Calculating special entry ranks

Your rank in a special entry subquota can vary from one course to another, depending on the combination of criteria used for ranking special entry applicants, and the various weighting applied to those criteria. Further information about the special entry subquota can be found in the undergraduate Fact Sheet ‘Understanding how selection works’, available from the SATAC website.

Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT) rank
Your STAT rank (in the score range 0-99) is a percentile rank based on your performance in the STAT relative to others who have sat the STAT. Note that this is not a percentage of how many questions you answered correctly. For most courses, your performance in the Verbal and Quantitative sections of the STAT are given equal (i.e. 50:50) weighting.

Personal competencies rank
Your personal competencies rank (in the score range 0-99) is based on SATAC’s assessment of your personal competencies statement. Scores are allocated for each of the six personal competencies criteria according to assessment guidelines agreed to by all participating institutions. For some courses however, different weightings may be applied to each of the criteria, resulting in different personal competencies ranks for different courses.

Employment experience rank
Your employment experience rank (in the score range 0-99) is based on the level of your occupation and the period of employment. The level is determined by the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO) code as used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

Foundation studies course rank
Your foundation studies course rank (only for special entry into Flinders courses) (in the score range 0-99) is based on the length of the completed course or, in the case of the Flinders Foundation course, on your level of achievement within the course as determined by Flinders University.
Calculating special entry ranks

For courses where the STAT is compulsory but neither personal competencies nor employment experience are considered, your special entry rank is your STAT rank.

For courses where the STAT is compulsory and personal competencies and/or employment experience are considered (except Health Sciences programs at the University of South Australia (see below)), your special entry rank is 50% of your STAT rank plus 50% of either your STAT rank or your personal competencies rank or your employment experience rank (if both are considered). See examples below.

For Health Science programs at the University of South Australia where the STAT is compulsory and personal competencies and/or employment experience are considered, your special entry rank is 100% of your STAT rank plus 10% of your personal competencies rank plus 10% of your employment experience rank (if both are considered).

For courses which use other criteria such as performance in an audition, your other criteria score will contribute to your special entry rank.

For Charles Darwin University courses:

- if you choose only to submit a personal competencies statement or information about your employment experience, your special entry rank is your STAT rank
- if you choose to submit a personal competencies statement and/or information about your employment experience, your special entry rank is 50% of your STAT rank plus 50% of the best (or better) of either your STAT rank or your personal competencies rank or your employment experience rank (if both are submitted)
- if you choose not to submit a personal competencies statement and/or information about your employment experience, your special entry rank will be based on your personal competencies rank and/or your employment experience rank (if both are submitted).

Note that for special entry to Midwifery at Charles Darwin University you must sit the STAT.

For Flinders University courses:

- if you have not completed a recognised foundation studies course (including the Flinders Foundation Course), your special entry rank is based on your STAT rank possibly augmented by your personal competencies rank and/or your employment experience rank
- if you have completed the Flinders Foundation Course, your special entry rank is your foundation studies rank based on your level of achievement within the course as determined by Flinders University
- if you have completed any other recognised foundation studies course, your special entry rank is your foundation studies rank based on the length of the completed course
- if you have undertaken the STAT and completed a recognised foundation studies course (including the Flinders Foundation Course), your special entry rank is the best (or better) of the ranks as described above.

Example 1

For Course X, the STAT is compulsory and both personal competencies and employment experience are considered.

- Student A has the following ranks: STAT 68; personal competencies 80; employment experience 72
- Student A's special entry rank for Course X = 68 (STAT rank) x 50% + 80 (best of 3 ranks) x 50% = 34 + 40 = 74.0
- Student B has the following ranks: STAT 68; personal competencies 60; employment experience nil
- Student B's special entry rank for Course X = 68 (STAT rank) x 50% + 68 (best of 3 ranks) x 50% = 34 + 34 = 68.0

Note that, although both Student A and Student B have the same STAT rank, Student A received a higher special entry rank for Course X, but note also that Student B's special entry rank was not lower than the STAT rank. In other words, a personal competencies or employment experience rank can enhance your STAT rank but a poor or non-existent personal competencies or employment experience rank cannot reduce it.

Example 2

For Course Y, the STAT is compulsory, employment experience is considered but not personal competencies.

- Student A has the following ranks: STAT 68; personal competencies 80; employment experience 72
- Student A's special entry rank for Course Y = 68 (STAT rank) x 50% + 72 (better of 2 ranks) x 50% = 34 + 36 = 70.0
- Student B has the following ranks: STAT 68; personal competencies 60; employment experience nil
- Student B's special entry rank for Course Y = 68 (STAT rank) x 50% + 68 (better of 2 ranks) x 50% = 34 + 34 = 68.0

Note that, although Student A's personal competencies rank of 80 was the best rank, it is not used in the calculation of the special entry rank for Course Y because the course does not consider personal competencies ranks.