**Template for submission on the NCEA Change Consultation**

The Government has proposed a major overhaul of the National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA), aiming to replace it with a new national qualifications system. These changes are significant and will impact students, teachers, and schools across Aotearoa.

The consultation is open from 4 August to 15 September 2025.

**You can read the full proposal and background documents on the** [**Ministry of Education’s consultation page**](https://www.education.govt.nz/have-your-say/consultation-proposal-replace-ncea/details)

**Email your completed submission to** **nceaconsultation@education.govt.nz**

**There are resources available to support you think about your submission at**

**Demographic questions. Fill in all demographic questions before answering questions about the proposals.**

* What is your first and last name?
* What is your email address?
* What group best describes you? Teacher, parent/caregiver, family, student, or employer?
* Which of the following best describe(s) your interest in NCEA changes. Teacher, school management (principal)? If other please specify.
* What school do you wok at? If you are not working at a school, write N?A.
* Where is your school located? Include the town, city, or even the postcode. If you are not working at a school, write N/A.
* This question is for the teachers only: What learning areas(s) do you teach? Please list all subjects.

**Answering as many of the remaining questions as possible will help the Ministry to better understand your thoughts on the proposals and inform further work and advice to Government.**

1. What are the pros and cons of NCEA’s flexibility versus the proposal to link the national qualification exclusively to the national curriculum?
2. Which aspects of the NCEA’s requirements contribute to, or detract from, consistency in assessing learners’ knowledge, skills and readiness for a) future study, b) training or c) employment?
3. What problems, if any, within the current system do you think should be prioritised for improvement?
4. The Government wants the senior secondary qualification to be coherent, consistent, and credible, including providing access to Vocational Education and Training (VET) subjects. What opportunities for positive change are there that are not covered in the discussion document?
5. Proposal 1 is that the Government will work with industry to create Vocational Education and Training (VET) subjects. What are the pros and cons of this proposal? What benefits, if any, can you see for enhancing learners’ achievement? What concerns, if any, do you have?
6. The Government understands that funding investment is needed to make sure VET learning is a success. Aside from that additional funding investment, what practical or operational implications do you think need to be considered for schools to successfully deliver VET subjects?
7. What are the pros and cons of the proposed Foundation Award replacing NCEA Level 1 in preparing learners for learning in Years 12 and 13? Do you think there other, better ways to do this?
8. Do you think other areas of learning or achievement should be considered as part of the proposed Foundational Award? Describe these areas of learning or achievement. For example, should a certain level of student attendance be required?
9. What, in your opinion, are the advantages and limitations of seeking to increase learner retention till the end of Year 12 as a means of improving learners’ chance of achieving a meaningful qualification?
10. What are the main benefits and disadvantages of a subject-based approach to assessment for qualifications at Years 12 and 13?
11. What are the benefits to learners of being able to engage with aspects or segments of the curriculum within individual subjects as opposed to the full curriculum? What are the disadvantages?
12. Do you think that there is currently an issue with consistency in national assessment? If there is, what measures could be applied to improving consistency?
13. The Government proposes some subjects being required as part of the Year 11 curriculum. For example, English and Mathematics or, in Māori-medium settings, Te Reo Rangatira and Pāngarau. Do you think that there ought to be required subjects at all? If so, are the subjects identified appropriate, and/or should others be included?
14. Aside from additional funding, what practical resources and support do you think would be important for learners and schools when shifting to a subject-based approach?
15. The Government proposes that learner results for the new qualifications are reported by marks on a scale of 0-100 and grades of A-E. Do you think that this proposal would improve credibility and consistency compared to the current system?
16. The proposed achievement requirements for the new qualifications include that learners must achieve a passing grade in at least four subjects AND achieve the Foundational Award. What aspects, if any, of the proposed achievement requirements do you think people may not find easy to understand?
17. What issues, in your opinion, arise for learners from a requirement to achieve four subjects?
18. Aside from additional funding, what other changes, supports, or mitigations do you think would be needed to support strengthened achievement requirements?
19. What effects do you believe the proposals would, or would not, have on the alignment between the curriculum and assessment when compared to the current system?
20. In what ways do you think the proposed changes would, or would not, improve the credibility and coherence of the national senior secondary qualifications?
21. Aside from additional funding, what further changes or resources would you or your school need for you to deliver the new qualifications?
22. The proposed timeline includes introducing the Foundational Award in 2028 and the two new senior secondary qualifications in 2029 and 2030 for Years 12 and 13 respectively. What factors do you think may prevent this timeline from being achieved? If you have concerns that this timeline is not achievable, what do you think may be an achievable timeline?
23. Is there anything else you wish to add about these proposals?