in supporting their student's learning and are well positioned to support conversations about readiness for the NCEA Co-requisite. Further information to support parents and whānau can be found here: [Supporting ākonga and whānau](#).



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