Applying to QTAC 2020
What is QTAC?
• A not-for-profit organisation
• Owned by seven Queensland universities

What do we do?
• Provide information about tertiary study and courses
• Assess approximately 75,000 applications per year
• Make offers in 1,700 undergraduate courses on behalf of 16 institutions
• Calculate and award ATARs.
• **QTAC is here to help match applicants with an opportunity that is right for them.**
QTAC makes offers on behalf of these institutions
Looking to study interstate?
courseseeker.edu.au
ADMISSION CRITERIA
Admissions Criteria

Admissions rules vary:

• Institutions determine their own admissions rules and QTAC implements them.

• Rules are applied consistently within institutions, but rules change from institution to institution.
Eligibility
Have you met the minimum entry requirement?

System begins to check merit

Merit
Is your rank above the minimum?

Application goes on to compete with all other applicants on the basis of rank

System moves to the next preference

System moves to the next preference
What are the eligibility requirements?

They may include:

• Age requirements
• Subject prerequisites
• Portfolio, audition or interviews*
• Essays or personal statements*
• Questionnaires or exams* (medicine and dentistry may require UCAT)

* Check early closing dates
How is merit determined?

Applications are allocated ranks based on their assessable qualifications.

These assessable qualifications may include:

- Year 12 OP and ATARs
- Overseas Year 12 qualifications
- Tertiary study – Bachelor/Masters (min 2 subjects required)
- Completed AQF qualifications (Cert 3 and 4)
- Diploma, Advanced Diplomas
- Music, dance, drama qualifications
- Bridging and preparatory courses

Don’t forget
Not all QTAC applicants are 2020 Year 12 school leavers
ATAR FOR TERTIARY ENTRY
What is the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)?

Primary mechanism used nationally for tertiary admissions. Indicates a student’s position relative to other students.

2,000 point scale from 99.95 down to 0.00. ATARs less than 30.00 will be expressed as ‘30 or less’.

Will be calculated by QTAC for entry into courses in 2021. Is the new standard pathway to tertiary study in QLD.
The Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) and the ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank) are different and have a different purpose.

For questions about the QCE, including assessment and subject results, please contact QCAA (Queensland Curriculum & Assessment Authority) at www.qcaa.edu.au

QCE
Certifies learning, showing the individual has achieved a specific standard of education at senior schooling level and may be considered by employers and the general community.

ATAR
Tells us about a student’s position (or ranking) compared to all other students in the state. The only intended purpose for the ATAR is to assist with selecting applicants for tertiary study.
ATAR Eligibility Requirements

5 General Subjects

OR

4 General Subjects plus either:
- Applied subject
- Completed Certificate III or Higher Level VET Qualification
English – Compulsory Subject

Students must successfully complete one of the following:

- English
- English as an Additional Language
- English & Literature Extension
- Literature
- Essential English

Successfully complete = ‘C’ letter grade or higher.
No specific subjects are mandated inclusions in the ATAR.
QCE Units of Study as ATAR Inputs

- Results are added together at the completion of Units 3 and 4 of each subject
- This will lead to the overall raw subject result to be provided to QTAC for scaling, and from which the ATAR will be calculated.

Impact of COVID-19:

- For 2020 Year 12s, QCAA has reduced the number of internal assessment pieces for units 3 and 4.
- **This change will not impact the calculation or release of Year 12 ATARs.** QTAC will calculate the ATARs from the student results files provided from the QCAA.
How will VET be included in the ATAR?

Each VET qualification level will have a single scaled score that can be included in the student’s ATAR.

For example, Cert III in Hospitality and Cert III in Lab Skills will have the same scaled score, regardless of duration or content.

A scaled score for a VET Diploma will be higher than a Certificate IV, which in turn will be higher than a Certificate III.

IMPORTANT: VET qualifications must be recorded as completed in a student’s QCAA learning account to be included in the ATAR calculation.
Scaling - Overview

• Scaling is necessary so that student results in different subjects can be compared fairly.

• Each state in Australia uses a scaling process in the calculation of the ATAR. In Qld, subject results are scaled by QTAC.

• The process involves adjusting the “raw” subject results for a given subject to allow results for that subject to be fairly compared with the results from any other subject.

• Uses some complex mathematics to underpin the process
Purpose:
- A technical readership

What is in it:
- Full end-to-end calculation of ATAR
- Includes inter-subject scaling
Scaling Documents – www.qtac.edu/atar

Purpose:
• Non-technical readership

What is in it:
• Technical definitions
• The need to scale
• The ‘how’ of scaling
Contents:
• Background
• The Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)
• How is the ATAR calculated?
• Inter-subject scaling
• Your QCE and your ATAR
• The ATAR and tertiary selection
• VET qualifications, the ATAR and tertiary selection
• Subject prerequisites
• ATAR Frequently asked questions
• Steps to tertiary study
• Applying through QTAC
• After you have applied
• Offers
• Essential information
• Glossary of common terms
Other Helpful Documents – www.qtac.edu/atar

- ATAR quick factsheets:
  - ATAR: an overview
  - ATAR and subject prerequisites for tertiary entrance
  - ARTAR and VET qualifications
  - ATAR and senior external examinations
  - OP to ATAR conversion table
  - Tertiary entrance in 2021 – Quick reference for students and parents
Sequence of Events

1. QCAA collects Unit 3 and 4 subject results & completed VET qualifications
2. QTAC receives raw results
3. QTAC scales results
4. ATARs calculated on a ranked scale 99.95 To 0.00
5. QTAC releases ATARs and students access their ATAR account
The ATAR will be communicated to eligible Year 12 students using a purpose-built ATAR portal.

Current Year 12s can open their ATAR account with QTAC when admissions open on 4th August. This includes students who wish to study interstate.

The ATAR will be released at 9am on 19 December 2020 the same day and time as the QCAA Results.

The ATAR release is an online release ONLY. There will be a facility to print the results notice.
International Baccalaureate (IB) Students:

• The process for calculating a tertiary entrance rank for IB students remains unchanged.

• This means IB students do not need to register for the ATAR Portal

It is a 2-step process to assess your IB results:

**STEP 1** - We convert your IB score in the completed diploma to a 'combined rank’ according to the rules agreed Australia wide.
STEP 2 - We then convert your combined rank to a QTAC selection rank.

- To help IB students understand the rank that will be used in the assessment of their QTAC application, they can refer to the IB Score to Combined Rank conversion table on the QTAC website.


NB: The conversion table will be updated and available on the QTAC Website by 4 August for students completing their IB in 2020.
OTHER PATHWAYS FOR TERTIARY ENTRY
There are other pathways for tertiary entry

Institutions may also consider completed VET qualifications (at Certificate III level and higher) as a basis of tertiary admission on their own (including non-school leavers applying for tertiary study) as summarised below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Institution specific schedules</td>
<td>Australian Catholic University</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bond University</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christian Heritage College</td>
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<td></td>
<td>CQUniversity Australia</td>
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<td>Griffith College</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Griffith University</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>James Cook University</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Queensland University of Technology (for entry in 2021- school leavers with Cert IV &amp; above &amp; who also graduate with a QCE, ATAR or IBD)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TAFE Queensland</td>
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<td></td>
<td>The University of Queensland (for non-current school leavers)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>University of the Sunshine Coast</td>
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<td></td>
<td>University of Southern Queensland</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>University of New England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Southern Cross University</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performing arts qualifications for admissions from 2021

Non-AQF performing arts qualifications (such as AMEB awards) are not included in the ATAR calculation. However, some institutions may consider these qualifications on their own (including for non-school leavers) as a basis of admission to tertiary study, as summarised below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy</th>
<th>Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Institution specific schedules | Australian Catholic University  
Christian Heritage College  
CQUniversity Australia  
Griffith College  
Griffith University  
James Cook University  
TAFE Queensland  
The University of Queensland (for non-current school leavers)  
University of the Sunshine Coast  
University of Southern Queensland  
University of New England  
Southern Cross University |

Institutions that will not accept performing arts qualifications as a basis of admission for any category of applicant |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Bond University  
Queensland University of Technology |
University might not be for everyone.

If students aren’t looking at getting a university degree, a certificate, diploma or trade qualification might be something to consider. They can offer great benefits including;

- Starting work straight away.
- Practical, on the job training.
- Possible credit towards a degree down the track.

Everyone who goes to university or TAFE is going to have their own individual experience.

Don’t forget, QTAC is here to help match students with an opportunity that is right for them.
COURSES AND WHAT TO LOOK FOR
Where are the courses for which QTAC makes offers?

Go to our **Course Search** function on our website at www.qtac.edu.au
• Add the criteria for the search

NB: Examples here show details for 2020 courses. Our website will be updated for 2021 entry when admissions open in August.
Courses are listed

NB: Examples here show details for 2020 courses. Our website will be updated for 2021 entry when admissions open in August.
Take note of the information

NB: Examples here show details for 2020 courses. Our website will be updated for 2021 entry when admissions open in August.
• …but wait, there is more!

Admissions Criteria
For additional information about the admissions criteria for QUT and for this course, refer to QUT's website.

Prerequisites
Completion of Year 12 or attained age 17 years; Audition

Assumed knowledge
English (4A/S)
Primary fields
none
Secondary fields
none

OP/Rank profile for those offered places wholly or partly on the basis of OP/Rank for semester/trimester/term 1, 2019
For more information about the OP/Rank profile, please visit OP/Rank profile explained. All qualified applicants were offered a place.

NB: Examples here show details for 2020 courses. Our website will be updated for 2021 entry when admissions open in August.
Prerequisites

Assumed Knowledge

Recommended Study

**Prerequisites** - You **must** have these subjects at the specified level of achievement to be eligible for entry into that course.

**Assumed knowledge** - Lecturers will pitch the content of the coursework assuming you **have the knowledge** from the specified subject at a Year 12 level.

**Recommended study** - This knowledge **would assist** you in completing the study.
Subject prerequisites

Subject (Units 3 and 4, Letter Grade).

For example:
Physics (Units 3 and 4, C)
Mathematical Methods (Units 3 and 4, C)

Where English is listed as a prerequisite, the description will list all general English subjects as below, then (Units 3 and 4, C):

- English
- Literature
- English & Literature Extension
- English as an Additional Language
Science for initial teacher education programs in early childhood and primary can be satisfied by one of the following general subjects:

- Agricultural Science
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Earth & Environmental Science
- Marine Science
- Physics
- Psychology
And just one more example.

NB: Examples here show details for 2020 courses. Our website will be updated for 2021 entry when admissions open in August.
OP to ATAR conversion

For the 2019–2020 admissions period, offers were made for the last time based on an Overall Position (OP).

This is reported as the ‘Lowest OP offered’ in the course entries in the QTAC Guide and online through Course Search. In 2020, ATAR will replace OP as the standard pathway to tertiary entry in Queensland for 2021 admissions.

There is no possible direct translation of OP to ATAR because the two are derived from different sets of information and by different statistical methods.

As a rough guide, the table on the right provides details of the lowest ATARs awarded within each OP band for OPs awarded in 2019. *

### Online Calculators
QTAC does not endorse or support the use of “ATAR calculators” due to the changing nature of the student cohort from year to year. ATAR calculators do not use current data so cannot accurately predict a student’s ATAR.

*Using ATAR information provided by the QCAA.*
Research your courses

Due to institutional responses to COVID-19 a number of Open Days have been cancelled or moved to online events. Please check our website or the individual institution website for up-to-date information.
What is preferencing?

• Preferencing is an important part of the application process as only one offer is received at a time, based on your highest eligible preference.

• Each application has up to 6 preferences.

• Preferences can be changed after the application is lodged, even after an offer is made.

• Each application comes with 3 free changes as part of the application fee.

• It is a good idea to keep one preference change for when ATARs are released.
Ordering Preferences

1st
Desired Courses
Courses you want to study the most

2nd
Back-up Courses
Courses you would be happy to study

3rd

4th

5th
Pathway Courses
Courses that will help to upgrade you into the course you really want

6th
What are some pathway courses?

Other Tertiary Study
- Less competitive degrees
- Different campuses
- Regional institutions
- Bridging and tertiary preparatory courses

Combined Diplomas/Degrees
- Apply for entry into a Diploma
- Guaranteed entry into the Bachelor course if the course is passed
- Get credit for study done so far and graduate with two qualifications
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preferencing Example:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1st</strong> 2nd <strong>3rd</strong> 4th 5th 6th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Education (Primary) - University of Southern Queensland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Education (Primary) - QUT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Education (Primary) - ACU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dip of Higher Edn/B Edn (Primary) - James Cook University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tertiary Preparation Program - USC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Do all your preferences have the same Offer Round date?

- Enter your preferences in their current order
- Reorder your preferences according to Offer Round date
ADJUSTMENT SCHEMES
Education Access Scheme (EAS)

• Helps if your studies have been negatively affected by circumstances beyond your control

• Applies adjustment points to your rank to help you compete more equitably for an offer

• You can apply to EAS as part of your QTAC application

• Must include all the appropriate application forms and documentary evidence.

• Different institutions award different adjustment factors so one may allow more or less adjustments than another
Education Access Scheme (EAS)

EAS Categories

1. Financial Hardship
2. Home Environment and Responsibility
3. English Language Difficulties
4. Personal Illness or Disability
5. Educational Disruption
Other Adjustment Schemes

Each institution has their own adjustments that are applied at the time of application

- Regional schools
- School relationships
- Subject Schemes
- Elite athletes
- Introductory study
- Equity
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
OTHER APPLICATION CONSIDERATIONS
Application Checklist - you will need these:

- LUI (Learner Unique Identifier)
- Alternate email address
- Additional qualification details
- Authorise someone
Application Process for Current International Year 12 Students Applying to QLD Institutions

• All year 12 students completing the QCE must apply through QTAC
• For interstate applications please contact the relevant TAC if you are applying as an International student.
QTAC Fees 2020/2021

Year 12 Students
• 4 August – 28 February $45

Change of Preference
• 3 changes included for free
• 4th and subsequent changes $45

Ensure payment is complete – please view your receipt!
Finding your offer

• You’ll get an email and SMS
• Login to ‘My Application’ – click on ‘Respond to Offer’ tab
• You’ll get an SMS if offer is about to lapse
Responding to your offer

- Accept offer
- Reject offer
- Defer offer

*Available for selected courses
Responding to an offer

So, you’ve got an offer but you’re unsure which response option to choose.

Use the diagram to the right to help you decide which option is right for you.
Deferment

Deferment lets you delay starting your course. Usually, you can defer for up to a year, but some institutions let you defer for longer. Others do not allow deferment.

In most cases, you can defer when you respond to your QTAC offer. The institution contacts you to advise what to do next.

Institution deferment policies

Select an institution for information on their deferment policy.

- Australian Catholic University
  You can defer your undergraduate course for up to one year. Deferral is not available for postgraduate courses.

- Australian Maritime College

- Bond University

- Christian Heritage College

- CQUniversity Australia

- Griffith College

- Griffith University

- James Cook University
If you want to be considered for another course or university?

Conditionally Accept Your Offer
Change your mind?

B Nursing - **OFFER**

23 December

B Nursing

23 December

B Nursing

14 January

B Nursing

14 January

Dip Nursing

14 January

*Offer dates may not be accurate for the courses shown – used as examples only*
Change your preferences!

**Offer Round***

- **B Nursing**
  - **ACU**
  - 14 January

- **B Nursing**
  - **QUT**
  - 14 January

- **B Nursing – CONDITIONALLY ACCEPT**
  - **Griffith University**
  - 23 December

- **B Nursing**
  - **University of Southern Queensland**
  - 23 December

- **Dip Nursing**
  - **TAFE Queensland**
  - 14 January

*Offer dates may not be accurate for the courses shown – used as examples only.*
Didn’t get first preference?

Offer Round*

- Bach of Environmental Science
  - USC
  - 14 January

- Bach of Environmental Science
  - Southern Cross University
  - 14 January

- Bach of Environmental Science - OFFER
  - University of New England
  - 14 January

- Bach of Bus & Environmental Science
  - James Cook University
  - 14 January

- Bach of Wildlife Science
  - University of Queensland
  - 14 January

*Offer dates may not be accurate for the courses shown – used as examples only
Conditionally Accept – still be considered

Offer Round*

Bach of Environmental Science

Further rounds*

Bach of Environmental Science

Further rounds*

Bach of Environmental Science

14 January

Bach of Bus & Environmental Science

14 January

Bach of Wildlife Science

14 January

*Offer dates may not be accurate for the courses shown – used as examples only
Why didn’t I get an offer?

1. Did not meet entry requirements
2. ATAR or selection rank did not meet the threshold
3. Did not pay your application fee
4. Ordered your preferences incorrectly
5. Applied after the due date
International Student and you haven’t received a QTAC offer via SMS or Email?

• While QTAC processes your application and will be able to answer your enquiries, you will receive your offers direct from the institution you have applied to.
• You may receive multiple offers
You have options!

• Change preferences
• Look to see what courses aren’t full
• Pathway options

Ring QTAC and let’s chat
KEY DATES
### What are our key dates for 2020/2021?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>18th UCAT final registration deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>UCAT testing begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>4th QTAC applications open for 2021 courses</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4th ATAR account registration opens (Qld Yr 12s)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Some audition and portfolio applications close</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Early closing dates for some courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Reminder to get EAS and supporting documents submitted</td>
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<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>Offer rounds continue</td>
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<td></td>
<td>20th Last day Qld Yr 12</td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>9th Due date to apply &amp; submit documents for December offer round</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11th Due date to apply &amp; submit documents for January offer round</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19th Qld ATAR and QCE released</td>
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<td></td>
<td>23rd Offer round</td>
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<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>14th Offer round</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Further offer rounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Further offer rounds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
READY TO APPLY?
Go to www.qtac.edu.au and hit Apply
Contact us

Website
www.qtac.edu.au

Phone
1300 467 822

@qtacinfo