QTAC processed domestic applications for 16 institutions in 2020-21, predominately located in QLD. Applications for tertiary study in 2020-21 opened on Tuesday 4 August 2020 with on-time applications due Wednesday 30 September 2020 and semester 1 offers finalising on 19 March 2021.

Applications and offers

QTAC received 60,683 applications for the semester 1 intake for 2020-2021, 11,154 (22.4%) more than this time last year. A total of 51,436 applicants received an offer, 85% of those who applied. Of the received offers show 82.6% of applicants accept their received offer, a 1.3% increase from last year, and a further 7.2% choose to defer their offer for a year. However, the enrolment rate for those accepting offers has declined by 1.5% since last year. Majority of offers made were for bachelor degree level studies (88.9%), with diploma level study being the next populous at 4.6% of the total. Bachelor program offers increased by 9% from the prior admissions year, while diploma offers remained steady.

Field of education analysis

Most fields of education remained at similar percentages between last year and this year for acceptance and enrolment rates. One interesting exception is with Agriculture and Environmental Studies, with a 3.6% increase in acceptances, but a 6.7% decrease in enrolments. The following chart depicts the difference in the enrolment rates between last year and this year.

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1 QTAC did have a new institution in 2020-21 participate, with their contribution being 0.9% of the applicant total.
Age analysis

The age composition of QTAC applicants have remained quite consistent each year, with 59% being 19 years old and under, and around 19% were within the 20 to 24 year old bracket. This breakdown is shown in the following chart.

First preference analysis

QTAC applicants can select up to six course preferences, with their first preference being the course they want to study most.

Unsurprisingly, the acceptance and enrolments rate correlate to the preference order of the course the offer was received on. Applicants receiving an offer on their first preference have higher percentages of acceptance and enrolment, 86.7% and 85.2% respectively, than those who received an offer on their sixth preference, with only 59.6% acceptance and 64.0% enrolment.

The top five fields of education for first preferences were the same between 2019-20 and 2020-21, however the fields differed from third to fifth place. Education moved up from fifth place to take third place this year. Health, like in years past, took the top spot as the favoured field of education.
STATISTICAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

2020-21

- Health
- Society and Culture
- Education
- Natural and Physical Sciences
- Management and Commerce

2019-20

- Health
- Society and Culture
- Natural and Physical Sciences
- Management and Commerce
- Education