

South Australia

Upfront Assessment of Need

Student fact sheet | Skills SA subsidised training

Before confirming your subsidised training, EQC completes an Upfront Assessment of Need (UAN). It helps establish whether the course is suitable and what support you need to succeed. It is separate from funding eligibility and any VET Student Loan academic-suitability check.

All EQC students must be 18 or older at enrolment, with no under-18 exceptions. Government funding age thresholds are separate from this college admission rule. EQC assesses suitability, previous learning, language, literacy, numeracy, digital skills and support needs before confirming your place.

What happens and in what order

Step	What EQC discusses or checks
1. Course suitability	Your goals, interest in the course, willingness to undertake the study and fit with the proposed course and employment pathway.
2. Support needs	English communication, inherent course/assessment requirements, career goals, industry or employment requirements, aptitude, study expectations, delivery, costs, location, RPL and attendance.
3. Literacy and numeracy	The required literacy/numeracy assessment or evidenced exemption pathway, following suitability and support checks. EQC explains the test and any required interpretation.

EQC's Wellbeing Officer undertakes the suitability and support discussion before the literacy/numeracy stage. Tell us about relevant access or support needs. An interview and a record of your answers are part of the assessment; a checkbox alone is not the whole process.

What to provide

Bring relevant prior education, qualification or work-history evidence where requested, plus information about your study goals and any support you need. Complete the assessment yourself. Do not have another person or an AI tool answer an entry assessment for you. Authorised assistance and reasonable adjustments are considered under the applicable process.

For a required Skills SA literacy/numeracy test, any necessary approval for reasonable adjustment is obtained before it is applied. EQC explains whether you qualify for an evidenced exemption or need testing; a prior qualification alone does not automatically establish every entry requirement.

Your outcome and support

Understanding the outcome

EQC explains the results, course suitability and identified support. Support needs identified in the suitability/support interview are not, by themselves, a condition of access to subsidised training. Where the applicable literacy/numeracy interpretation report prescribes a foundation-skills condition, EQC explains it before enrolment and follows the required Skills SA process.

You may be able to proceed with support, need foundation-skills training, or be advised about a more suitable option. EQC explains what is needed and who can help. A UAN result is not a guarantee of a funded place, loan approval, course completion or employment.

Support during your course

Support may include learning assistance, accessible resources, agreed adjustments, literacy/numeracy support and referral to Success and Wellbeing Services. EQC records the plan, communicates relevant actions to the staff supporting you, checks that support is in place and reviews its effectiveness. You can ask for help later even if no need was identified at enrolment.

Contact Student Services or your trainer early about study difficulties, accessibility or wellbeing. EQC assesses reasonable adjustments, accessible materials and learning support without changing the required competency standard. Essential funded support and ordinary learning support must not be treated as optional student-paid extras. If an optional external service may cost you money, EQC explains alternatives and the amount before you agree.

Privacy and your choice

Provide only relevant personal or sensitive information through the confidential process explained by EQC. The [Privacy Notice for Data Collection](#) and [Skills SA Participant Agreement](#) explain handling, reporting and required authorities. Ask why information is needed and what happens if it cannot be supplied.

Questions, assistance or disagreement

Contact team@equinimcollege.com | 1800 338 883 | [Contact EQC](#). Ask for an accessible explanation of the outcome, the support plan or the next step. You may raise a concern or appeal through the Complaints and Appeals Policy without disadvantage.

Read before enrolling

[EQC SA course fact sheets and Student Agreement](#)

[Skills SA - Upfront Assessment of Need](#)

[Skills SA eligibility information](#)

This student information sheet explains EQC's existing UAN process. It does not amend a Skills SA-approved assessment process or itself authorise an adjustment to a mandated test.