

FAQs - University Admissions



Vic, NSW & ACT Universities

JULY 2020



University applications

When can I apply for university?

You can start your applications from Monday 3 August. Timely applications close 30 September.

How do I apply for courses?

You apply for the majority of courses via state-based Tertiary Admissions Centres (TAC). Below are examples:

Victoria

Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC), www.vtac.edu.au

NSW & ACT

Universities Admissions Centre (UAC), www.uac.edu.au

Does it cost to apply?

Yes – there will be a one-off application fee for Tertiary Admission Centres.

How many courses can I apply for?

- Victoria: up to 8
- NSW & ACT: up to 5

Can I apply directly to universities?

Victoria

Government funded universities: no – you must apply via VTAC. Private providers – yes for some institutes.

NSW and ACT

You can apply direct to University of New England and University of Wollongong.

How can I search for courses?

Use the course search function on the Tertiary Admission Centre websites.

Use the Course Seeker website to search courses across Australia - <https://bit.ly/36i1XiX>

Early Admission Programs

What is an early admission program?

Early admission programs enable universities to take into consideration more than just your ATAR when making offers.

Every program is different, and looks at different factors such as community service, Year 11 results, a school recommendation, and 'soft skills' etc.

Can I apply through early entry?

Yes. Our school is eligible for several early admission programs.

Victoria

We are eligible for La Trobe University, Swinburne University, Australian Catholic University and Charles Sturt University early admission programs.

NSW & ACT

We are eligible for early entry programs at the majority of universities.

Where can I find information about early entry programs?

Download the 2021 Early Entry Schemes documents:

[Victoria](#)
[NSW & ACT](#)

Do I still have to apply through Tertiary Admission Centres?

For the majority of early admission programs, you will apply direct to the university for the program and apply for course/s via the Tertiary Admission Centre.

Can I defer an early admission offer?

For 99% of early admission course offers, you can defer the course starting date until 2022.

What if I don't receive an early admission offer?

You will still be considered through the normal offer rounds through the Tertiary Admission Centres.

Special consideration

What is special consideration?

When making offers, universities take into account circumstances beyond your control that may impact your final results.

This could include

- The impact of learning remotely during the COVID pandemic
- Financial disadvantage
- Long term illness or disability
- Living in a rural or remote area
- Difficult family circumstances

How do I apply for special consideration?

Victoria

Apply via the Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS) program through the VTAC portal between 3 August – 9 October, <https://bit.ly/3bfMeC4>

NSW & ACT

Apply via the Education Access Schemes (EAS) program via UAC between early August – 20 November, <https://bit.ly/3cok1tY>

Will I need to provide evidence of how I've been disadvantaged?

For most categories yes. You may need to organise evidence such as:

- an education support statement from the school.
- a supporting letter from your GP or psychologist.
- evidence you've lived in a rural area for a certain period of time

How do I provide evidence?

You will need to use the templates provided by the Tertiary Admission Centre. These will be available in August.



Accommodation

Do all universities have on-campus accommodation?

No, but there is usually private student accommodation close to the university.

View the [accommodation guide](#)

Will meals be included in my accommodation?

Some universities have catered accommodation options, but not all.

Will I have to share my room?

Each university offers different accommodation options. These could include:

- Single bedrooms in a dorm with a shared space for kitchen, bathroom, and living area.
- Shared apartments.
- A Single studio with your own kitchen, bathroom and shower.

How much will accommodation cost?

Costs will vary between universities and accommodation types.

When should I apply for accommodation?

Application dates will vary between universities, but are usually open from July onwards.

Some universities have a 'first in, first served' process, so it's important to apply for accommodation early.

Will I receive an offer for accommodation?

There is no guarantee you will receive a place for accommodation, as applications often exceed places available. You should always have a plan B option for accommodation such as private student accommodation.

Scholarships

When can I apply for scholarships?

Dates will vary, but usually from August onwards.

How do I apply for scholarships?

You can download a 4-step guide to finding scholarships – [scholarships guide](#)

Is it easy to secure a scholarship?

Scholarships are very competitive and they all have different eligibility criteria.

You should apply for any scholarships you are eligible for but financially plan that you won't receive a scholarship.

When will I find out if I've received a scholarship?

Dates will vary for all scholarships you apply for.

Can I defer a scholarship?

Only a small number of scholarships can be deferred.

What if I don't receive a scholarship?

You may need to consider if you can afford to move away to study at university. This can cost at least up to \$20,000 per year in accommodation and living expenses.

Do I have to pay for my course up front?

Australian citizens will have automatic access to the HECS-HELP loan scheme, <https://bit.ly/2XumVHJ>

You can defer all of your payments until you start earning over a certain amount of money per year, and you can make voluntary repayments at any time.

Will I be eligible for Centrelink?

A small number of our students will be eligible for Youth Allowance. For most of our students, eligibility will be based on combined parental income.

For up to date information, visit <https://bit.ly/2WN2wyj>

Course offers

How are course offers made?

These videos from VTAC give an excellent overview to how to order your preferences and how offers are made <https://bit.ly/36fRapw>

Can I receive more than one offer?

You can only receive 1 course offer per round. If you receive an offer, it will be the highest course on your preference list you are eligible for.

What if I don't receive an offer?

Working together, we will ensure you have back up courses and pathway options in place.

When will I find out if I've received a offer?

Victoria

Thursday 14 January and Monday 1 February

NSW & ACT

January and February 2021.

Will I receive bonus points towards my ATAR?

We call these 'ATAR adjustments' and it will depend on the university and the student.

Where eligible, universities will add adjustments to your ATAR and create a new 'ATAR Selection Rank'.

This is solely for the purpose of making course offers and you won't know what your rank is for each uni. You may receive adjustments for factors such as:

- Living in a rural area
- Being financially disadvantaged
- Having a long-term medical condition
- Achieving good results for certain subjects.

Universities use your results and special consideration application to determine how many ATAR adjustments you will receive. So be sure to complete your SEAS application.