



APPLYING FOR UNIVERSITY – NEWSLETTER

NB – access to all websites in this newsletter can be made through the website www.toormina-h.schools.nsw.edu.au and click on **Careers**

UAC Applications

Here are some hints for applying to university in NSW using the UAC 2016-17 Guide. Application procedures – see pages 21 – 29.

All applicants must apply online using Apply-By-Web on UAC's website at www.uac.edu.au with the cost of application being \$41. Click on "Undergraduate Study", then click on the link to "Apply for Undergraduate Study". The website will instruct you throughout the application, but read the FAQs on page 28 before applying.

Applications open on Wednesday 3rd August. The closing date for on time applications is Friday, 30th September 2016. Remember that there will be a last minute rush so don't leave it too late to apply. Also remember that school finishes on 23rd September.

Late applications will be processed by UAC but will incur a late fee (until 30th October - \$166, 30th November - \$186, 12th February 2016 - \$196). You can change your preferences for the main round of offers up until Friday, 6th January 2017 so that your initial preferences do not lock you into course choices.

Page 23, section 4.7, outlines how to pay for application fees. Payments can be made by credit cards, PayPal, B Pay and over the counter at Australia Post. If you need to set up a "PayPal" account give yourself enough time to meet closing dates. Your application will not be processed until you have paid in full.

UAC will close down every night between midnight and 7.30am

You are able to make up to 9 course choices on your UAC application using the 6 digit numbers found in the guide. Your order of preference is vitally important as you are only made **one offer** (if successful) according to your preferences and ATAR achieved. Remember to read course descriptions carefully to see if any additional information is required. Courses requiring auditions, interviews, etc should be included in your initial application. **Some courses have special requirements and policies which can be found on page 17.**

Most courses available in 2017 are **Commonwealth Supported Places** (formerly called HECS) where you contribute part of the cost of your course by paying a student contribution depending upon the band in which the course has been allocated by the Australian Government. Information on page 35 shows the maximum contribution for each band. CSP's can be repaid through the taxation system once your income reaches **\$54,869** (for the current financial year). More information about CSP's and HECS-Help can be found on the Study Assist website:

<http://studyassist.gov.au/sites/studyassist/payingbackmyloan/hecs-help-benefit/pages/hecs-help-benefit>

You will need your PIN number to access UAC. This is a different PIN number to the one that you have already received from the Board of Studies. Your UAC PIN will be mailed out to your home address in early August. As such it is very important that you have updated your Students Online account with your correct details (go to <https://studentsonline.bostes.nsw.edu.au/> to check your details) **DO NOT LOSE YOUR PIN**. For problems, telephone 9752 0200 as soon as possible. See page 23 for information regarding your PIN. Remember to keep a copy of your application!

To look for particular courses first use the Cross Referenced Index on pages 510-511 before looking up areas of study. Example: if you wish to study Occupational Therapy look up the Cross Referenced Index on page 511 which will tell you to look under Health Sciences (page 519) for courses available.

Deferment

See Pages 150-152 of the UAC Guide for each institution's deferment policies.

QTAC Applications

Applications open Tuesday 2nd August and close Friday, 30th September 2016. Cost is \$37 for on time applications. Alterations after this date will cost an additional \$138. Go to www.qtac.edu.au Apply online using the "I want to" button.

To apply you need to register first and set up an account and create a password. You may also need your BOSTES Student Number. You will be issued with a QTAC Application Number quoted at end (if lost use student number).

You are able to make up to 6 course choices on your application and you can select courses that commence Semester 1 or Semester 2 in 2017.

Educational Access Schemes

Most institutions have an Education Access Scheme (EAS) for applicants who have experienced long term disadvantage. Students can apply for special consideration by completing an EAS Application form that is found in the **EAS Booklet** (closing date for applications are 30th September).

Areas of disadvantage include:

- Disrupted Schooling
- Financial Hardship which includes Youth Allowance Payments.
- Home Environment and Responsibilities
- English Language Difficulty
- Personal Illness/ Disability
- Refugee Status
- School Environment (NB our school disadvantage code is SO1E)

It is extremely important that documentation is provided in each instance. Also note that documents need to be verified by a Justice of the Peace before submitting applications .If documents are returned and are not verified your application will be unsuccessful.

NB There are different EAS processes for UAC and QTAC.

<http://www.uac.edu.au/eas/> for UAC

<http://www.qtac.edu.au/applications/application-resources/assistance-schemes/educational-access-scheme> for QTAC

Early Entry and / or Student Recommendation Schemes

These schemes use criteria other than ATAR or in addition to the ATAR for admission purposes and students are **strongly encouraged** to apply. Early offers that are managed via UAC are called Student Recommendation Schemes. Full details can be found on page 149 of UAC. Please note that QTAC does not offer Early Entry schemes to NSW students.

University	Application Format	Key Dates
Southern Cross Uni STAR Entry Scheme	Direct Entry at http://scu.edu.au/futurestudents/index.php/29/	Opens 20 th July Closes 7 th Sept
Charles Sturt University	Through UAC SRS	Closes 30 th Sept
University of New England Early Entry	Direct Entry at http://www.une.edu.au/study/study-on-campus/get-early-entry/apply-online	Opens 20 th July Closes 30 th Sept
University of Canberra	Through UAC SRS	Closes 30 th Sept
University of Wollongong Early Admission	Direct Entry at http://www.uow.edu.au/future/early-admission/index.html	Opens 1 st August Closes 26 th August
Griffith University	Through UAC SRS	Closes 30 th Sept
University of Newcastle	Through UAC SRS	Closes 30 th Sept
University of Sydney E12	Online	Opens 20 th July Closes 2 nd Sept

Full details on how to apply to the School Recommendation Scheme via UAC are not found in the UAC guide. All details are in a separate booklet that can be obtained from the careers office or via the UAC website <http://www.uac.edu.au/srs/>. Students can only make an SRS application AFTER they have submitted their UAC preferences via the UAC website. Applications for SRS close 30th September.

Bonus Points Schemes

Many universities offer Bonus Points for students who are applying for particular courses provided that they have studied identified subjects and achieve Band 5 or 6 results. Other universities also offer up to five bonus points to students living in Coffs Harbour under the regional / rural program. At most, the majority of universities will only offer a maximum 10 bonus points. For additional information on bonus points available go to <http://www.uac.edu.au/atar/bonus-points/>

NB: Queensland institutions do not offer bonus points to NSW HSC students.

Equity Scholarships

Students who are experiencing financial hardship and need help with higher education and accommodation costs may be eligible for an equity scholarship. These scholarships are not based on academic merit and are aimed to improve participation in higher education by students who are financially disadvantaged.

See pages 37 of the UAC guide or the QTAC website for details of financial assistance available.

Commonwealth Scholarships

Apply through Centrelink

- Student Start-up Loans (no longer a scholarship) (\$1025 every loan period).
<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/services/centrelink/student-start-loan>
- Relocation Scholarships (\$4333 in 1st year, then \$2167 in Yr.2 & 3, then \$1083 Yr.4)
<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/enablers/eligibility-relocation-scholarship>

Both are administered by Centrelink and paid automatically to all eligible students (for those receiving at least \$1 in Youth Allowance, Austudy, Abstudy)

Finding advice on affording university study

The Study Assist website offers detailed information about the financial aspects of attending university and higher education. Information relates to HECS- HELP loans to pay for course fees, repayments and general budgeting. Go to <http://studyassist.gov.au/sites/StudyAssist/>

Another site that is also useful for budgeting is Money Smart - <https://www.moneysmart.gov.au/>

On Campus Accommodation

Each university has a different approach to on campus accommodation. Some universities do not offer it at all. Others outsource all aspects to private organisations.

On campus accommodation can be a great way to get settled quickly if you are moving to a new and unfamiliar area. You get to meet like minded students and reduce your transportation time and costs.

The cost of on campus accommodation can vary quite significantly. Some offer full board which includes private rooms, meals and extras. Others offer the room only in a share house style accommodation. Many universities offer a range of each of these options.

Some universities require you to apply early, around the same time to you make your university application and pay a deposit or application fee. Others wait until you have received your university offer.

If you are considering on campus accommodation you should do the following;

1. Decide which university /campus is your first preference to attend (assuming you get the appropriate ATAR)
2. Go online and check out the website for on campus accommodation, checking the facilities offered and the weekly/ semester fees and payments.
3. Take the time to visit the campus and accommodation facilities to ensure they meet your standards
4. Apply online or via the requested method.
5. Ensure you pay the fees/ registration and complete all information and be super nice to your parents and carers!!

University and Accommodation Scholarships – How do I apply?

- Step 1: Work out the kind of course you would like to do
- Step 2: Decide on the universities you would like to apply for
- Step 3: Go to the individual university websites and go through the different scholarships on offer. There are many different eligibility criteria for each scholarship, so make sure you meet the requirements prior to applying.
- Step 4: Show someone your written application for verification and suggestions
- Step 5: Submit the application by the due date.
- Step 6: Ensure you also submit any additional paperwork, certificates or letters of endorsement required to meet the scholarship otherwise your application will instantly be dismissed.

If you require a Principals Letter of Recommendation, please advise Mrs West at least two weeks in advance of the due date.

Website that provide additional information

These websites may also be useful for you when considering what to do after year 12:

<http://www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au/Latest-news/Getting-into-university#.V44I9bh97IU>

<http://www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au/Latest-news/Life-at-university#.V44JFLh97IU>

<http://joboutlook.gov.au/>

<http://www.toorminahighcareers.com>

Additional Scholarships

Many industry bodies offer scholarships to promote education and training. Here is a list of some known ones that you may also like to consider

University Industry Scholarships: These are offered by many universities and include employment placements and long term job prospects. They are not normally listed in the normal scholarship processes (eg University of Newcastle)

Nursing and Aged Care scholarships - up to \$40,000

<http://www.acn.edu.au/nahsss> -

Teach NSW Scholarships - various

<https://www.teach.nsw.edu.au/getpaidtostudy>

Rural Scholarships (NSW only) Up to 50 scholarships - \$5000 – Now Open

<http://www.rasnw.com.au/rural-scholarships-.htm>

JB Fairfax Award for Rural Journalism (National) 1 only - \$10,000

<http://www.rasnw.com.au/JB-Fairfax-Award-for-Rural-Journalism.htm>

Sydney Royal Wine Scholarship (National) 1 only – \$5000

<http://www.rasnw.com.au/sydney-royal-wine-scholarship.htm>

Sydney Royal Dairy Produce Scholarship (NSW only) – 1 only - \$5000

<http://www.rasnw.com.au/sydney-royal-dairy-produce-scholarship.htm>

Australian Veterans' Children Assistance Trust - \$15,000

www.avcat.org.au - opens 18th August, closes 31st October

Also the following sites offer additional scholarships and awards

<http://studyassist.gov.au/sites/studyassist/scholarshipsandawards>

http://www.hobsonscoursefinder.com.au/scholarship/search#.VaYzKE0w_IU

Any questions please come and see me.

It's always best to book an appointment – Mrs West