

Introduction

The SATAC Bulletin is published for the information of school staff and others who provide advice to prospective tertiary students.

It provides information and updates on SATAC services, courses available through SATAC, and the admissions process.

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Scaling - Finer gained scaled scores

To help the ATAR better reflect academic potential, the SATAC Committee has agreed to the introduction of a change to the mathematical processes that produce the ATAR.

Specifically, the rounding values for scaled scores will be changed to smaller intervals to provide finer discrimination between scores. This will influence university aggregates and produce candidate ATARs that better preserve the relationship with relative academic performance across the cohort.

From 2017 subjects undertaken by SACE/NTCET students will use smaller scaled score intervals. From the 2017 cohort, Tertiary Entrance Statements for SACE/NTCET candidates will report scaled scores for 20 credit subjects in intervals of 0.05 rather than 0.2 as currently reported.

The main benefit will be ATARs that more precisely reflect the academic potential of candidates.

This will be brought about by a stronger alignment between ATARs and the subject achievements that underpin them.

This change will also increase uniformity with practice interstate. This will better support the portability of the ATAR and enhance student mobility across states.

SACE - Reporting ATARs < 30

SATAC has previously reported an applicant's ATAR on their Tertiary Entrance Statement (TES) regardless of the result. This practice is inconsistent with other states where students with an ATAR lower than 30.00 are just advised that their ATAR was below 30.00.

The view within SATAC is that it is unnecessarily confronting for a student to receive a TES reporting a very low ATAR and that simply reporting that the ATAR is below 30.00 conveys the essence of what needs to be communicated.

It has been decided therefore that for the 2016 cohort, the TES will report "Your ATAR was less than 30.00" as applicable.

Please note students who achieved an ATAR below 30.00 will be able to contact SATAC if they wish to know their exact ATAR.



Applicants by School web page

Due to changes in the way SATAC processes applications, the Applicants by School web page may not currently display all applicants from your school.

Those students who did not include their current year 12 qualifications in their applications will not be seen on your school's web page.

These students should contact SATAC as soon as possible to have their year 12 qualification added, and their fees adjusted as they will have been charged the non-year 12 application processing fee. Students undertaking the International Baccalaureate program at your school may also not display on your school's web page.

Once assessment commences in October those students who have a SATAC application should display correctly on your school's Applicants by School web page.

Please [contact SATAC](#) to confirm application details for any students who should be listed on your school's web page but currently are not.

Online resources for schools

The [SATAC website](#) has been updated to include new information outlining changes to subjects in the English and Mathematics Learning Areas in 2017 and key information for students completing year 12 interstate or the International Baccalaureate in Australia.

Changes to website - Year 12 for tertiary entry

We have made some changes to the SATAC website to include information for students who are completing year 12 interstate or the International Baccalaureate in Australia.

[Year 12 for tertiary entry](#) includes information about the entry requirements for undergraduate and TAFE SA courses, the Universities Bonus Schemes, as well as information specific to students completing the SACE/NTCET.

Don't forget that the [Resources for schools](#) page includes access to Applicants by School web pages plus previous editions of the SATAC Bulletin.

You can access Year 12 for tertiary entry and Resources for schools from the SATAC home page.

Changes to SACE - Australian Curriculum for 2018 entry

The rollout of the Australian Curriculum by ACARA (Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority) will see the implementation of subjects in the English and Mathematics Learning Areas in 2017. This will affect students completing the SACE/NTCET in 2017 who are applying for tertiary entry in 2018.

The SATAC website has information about the status of these new subjects for tertiary entry. This includes information on precluded combinations and counting restrictions, the Universities Language, Literacy and Mathematics Bonus Scheme and subject equivalents for prerequisites.

Please check subject codes and names carefully, as there are some similarities between the course names of subjects in 2016 and new subjects in 2017.

More information is available from the [SATAC website](#).

Correction - 2015 Aggregate to ATAR table

The 2015 Aggregate to ATAR table published in the April 2016 edition of the SATAC Bulletin contained incorrect information. The SATAC Bulletin for April 2016 has been amended to reflect the correct table, and can be downloaded from the [Resources for schools page](#) on the SATAC website.

New institutions

From semester 1 2017 students will be able to apply for selected undergraduate courses offered by CQUniversity Australia and Torrens University Australia through SATAC.

Torrens University Australia

Torrens University Australia is part of Laureate International Universities - a leading international network of quality, innovative institutions of higher education comprised of 70 universities across 25 countries. Torrens University Australia's Adelaide campus is located in the CBD on Wakefield Street and was built specifically to offer students a quality learning experience. Courses offered at the Wakefield Campus include Bachelor of Applied Public Health, Bachelor of Business, Bachelor of Business (Sport), Bachelor of Commerce, and Bachelor of Media Design.

CQUniversity Australia

CQUniversity Australia is Australia's largest regional university, with more than 30,000 students across 24-campuses Australia-wide.

CQUniversity Australia is highly regarded for its commitment to social innovation and engaged research.

CQUniversity offers small class sizes which give students access to a personalised and interactive learning experience and the opportunity to build strong relationships with peers and teaching staff.

As well as offering online study options, some courses are delivered face-to-face at its Adelaide campus, south west of the city in Wayville - near the Showgrounds. Courses offered at the Adelaide Campus include Bachelor of Accident Forensics, Bachelor of Arts (Psychology major), Bachelor of Information Technology (Co-op), Bachelor of Occupational Health and Safety, Bachelor of Psychological Science.

For details of the courses available go to [undergraduate Explore](#) to search courses.

2017 applications

Undergraduate applications for 2017

Undergraduate applications for courses starting in 2017 are open now. The early closing date is Friday 30 September 2016, after which a late fee applies. Students are advised to check the undergraduate key dates page for details of courses with final closing dates.

It's important for current year 12 students to provide their SACE registration number in their SATAC application.

This ensures that SATAC can obtain their year 12 results once they are released by the SACE Board in December, and that they pay the reduced processing fee. SATAC may also be able to identify if a student is likely to be entitled to school-based equity bonuses under the Universities Equity Scheme. Such students will be advised in their application.

When registering with SATAC, students should register using a personal email address that belongs to them, which they check regularly.

It is recommended that students do not register using their school email address as most current Year 12 students will not be able to access their school email account by the time the main offer round comes around in January.

Once students have registered with SATAC using their personal email address it's also a good idea to add SATAC's email address to the 'whitelist' on their spam filter. This will prevent emails from SATAC being sent to the spam folder. Your email client will have instructions on how to do this.

TAFE SA applications for 2017

Applications for TAFE SA courses starting in semester 1 2017 opened on Monday 19 September. There have been some changes to the application process or selection rules for TAFE SA courses. The Core Skills Profile for Adults (CSPA) has replaced TABS and is now recognised as the most common way of meeting course admission requirements for most courses.

Some changes to the funding of State government funded courses were introduced in 2015. More information is available from the [TAFE SA website](#).

Key dates for courses starting in 2017

For a full list of SATAC key dates and offer round dates visit the [SATAC website](#).

Undergraduate applications

Friday 30 September 2016

Early closing date for semester 1 entry to most undergraduate courses. Apply by this date to save paying a late fee.

Final closing date for Creative Arts (Drama) at Flinders University. Late applications not accepted.

Final closing date for Medicine/Surgery (including Bonded Medical place) Dental Surgery, Oral Health and Veterinary Bioscience at the University of Adelaide. Late applications not accepted.

Wednesday 12 October 2016

Offer round for courses starting in summer semester 2016.

Friday 14 October 2016

Offers for summer semester 2016 will be emailed each Friday and Tuesday from today.

Monday 31 October 2016

Deadline for applicants to pay their STAT fees and be guaranteed that their results will

be available for the main offer round. Apply and pay for the STAT by this date to save paying an extra fee.

Monday 5 December 2016

Equal consideration closing date for most undergraduate courses. New applications after this date are not guaranteed equal consideration for selection. Check with SATAC before applying after this date.

Final closing date for Medicine at Flinders University. Late applications not accepted.

Tuesday 3 January 2017

Deadline for existing applicants to change their preferences to most courses and still be guaranteed equal consideration.

Deadline for applicants who have applied by 5 December to pay their application fee and still be guaranteed equal consideration.

Tuesday 17 January 2017

Main January offer round for semester 1 2017.

Tuesday 31 January 2017

Further offer round for semester 1 2017.

Thursday 2 February 2017

Further offer round for semester 1 2017.

Tuesday 7 February 2017

Further offer round for semester 1 2017.

February to March 2017

Offers will continue to be made in February and March for courses where there are still places available for semester 1 2017.

TAFE SA applications

Wednesday 30 November 2016

Equal consideration closing date for competitive course preferences. Submit your application by this date to be guaranteed equal consideration.

Friday 9 December 2016

December offer round. Early offers for first preference, non-competitive courses only.

Tuesday 20 December 2016

Last date to undertake the Core Skills Profile for Adults (CSPA) for consideration in the main January offer round.

Wednesday 28 December 2016

Change of preference deadline. Course preferences cannot be added, removed or re-ordered in a submitted application from midnight until Monday 9 January 2017.

Tuesday 3 January to Monday 9 January 2017

First January offer round processing. SATAC prepares for the first January offer round. Some services will be unavailable for short periods.

Monday 9 January 2017

First January offer round. Offers available online.

Tuesday 17 January 2017

Change of preference deadline. Course preferences cannot be added, removed or re-ordered in a submitted application from midnight until Monday 23 January 2017.

Tuesday 17 January 2017

Last day to undertake the Core Skills Profile For Adults (CSPA) for consideration in the second January offer round.

Thursday 19 January to Monday 23 January 2017

Late offer round processing. SATAC conducts processing for the late offer round. Some services will be unavailable for short periods.

Monday 23 January 2017

Late January offer round. Offers available online.

Friday 3 February 2017

Further offers made each Friday from 5 February.