



University Entrance Requirements In Australia - Overview

Printable Series

General Considerations:

- **Academic Performance:** Most universities require a certain level of academic achievement, often measured by an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) score for domestic students or equivalent for international students.
- **Prerequisites:** Some courses might require specific subjects at a certain level in Year 12, like Mathematics for Engineering or Physics for Science degrees.
- **English Proficiency:** For international students, proof of English language proficiency (IELTS, TOEFL, PTE Academic, etc.) is often necessary.
- **Pathway Programs:** If you don't meet direct entry requirements, many universities offer foundation or diploma programs to help you gain admission.
- **Interviews or Auditions:** Some programs like Medicine, Law, or Fine Arts might require interviews, auditions, or additional tests.

Subject-Specific Requirements:

- **Arts and Humanities:** No specific prerequisites beyond a general ATAR, though some might require English or History.
- **Science and Engineering:** Typically need high-level Mathematics, Physics, or Chemistry. Engineering might also require additional Maths units.
- **Health Sciences (e.g., Medicine, Nursing):** Often require Biology, Chemistry, and sometimes Physics, along with high ATAR scores. Medicine programs might require additional entrance exams like the UCAT.
- **Business/Commerce:** Mathematics is often recommended or required. High ATAR scores are necessary for competitive programs.
- **Information Technology:** Mathematics is usually required, with some programs needing specific computing or technology-related subjects.

Additional Pathways and Considerations:

- **Special Entry Schemes:** Some universities offer schemes for rural students, Indigenous students, or those from disadvantaged backgrounds, which might adjust ATAR requirements.
- **Portfolio Entry:** For certain creative courses, a portfolio might be considered alongside or instead of traditional academic results.



- **Mature Age Entry:** Adults without recent formal education can sometimes enter via mature age entry schemes, which might consider work experience, previous education, or completed bridging courses.
- **International Qualifications:** International students might need their qualifications assessed by a body like AEI-NOOSR or have them directly converted to an ATAR equivalent by UAC.

Application Process:

- **Application through UAC or QTAC:** For most Australian universities, applications are managed through state-based bodies like the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) in New South Wales or Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) in Queensland.
- **Direct University Application:** Some universities or specific courses might require or allow direct applications.
- **Early Offers:** Some universities offer early entry based on Year 11 results or other criteria before final Year 12 results are known.

Preparation Tips:

- **Check Specifics:** Each university and course might have unique requirements, so check the university's website or contact admissions for precise details.
- **Prepare for English Tests:** If you're an international student, start preparing for English language tests well in advance.
- **Enhance Your Application:** Engage in extracurricular activities, volunteer work, or internships that align with your field of study. This can be beneficial, especially for competitive courses.
- **Understand ATAR:** Know how your subjects contribute to your ATAR and aim to excel in areas relevant to your desired course.

Note: Requirements can vary by institution and change from year to year, so it's crucial to verify current information from the universities you're interested in.

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