

## University Admission 2010 Admission Requirements for Mature Age Applicants

[Introduction](#)  
[Tertiary Entrance Rank - Change of Name](#)  
[Scaling](#)  
[University Application Procedure](#)  
[Mature Age Admission Requirements](#)  
[International Applicants](#)  
[University Admission Based on the Special Tertiary Admissions Test](#)  
[Mature Age Admission Based on TEE/WACE Examinations](#)  
[Competence in English](#)  
[University Specific Requirements](#)  
[Disclaimer](#)

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### Introduction

The following information provides a summary of the admission requirements for mature age applicants of the four public universities in Western Australia.

If you are an Australian or New Zealand citizen or a permanent resident of Australia who will be 20 years of age or over before 1 March 2010, the following information applies to you.

Starting with the 2007 admissions year, university admissions requirements reflect the changes occurring in upper secondary schooling in Western Australia as a result of the implementation of the Western Australian Post-Compulsory Education Review report, *Our Youth, Our Future*.

In determining the requirements for 2010 admission the universities have consulted the school sectors and the Curriculum Council, and taken account of changes announced by the Minister for Education and Training and the Curriculum Council. All WACE courses fully implemented up to the end of 2009 will be recognised for the purpose of university admissions. There will be separate external examinations for stage 2 and stage 3 units in all courses. To ensure the best possible chance of success in university studies, students intending to study WACE courses are **strongly recommended** to attempt Stage 3 units in Year 12, if they are capable of doing so.

This information is relevant only for admission in 2010 and is subject to change without notice.

### Tertiary Entrance Rank – Change of Name

Since the late 1990s each state (except Queensland) has used a common measure to rank Year 12 students for university admission. In each state this measure has had different names. In WA it was called the Tertiary Entrance Rank (TER).

It has been agreed that all states and territories (except Queensland) would replace these different names with a common name, the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR), during 2009 and 2010.

In June 2009, the public universities in Western Australia agreed that there would be a phased introduction of the name change over this period, with the term TER (ATAR) replacing the term TER in 2009. From 2010, students will receive an ATAR. **This is a name change only, and has no effect on students' ranking or the selection process for university.**

### Scaling

Some students will have a mixture of WACE courses and TEE subjects. To ensure fairness to all students, achievement in WACE courses and TEE subjects will be mapped to the same scale, using the Average Marks Scaling process. **Unless otherwise specified, references to scaled marks in this brochure mean the final scaled mark obtained in either stage 2 or stage 3 of a WACE course, or in a TEE subject.**

As an incentive for students to study WACE courses at the more demanding stage 3 if they are capable of doing so, an increment will be applied to stage 3 marks. After standardisation and statistical moderation has occurred, the combined unscaled marks at stage 3 will be increased by 15 marks per course relative to the combined unscaled marks at stage 2. After this, the marks in both stages are merged and scaled using Average Marks Scaling. No increment will be applied if a course is only examined at stage 3. For the remainder of this publication, in the context of Year 12 study, the term course(s) means both WACE course(s) and TEE subjects.

### Participating Universities

Curtin University of Technology  
Edith Cowan University  
Murdoch University  
The University of Western Australia

[top](#)

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### University Application Procedures

Information about applying to the universities and admission to undergraduate courses will be sent to mature age students at their schools in August 2009. Mature age applicants not attending a school can access this information on this website.

Application is made via TISC's website.

The closing date for applications without incurring a late fee is normally the end of September. Offers of admission are made by the universities in the second half of January and in early February.

You can obtain further information about application procedures from TISC. Enquiries about mid-year entry, external studies, postgraduate studies, timetables and particular course requirements should be directed to the university concerned.

You need to apply for admission through TISC if you:

- are an Australian citizen
- are a New Zealand citizen
- have been approved/granted permanent resident status

If you are not one of the above, you are an international student and you need to apply direct to the International Office at the relevant university.

[top](#)

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### Mature Age Admissions Requirements

You may qualify for university entrance by:

- meeting the normal school leaver requirements (see the **2010 Admission Requirements for School Leavers** publication, but note that mature age applicants are exempted from the WACE requirement),  
or
- meeting the **TEE/WACE examinations.**

or on the basis of

- results obtained in the Special Tertiary Admissions Test (**STAT**), or
- recognised tertiary qualifications (contact the **individual universities** for further information),

or

- such other qualifications and/or experience as an individual university may accept. (Contact the **individual university** for details.)

[top](#)

### Mature Age International Applicants

If you are not an Australian or New Zealand citizen, or a permanent resident of Australia, you can qualify for admission by:

- meeting the normal WA school leaver requirements (see the **2010 Admission Requirements for School Leavers** publication). Mature age international applicants are exempt from the WACE requirement, or
- achieving an acceptable level of performance in the Western Australian Universities' Foundation Program (**WAUFP**),

or on the basis of

- recognised prior tertiary qualifications (contact the **individual universities** for further information), or
- such other qualifications and/or experience as an individual university may accept. (Contact the **individual university** for details.)

International applicants or temporary residents who sit STAT can only use the results to supplement other entry qualifications or to prove English competence. Further information about courses and fees is available from the universities direct.

[top](#)

### Mature Age University Admissions Based on the Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT)

The Special Tertiary Admissions Test (**STAT**) is used by the four public universities in WA as part of their admissions procedure for mature age applicants.

As entry to most university courses is competitive, above average marks will usually be required. Please refer to the **universities' individual sections** for specific details on using STAT as a basis for application.

Note: Some universities have prerequisite WACE course/TEE subject requirements for their courses, which you will need to satisfy for your preferred course of study. STAT may satisfy some prerequisite requirements.

[top](#)

### Mature Age Admissions Requirements Based on TEE/WACE Examinations

As a Mature Age applicant, you will normally be required to:

- demonstrate **English language competence**; and
- obtain a sufficiently high **Tertiary Entrance Rank (TER (ATAR))** for entry to a particular university; and
- satisfy any **prerequisites or special requirements** necessary to be considered for entry to particular courses.

#### The Tertiary Entrance Rank (TER (ATAR))

**NOTE:** All TEE and course results will be scaled to ensure fairness to all students. For students doing WACE courses, as an incentive to do the more demanding stage 3 units, results at stage 3 will be increased by 15 marks per course relative to the stage 2 results, as part of the **scaling process**.

A mature age TER (ATAR) provides a means of ranking students for selection for university admission. Applicants for each university course are ranked in order of merit based on their TER (ATAR).

A mature age Tertiary Entrance Rank (TER (ATAR)) provides a means of ranking students for selection for university admission. Applicants for each university course are ranked in order of merit based on their TER (ATAR).

The TER (ATAR) ranges between zero and 99.95 and is derived from the Tertiary Entrance Aggregate (TEA).

A mature age TEA is normally calculated by adding the best two scaled scores. These may be in any combination of **WACE courses and/or TEE subjects**. The sum of the best two course scaled scores is multiplied by 2. The maximum TEA is 400. No course or TEE subject can be counted more than once. **NOTE:** Stage 2 and stage 3 of the same WACE course cannot both count.

Courses/subjects which are to be used in the calculation of a mature age TEA must be taken in the same year and candidates must be 19 years of age or over before 1 March in the year these courses/subjects are taken.

There are some **unacceptable course/subject combinations**. In addition, applicants should note that some university courses have specific prerequisite TEE/WACE courses. (Refer to the individual university sections for details of these requirements.)

It is not necessary for a result in English or English as an Additional Language/Dialect (EALD) or TEE English Literature to be included in the TER (ATAR), however you may need to rely on this course to prove English Competence.

In calculating the final score for TEE/WACE courses, equal weight is given to the marks obtained in the final examinations and those from school assessments, except where subjects/courses are taken on a **private basis**. All scores are scaled/moderated before they are used for university entrance purposes.

Please refer to the **individual university sections** for additional university specific criteria on calculation of Tertiary Entrance Ranks (TERs (ATARs)).

**NOTE:** Students studying WACE courses are **strongly recommended** to attempt stage 3 units in Year 12.

### Courses which are used to form the TER (ATAR)

#### Courses

Aboriginal and Intercultural Studies  
 Aboriginal Languages of WA  
 Applied Information Technology  
 Arabic  
 Aviation  
 Career and Enterprise  
 Chinese: Background Speakers  
 Chinese: Second Language  
 Computer Science  
 Dance  
 Drama  
 Earth and Environmental Science  
 Engineering Studies  
 English  
 English as an Additional Language/Dialect (EALD)  
 Hebrew  
 Indonesian: Background Speakers  
 Italian  
 Japanese: Background Speakers  
 Malay: Background Speakers  
 Marine and Maritime Technology  
 Materials Design and Technology  
 Media Production and Analysis  
 Modern Greek  
 Outdoor Education  
 Philosophy and Ethics  
 Physical Education Studies

#### TEE Subjects

Accounting  
 Ancient History  
 Applicable Mathematics  
 Art  
 Biology  
 Calculus  
 Chemistry  
 Discrete Mathematics  
 Economics  
 English Literature  
 French  
 Geography  
 German  
 History  
 Human Biology  
 Indonesian: Second Language  
 Japanese: Second Language  
 Music  
 Physical Science  
 Physics  
 Political and Legal Studies

Psychology

### Unacceptable Subject Combinations

You cannot use the following course combinations in calculating your TER (ATAR). It may be possible to take both courses but the result in only one may be used to calculate your TER (ATAR).

Biology (TEE) **with** Human Biology (TEE)  
 Chemistry (TEE) **with** Physical Science (TEE)  
 Chinese: Background Speakers **with** Chinese: Second Language  
 Discrete Mathematics (TEE) **with** Applicable Mathematics (TEE)  
 Discrete Mathematics (TEE) **with** Calculus (TEE)  
 English **with** English as an Additional Language/Dialect  
 English **with** English Literature (TEE)  
 English as an Additional Language/Dialect **with** English Literature (TEE)  
 Indonesian: Background Speakers **with** Indonesian: Second Language (TEE)  
 Indonesian: Background Speakers **with** Malay: Background Speakers  
 Japanese: Background Speakers **with** Japanese: Second Language (TEE)  
 Malay: Background Speakers **with** Indonesian: Second Language (TEE)  
 Physics (TEE) **with** Physical Science (TEE)

### Courses Studied on a Private Basis

You may use results in courses sat privately in the calculation of your TER (ATAR). If you wish to sit courses on a private basis, you must enrol with the Curriculum Council. It is possible that not all courses will be available to private candidates. Your scaled score in courses you sit privately will be based on the examination mark only (out of 100) and may be used in the calculation of a mature age TER (ATAR). Results in WACE courses at stage 3 will be increased by 15 marks per course relative to the stage 2 results, prior to **scaling**.

### Prerequisites

Make sure that you satisfy the prerequisites for admission to the university course(s) of your choice. Prerequisites are the courses or special requirements that need to be successfully completed for a student to be considered for entry to particular university courses. **Generally a scaled mark of 50 or more in stage 3 of a WACE course or a TEE subject is required.** Earth and Environmental Science 3A/3B may be used to satisfy the prerequisite 'one science course'.

Prerequisites may be satisfied by results from the current year or previous four years.

Murdoch University does not require applicants to have undertaken specific prerequisite courses and instead provides introductory units to enable its students to become skilled in specific areas in which they may be lacking.

For some university courses the special requirements may include bridging/special course units, interviews, auditions, folio presentations, manual dexterity tests, aptitude tests, fitness requirements, etc. Information regarding any special requirements is only partly provided in this publication. Detailed information is available from the individual universities.

For an outline of prerequisites and preferred courses [click here](#).

[top](#)

## Mature Age Admission Requirements Based on TEE/WACE Examinations Competence in English

For university admission purposes, usually you demonstrate competence in English by achieving prescribed performance in English, English as an Additional Language/Dialect (for eligible students) or TEE English Literature, or from the previously offered courses: TEE English or TEE English as a Second Language (ESL). You can meet the competence in English requirement with results obtained in any year.

### Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT)

For Curtin University of Technology, Edith Cowan University and Murdoch University a mark of at least 145 in the Written English test of STAT satisfies the competence in English requirements. The University of Western Australia requires a mark of 150 in the Verbal component of the Multiple Choice section AND a mark of 145 in the Written English test.

### English; English as an Additional Language/Dialect (EALD); TEE English Literature

#### Curtin University of Technology

#### Murdoch University

#### The University of Western Australia

You must achieve a scaled mark of at least 50 in stage 2 or stage 3 of English or English as a Language/Dialect or in TEE English Literature.

#### Edith Cowan University

You must achieve:

- a scaled mark of at least 50 in stage 2 or stage 3 of English or English as a Language/Dialect or in TEE English Literature; or
- a letter grade of A, B or C in two English units (2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 3A, 3B) studied in Year 12; or
- a letter grade of A, B or C in two English as a Language/Dialect units (2A, 2B, 3A, 3B) studied in Year 12; or
- a letter grade of A, B or C in TEE English Literature.

### All Universities

Stage 2 or stage 3 English, English as a Language/Dialect or TEE English Literature sat on a private basis (if available) can be used to meet all universities' competency in English requirement ([see Courses Studied on a private basis](#)). In this case you must achieve a scaled mark of at least 50.

### Concessions

#### Curtin University of Technology

#### Edith Cowan University

#### Murdoch University

(a) If you have not met the competency in English requirement for one of these three universities, that university will concede competence in English to you if you have:

achieved a standardised moderated numeric school assessment or standardised numeric examination assessment of at least 55 in stage 2 or stage 3 English, English as a Language/Dialect or in TEE English Literature

(b) If you have not met the requirement (a) above for one of the above three universities, but you have:

achieved a TER (ATAR) above the minimum specified annually by the universities,

then you may demonstrate your competence in English for the above three universities by sitting the Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT), or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) early in January.

#### The University of Western Australia

(a) If you have not met the competency in English requirement for The University of Western Australia, The University of Western Australia will concede competence in English to you if you have:

achieved a standardised moderated numeric school assessment or standardised numeric examination assessment of at least 60 in stage 2 or stage 3 English, English as a Language/Dialect or in TEE English Literature

(b) If you have not met the requirement (a) above for The University of Western Australia, but you have:

achieved a TER (ATAR) above the minimum specified annually by the universities,

then you may demonstrate your competence in English for The University of Western Australia by sitting the Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT), or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) early in January.

#### **TEE English or TEE English as a Second Language (ESL) Sat Previously**

For all universities, you have satisfied a university's current competence in English requirement if you have satisfied that university's competence in English requirement previously, via results in TEE English or TEE English as a Second Language (ESL).

[top](#)

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### **University Specific Requirements**

#### **Curtin University of Technology**

##### **Admission Based on STAT**

To be eligible for entry to the university you will need:

STAT MC	a minimum score of 145
<b>and</b>	
STAT WE	a minimum score of 145

**IMPORTANT:** The scores for STAT WE and at least one component of STAT MC will need to equate to a notional TER (ATAR) equal to or greater than the cut-off rank for the course(s) for which you are applying. STAT is not suitable for all courses; and some courses require specific components of STAT MC (ie Verbal or Quantitative, or both). Check below to see if STAT can be used for entry to the course(s) you are interested in.

All applicants for admission to Curtin are required to provide separate evidence of satisfactory performance in an approved test of English in addition to their qualifications. Attainment of 145 in the STAT WE will satisfy Curtin's English competency requirement.

##### **Applicants Who Sat TAE/TEE in a Prior Year**

Applicants may combine scaled marks obtained in the previous four years with current year results to form a normal school leaver TER (ATAR). The higher of the school leaver TER (ATAR) or mature age TER (ATAR) will be used for admission purposes.

Applicants who sat TAE/TEE in a previous year and did not qualify for admission will be reassessed under the current entry requirements.

#### **Edith Cowan University**

##### **Admission Based on STAT**

To be eligible for entry to the university you will need:

STAT MC	a minimum score of 115 for either component (see below)
<b>and</b>	
STAT WE	a minimum score of 145

It is important to sit both the Multiple Choice and the Written English tests in the one STAT year.

The score for STAT WE and at least one component of STAT MC will need to equate to a notional TER (ATAR) equal to or greater than the cut-off rank for the course(s) for which you are applying.

Courses which have a science or mathematics prerequisite require a mark of at least 145 in the Quantitative component of STAT MC.

For some courses, such as the performing or visual arts, satisfactory auditions, interviews or submission of past work are essential admission requirements.

All applicants for admission to Edith Cowan University are required to provide evidence of satisfactory performance in an approved test of English in addition to their qualifications. Attainment of 145 in the STAT Written English will satisfy Edith Cowan University's English competency requirement.

##### **Applicants Who Sat TAE/TEE in a Prior Year**

Applicants may combine scaled marks obtained in the previous four years with current year results to form a normal school leaver TER (ATAR). The higher of the school leaver TER (ATAR) or mature age TER (ATAR) will be used for admission purposes.

Applicants who sat TAE/TEE in a previous year and did not obtain a rank sufficiently high to be considered for entry will be assessed by the university in terms of the minimum entry ranks for the current year.

##### **Portfolio Entry Pathway to Edith Cowan University**

In addition to the requirements outlined above, Edith Cowan University offers an additional pathway for entry by mature age students. Applicants will need to satisfy Edith Cowan University's competency in English requirements, as outlined above, and submit supporting documentation directly to Edith Cowan University. For further information access [www.reachyourpotential.com.au](http://www.reachyourpotential.com.au).

#### **Murdoch University**

##### **TER (ATAR) for Chiropractic Science, Law and Veterinary Science**

Mature age applicants who have undertaken no postsecondary study and want to study Chiropractic Science, Law or Veterinary Science as Standard Undergraduate applicants (Category 1) are advised that they should study four courses/subjects in the one year. Applicants applying on the basis of fewer than four courses/subjects are ineligible for Category 1 and will be considered as Other Undergraduate applicants (Category 2). They should note that there are a limited number of places available in Category 2 and that they are competing for a place along with applicants who may have completed a year or more of tertiary study.

##### **Admissions Based on STAT**

Prospective students who do not have any evidence of recent academic attainment to support their application are encouraged to sit STAT Multiple Choice and STAT Written English. To be eligible for most courses you will need a mark of at least 145 for either component of the Multiple Choice test and a mark of at least 145 for the Written English test. Achieving the academic minimum does not guarantee admission to a particular course. Due to competition for places, individual courses may cut higher than the academic minimum.

In addition to sitting STAT, applicants are strongly encouraged to submit a brief personal statement in support of their application for university admission. This statement should be approximately one page and should outline the candidate's reasons for selecting the chosen degree program and explain why he/she believes the degree will be successfully completed if a place is offered. It may include a brief resume of any occupational, educational or personal experience which indicates a capacity for successful tertiary study.

Applicants should note that admission to courses where quotas restrict the number of new students may not always be available on the basis of STAT results. STAT is not considered to be a suitable qualification for entry to Chiropractic Science, Veterinary Science or Law.

##### **Applicants Who Sat TEE in a Prior Year**

Applicants may combine scaled marks obtained in the previous four years with current year results to form a normal school leaver TER (ATAR). The higher of the school leaver TER (ATAR) or mature age TER (ATAR) will be used for admission purposes.

The TER or TER (ATAR) should be no older than ten years if it is the sole academic basis of admission.

Applicants who sat TEE in a previous year and did not qualify for admission will be reassessed under the current entry requirements.

##### **Portfolio Entry to Murdoch University**

In addition to the requirements outlined above, Murdoch University offers a portfolio pathway for admission to the Bachelors degrees in Communications, Bachelor of Media and Bachelor of Digital Media. Students must satisfy Murdoch's English requirement, as outlined above, and should apply through TISC but submit their portfolio direct to Murdoch University. Portfolios will be assessed by academic staff in the relevant discipline. For more information see [www.murdoch.edu.au](http://www.murdoch.edu.au).

### The University of Western Australia

The University of Western Australia offers three specific entry routes for Mature Age applicants. Not all entry routes are appropriate for all courses. Some courses, such as Medicine, Dentistry and Law have particular requirements. Potential Mature Age applicants are strongly encouraged to consult the Admissions Centre for advice on the most appropriate entry route for them prior to enrolling in any course of study.

#### Admissions Based on STAT

- This entry route is **not available** to International Students

Results in STAT Multiple Choice (Verbal component) and STAT Written English test may be used for entry to the following degrees:

- Bachelor of Arts
- Bachelor of Arts (Asian Studies)
- Bachelor of Arts (Communication Studies)
- Bachelor of Arts (European Studies)
- Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education (combined course)
- Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Music (combined course)\*
- Bachelor of Environmental Design (leads to Master of Architecture)
- Bachelor of Fine Arts
- Bachelor of Landscape Architecture
- Bachelor of Music\*
- Bachelor of Music Education\*
- Bachelor of Restoration Ecology (Albany Centre only) +
- Bachelor of Science (4-year) +

\* Audition is also required.

+ These courses also require a pass in any TEE mathematics subject (or equivalent).

To be eligible for entry into Semester One under this route, STAT must be taken by November of the previous year. Entry under this route is extremely competitive, and applicants should be aware that meeting the minimum requirement as listed below is not a guarantee of selection. As in all entry routes, the stronger the results, the greater the likelihood of being offered a place.

Both sections of STAT must be taken. This method of entry is only available to those who have never undertaken any tertiary-level study.

Marks required:

STAT Multiple Choice (Verbal Component)	A mark of at least 150; <b>AND</b>
STAT Written English	A mark of at least 155.

his also satisfies the university's English language competency requirement.

#### Admission Based on a Two Course/Subject TER (ATAR)

- This entry route is not available to International Students
- This entry route is not available for 'standard entry' to MEDICINE and DENTISTRY

Refer to requirements outlined **above**.

#### Admission Based on a Four Course/Subject TER (ATAR)

- This entry route is available to International Students
- This entry route is available for 'standard entry' to MEDICINE and DENTISTRY for students who have never undertaken any tertiary study and have not previously qualified for entry to the university.

The admission requirements for mature age applicants who elect to take four TEE subjects/WACE courses are the same as those for school leavers (see [University Admissions 2010 Admission Requirements for School Leavers](#)), except that mature age applicants are exempt from the 'WACE' requirement.

The normal English language competence requirement must be met by the achievement of a final scaled mark of at least 50 in either stage 2 or stage 3 English or in TEE English Literature. Eligible candidates for whom English is a second language may obtain a scaled mark of 50 or more in stage 2 or stage 3 English as an Additional Language/Dialect, a suitable level of achievement in English as a Second Language (achieved in a previous year) or another approved test of English.

Applicants who have met all other admission requirements and not achieved competency in English will be invited to sit an alternative test, for example STAT (if not already sat in the current STAT year) or IELTS early in January.

All prerequisites must be satisfied for a four course/subject TER (ATAR). For prerequisite information refer to the University's prospectus or **Prerequisites** on this site. Course marks that contribute to a four course/subject TER (ATAR) may be accumulated over **five** consecutive years.

#### Applicants who sat TAE/TEE in a Prior Year

Those applying for courses on the basis of a TES/TER gained prior to 2005 will be considered on an individual basis by Faculty Selection Committees.

#### Mature-Age Access Scheme

In August 2008 The University of Western Australia introduced a trial program providing provisional entry to a range of degrees for mature-aged students with little or no previous study. Interested applicants should make contact with the University of Western Australia Admissions Centre for further information.

[top](#)

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#### Disclaimer

The universities reserve the right to change the content and/or method of presentation and/or the method of assessment of any unit of study, to withdraw any unit of study or programme which they offer, to impose limitations on enrolment in any unit or programme, and/or vary arrangements for any programme. Enquiries regarding university admission requirements should be directed to the individual university(ies) concerned.

TISC and the participating universities cannot accept liability for any incorrect advice received from sources other than TISC, the universities or the universities' officially appointed agents.

[top](#)

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