

New Zealand

Background

Academic Calendar	February-December
What is year nine called?	Year 9
Where is year nine typically located?	First year of upper secondary school
Native Language(s)	English, Māori/Te Reo Māori
Graduation Timeline	
6 + 2 + 3 = 11 or 6 + 2 + 4 = 12 or 6 + 2 + 5 = 13	11, 12 or 13 years total: timelines vary, see various timelines below

ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF PROOF OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

This section is divided into three “tiers.” All tiers are acceptable forms of proof of high school graduation. Each tier has a separate expected timeline for completion and builds upon the previous tier. Most students may complete only Tier Two and Tier Three listed below.

Tier One

1. *International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE)* [Must pass **five** or more IGCSE examinations in separate subjects to qualify as an acceptable form of proof of high school graduation]

Expected Timeline of Completion	11 years (three years or six semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	Various examination boards
First Available Date of Issue (Typical)	August

Tier Two

The expected timeline for completion of all Tier Two acceptable forms of proof of high school graduation is upon successful on-time completion of year 12. Earning a Tier Two acceptable form of proof of high school graduation will advance the expected date of high school graduation **one year** from the on-time expected timeline of a Tier One document.

1. *National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) Level 2* (either in the form of a certificate or the New Zealand Record of Achievement showing Level 2 achieved, under the ‘Qualification and Achievement Summary’ section)

Expected Timeline of Completion	12 years (Four years or eight semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	New Zealand Qualifications Authority
First Available Date of Issue (Typical)	January

Tier Three

The expected timeline for completion of all Tier Three acceptable forms of proof of high school graduation is upon successful on-time completion of year 13. Earning a Tier Three acceptable form of proof of high school graduation will advance the expected date of high school graduation **one year** from the on-time expected timeline of a Tier Two document, or **two years** beyond the on-time completion of a Tier One document.

1. *National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) Level 3* (either in the form of a certificate or the New Zealand Record of Achievement showing Level 3 achieved, under the ‘Qualification and Achievement Summary’ section)

Expected Timeline of Completion	13 years (Five years or 10 semesters from the initial start of year nine)
Issuing Body	New Zealand Qualifications Authority
First Available Date of Issue (Typical)	January



NOT ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF PROOF OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

1. National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) Level 1

Expected Timeline of Completion	11 years (three years or six semesters from the initial start of year nine)
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CREDITING POLICIES

If course credits are indicated on the transcript, the following units provided on the document will be awarded credit as follows:

Numeric Grade	U.S. Equivalent Credit Per Year
12+	1.00
9-11	0.75
8	0.67

Numeric Grade	U.S. Equivalent Credit Per Year
6-7	0.50
4-5	0.34
3	0.25

GRADING SCALES

Cambridge International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) – Alpha Scale		
Grade	U.S. Grade Equivalent	Quality Points
A	A	4
B	B	3
C	B	3
D	C	2
E	C	2
F	D	1
G	D	1
Ungraded	F	0

Year Nine and 10 Transcripts		
Numeric Grade	U.S. Grade Equivalent	Quality Points
9-10	A	4
7-8	B	3
5-6	C	2
0-4	F (Failure)	0

NZQA			
Grade	Translation	U.S. Grade Equivalent	Quality Points
E	Excellent	A	4
M	Merit	B	3
A	Standard Achieved	C	2

If no grade has been issued (grade is blank) or grade of “NA” is issued for a course title, this means no assessment has been given to the student yet in that subject. This is not a passing or failing grade, it is meant to show that no grade has been earned in the course, or that an assessment has not yet been given.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

» The following are less commonly known course titles **approved** for use in an academic certification:

<i>English/Native Language</i>	<i>Math</i>	<i>Science</i>	<i>Social Science</i>	<i>Additional Courses</i>
		Environmental Management	Economic Theory and Practice	Ngā Whanaketanga Rumaki Māori
				Te Marautanga o Aotearoa

- » Year nine and year 10 coursework/grades will be included on school-issued transcripts.
- » Years 11-13 coursework/grades will be on the *New Zealand Record of Achievement*.
- » Coursework from years 11-13 should be:
 - ° Added only from the *New Zealand Record of Achievement* and not from school-issued transcripts.
 - ° Analyzed using the course heading as the title, and the grades and credit should come from the smaller units awarded under each eligible course heading.
 - ° When evaluating the *New Zealand Record of Achievement* for core courses and credit, it is acceptable to award over 1.0 units of credit to a course heading if the individual units listed below the heading total to more than 1.0 credit, based on New Zealand's country-specific crediting policy.
- » [Click here](#) for the welcome email students receive with additional information on documents to submit for this country.

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

- » [Course Title Usage guide.](#)
- » [Determination of Credit resource.](#)
- » [International initial-eligibility flyer.](#)
- » [Student account task information.](#)
- » [NCAA Guide of International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility.](#)
- » [Country-specific webpages.](#)
- » [Multi-country references.](#)

