

ALTERNATIVE PATHWAYS



Alternative pathways are alternative qualifications you can use to show that you are ready to start tertiary study, and can improve your chances of getting into a course.

There are two types:



**Special Tertiary
Admissions Test
(STAT)**



**Employment
experience**

WHEN TO USE ALTERNATIVE PATHWAYS

If you did not complete Year 12, or do not have any formal academic qualifications, alternative pathways might be an option for you. You are less likely to need alternative pathways if you have:

- ✓ Completed Year 12 or its equivalent
- ✓ Undertaken Senior External Examination subjects
- ✓ Completed an approval preparatory program
- ✓ Completed a professional registration
- ✓ Served in the defence forces.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

If you use alternative pathways, you still need to meet the entry requirements for each course you apply for. Find out about entry requirements on our courses and institutions page on our website qtac.edu.au. Check with QTAC and the relevant institution to ensure that you will meet the entry requirements before submitting your QTAC application.

INSTITUTION POLICIES

Each institution has its own policies on whether it will accept alternative pathways for entry to its courses. For most institutions, using STAT and employment history is generally not acceptable for current Year 12s.



THE SPECIAL TERTIARY ADMISSIONS TEST (STAT)

STAT is a two-hour aptitude test that demonstrates your capability of undertaking tertiary study. The test results help institutions decide which applicants to consider for their courses.

The STAT test has several versions but for entry to Queensland institutions, we use the STAT Multiple Choice. It has 70 multiple-choice questions, half verbal (like English and English comprehension) and half quantitative (like maths and science). The questions focus on your ability to process, analyse and understand information presented in different ways, such as in graphs, tables, diagrams, poems and cartoons.

We will only use your STAT result if it increases your chances of getting into a course. Not all institutions recognise STAT, and STAT is often not acceptable for current Year 12s.

Note: Before sitting the STAT, check with the institution where you want to apply. Each institution has its own policies. In some cases their policies may also differ depending on the course where you are applying for.

HOW DO I REGISTER FOR STAT?

- To sit STAT in Queensland, book via Eventbrite at **qtac.eventbrite.com**, or via the link on the STAT page on our website
- To sit STAT interstate or overseas, contact the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) at **stat.acer.edu.au**
- Contact us for information on how to sit the written English version of the test for an interstate application.

DATES AND VENUES

We have STAT sittings at our office in Milton and other Queensland venues throughout the year.

When selecting a sitting you should know:

- Select a sitting well before the major offer round for your QTAC preferences. We cannot guarantee your STAT results will be available in time if it gets too close to an offer round
- You can only sit the test once per STAT year (mid-April of one year to mid-April of the next year)
- If you sit for the test in different STAT years, we usually use your highest result for your QTAC application. To find dates, times and venues visit our website.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO SIT STAT?

Visit **qtac.edu.au** for information on STAT fees.

DO I HAVE TO STUDY FOR STAT?

You can't really study for STAT. The best way to prepare is to work through some sample questions. You can find STAT sample questions on the ACER website at **stat.acer.edu.au/preparation/**.

RESULTS

You will receive a written statement of your results two to three weeks after you sit the test. Your results will also be uploaded to the national database. If you are a QTAC applicant your results will be automatically retrieved by QTAC.

USING STAT ON ITS OWN

You can often use STAT by itself, but some institutions and courses have different rules. If you have previously failed a tertiary subject/course please contact QTAC for advice on using STAT.

COMBINING STAT WITH OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

A STAT result can often be combined with the following qualifications to improve your rank. Some restrictions apply, refer to the QTAC website.

- Professional qualifications, professional service or employment experience
- Queensland Senior External Examination
- Competency-based training
- Certificate IV in Adult Tertiary Preparation or Other preparatory programs.

SUBJECT PREREQUISITES AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

The STAT can often be used to meet course entry requirements such as, English subject prerequisite, or English language proficiency. Refer to the QTAC website for more details.



EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

You can use employment experience to obtain a QTAC selection rank to improve your chances of gaining entry into a course. Your employment experience does not have to relate to the course you want to study.

Employment experience can be used on its own or combined with the STAT (see above). Some institutions have age restrictions or other policies that affect whether you can use employment as an alternative pathway to your course.

DO I NEED TO SUPPLY EVIDENCE OF EMPLOYMENT?

You **do not** have to include employment experience in your QTAC application unless it is an entry requirement for your course.

YEAR 12 STUDENTS

If you are in Year 12, you cannot use employment experience for most institutions. There are a small number of exceptions. Contact the institution where you want to study for information.

HOW EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE IS ASSESSED

We give your employment a selection rank based on the skill level of the job and your length of service. To work out skill level we use the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO).

✓ We CAN assess:

- A minimum of six months' full-time (or equivalent) paid employment either in Australia or overseas. This can be with one employer or periods doing similar work with different employers
- Periods of self-employment.


✗ We CANNOT assess:

- Unpaid work experience
- Volunteer work
- The time-at-work component of apprenticeships and traineeships.

DOCUMENTING YOUR EMPLOYMENT

After you apply we will let you know if you do need to provide us with documents. If we ask you to document your employment you will need to provide a statement from your employer about the role you performed. If you have been self-employed your accountant, solicitor or tax agent can write the statement (see examples below).

You can find a full list of all the details required on your employment documents on our website at **qtac.edu.au**. Statements missing any details cannot be assessed.



BRISBANE ADMINISTRATION
SERVICES

23 April 2017

STATEMENT OF SERVICE

Jane Smith has been employed full-time (40 hours per week) by Brisbane Administration Services as an Administration Officer from January 2010 to the present time.

Jane's duties include:

- telephone and reception
- responding to emails
- monitoring and ordering stationary supplies
- organising meetings including arranging parking for visitors and booking catering
- maintaining current procedures manuals and files
- other duties as required


Yours sincerely

F. Citizen

Fred Citizen
Human Resource Manager

EXAMPLE ONLY

Brisbane Administration Services
PO Box 1331 Milton Qld 4064 Phone: 1300 467 822



CITIZEN
ACCOUNTING SERVICES

24 June 2017

STATEMENT OF SERVICE

Jane Smith has been employed full-time as owner and manager of Sunsets Restaurant from January 2010 to the present time, working 40 hours per week. Jane's duties include:

- developing menus in consultation with chefs
- planning and organising functions
- organising the purchase and price of goods according to budget
- recording stock levels and financial transactions
- ensuring dining facilities comply with health regulations
- choosing, training and managing wait and kitchen staff

I have been of service to Jane and Sunsets Restaurant from January 2010 to the present time.

Yours sincerely

F. Citizen

Fred Citizen
Accountant

EXAMPLE ONLY

Citizen Accounting Services
PO Box 1331 Milton Qld 4064 Phone: 1300 467 822

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