

CIRCULAR 1 OF 2017

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EXECUTIVE OFFICER

1 **ADVICE OF UNIVERSITY ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

TISC prepares and publishes admission requirements (available for downloading from TISC's website www.tisc.edu.au) on behalf of the universities each year. TISC's policy is not to endorse any of the summaries which may be prepared by schools or others. This avoids the possibility of unnoticed ambiguities or inaccuracies misleading prospective students.

The four universities have asked TISC to inform schools that the **ONLY** official notification of changes to admission requirements are those made direct from the university(ies) concerned, or through TISC's website on behalf of the universities.

TISC notifies subscribers to TISCUupdates (see item 13) when the site is updated.

2 **REMINDER – DEFINITION OF SCHOOL LEAVER**

For the purpose of university admission, a Year 12 student is a 'School Leaver' if the student is under 20 years of age on the last day of February in the year of admission.

For example, a student born on 1 March 1998 is a school leaver for the purpose of admission to university in 2018, and is not eligible for a two-course Mature Age ATAR to be calculated.

3 **TEA TO ATAR CALCULATOR**

The TEA to ATAR calculator for 2017 admission (2016 Year 12) is accessible from the Resources tab on TISC's home page. This calculator should not be used to predict future ATARs.

4 **2018 UNIVERSITY ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS (2017 YEAR 12)**

4.1 **Power Point Presentation**

A revised Power Point presentation, with notes, for 2017 Year 12 students and interested staff, on university admission requirements, application process etc, will be available from 3 April at <http://www.tisc.edu.au/static/guide/download.tisc>.

4.2 **School leavers**

School Leavers (including those repeating Year 12) must meet the following four requirements for direct entry to degree courses at Curtin University, Edith Cowan University, Murdoch University and the University of Western Australia.

a) ***Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE)***

Achievement of WACE is a mandatory requirement for all universities. If any of your Year 12 students completed Year 11 overseas or interstate then your school will need to seek credit from the School Curriculum and Standards Authority to ensure these studies count towards achieving WACE.

b) ***Competence in English***

Competence in English is usually achieved by a scaled score of at least 50 in English ATAR, English as an Additional Language Dialect (EALD) ATAR for eligible students, or Literature ATAR.

The universities will also concede competence in English on the basis of exam marks or moderated school assessments in these courses.

English General, Literature General and EALD General will not satisfy standard university competence in English requirements.

c) Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)

A Tertiary Entrance Aggregate is calculated by adding a student's best four scaled scores + 10% of the best LOTE scaled score + 10% of the scaled score/s in Mathematics Methods and Mathematics Specialist. Only ATAR courses contribute to the TEA calculation. No course can be counted more than once. Students can accumulate scaled scores from past courses from 2013 for the 'best four', subject to unacceptable combinations, and for the LOTE bonus. The maximum TEA in 2017 is 430. The ATAR is derived from the TEA.

d) Prerequisites

For some university courses it is also necessary to meet prerequisite requirements. Generally, a scaled score of 50 or more in a specified ATAR course is required for prerequisite purposes.

4.3 Mature Age Students

For Mature Age ATAR students, the TEA will be the sum of a student's best two scaled scores, multiplied by two, + 10% of the best LOTE scaled score, if any, + 10% of the scaled score/s in Mathematics Methods and Mathematics Specialist. All courses must be sat in the same year. Maximum TEA is 430.

4.4 Mathematics Bonuses

See item 5 for further information on this.

Further Information

For detailed 2018 University Admission Requirements for School Leavers and for Mature Age students, go to <http://www.tisc.edu.au/static/guide/admission-req-index.tisc>.

5 2017 MATHEMATICS BONUSES

In April 2016, TISC member universities announced that TEA bonuses for Mathematics Methods and Mathematics Specialist would be introduced to the calculation of the ATAR in 2017 and beyond.

10% of the scaled score/s achieved in Mathematics Methods and Mathematics Specialist will be added to students' Tertiary Entrance Aggregate in 2017.

Some points to note:

- Students can count bonuses for both Mathematics Methods and Mathematics Specialist, if scaled scores are achieved in both subjects.
- The bonus is added to the Tertiary Entrance Aggregate, not to the individual scaled score for each subject.
- The subjects do not have to be amongst the student's best four scaled scores for the bonus to be applied.
- The maximum Tertiary Entrance Aggregate in 2017 will be 430.

6 2019 UNIVERSITY ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS (2018 YEAR 12)

The admission requirements for 2018 Year 12 students were published in 2016 and are available at: <http://www.tisc.edu.au/static-fixed/guide/slar-2019.pdf>

Schools are reminded that students wishing to qualify for university entry must study sufficient ATAR courses to allow an ATAR to be calculated, taking into account unacceptable combinations.

Please note that, from 2018 ATAR calculations onwards, Mathematics Applications will be an unacceptable combination with Mathematics Methods and with Mathematics Specialist. This means that, if both courses in the combination are taken, only the highest scaled score will count in the calculation of the ATAR. The Mathematics bonuses will still apply though, whether or not Mathematics Methods or Mathematics Specialist is counted in the ATAR calculation.

6.1 Competence in English

Schools should take particular note that students undertaking English General, Literature General or English as an Additional Language or Dialect General courses will **not** satisfy the universities' competence in English requirement.

7 2020 UNIVERSITY ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS (2019 YEAR 12)

TISC will publish the 2020 University Admission Requirements for 2019 School Leavers on the website before the end of Term 2, 2017. TISC will email TISCUpdate subscribers when this occurs. (See item 13 about subscribing to TISCUpdates.)

8 2016 SCALING AND ATAR STATISTICS

Detailed statistics and information concerning scaling of 2016 Year 12 results are available at <http://www.tisc.edu.au/static/statistics/statistics-index.tisc>. These include:

- Explanation of the Marks Adjustment Process
- Scaled score histograms for ATAR subjects
- ATAR distribution

9 2017 UNIVERSITY OFFERS

A press release, summarising university applications and offers for 2017, is on the TISC website at <http://www.tisc.edu.au/static/press-release/release-index.tisc>.

The following table summarises applications and offers for 2016 WACE students (excludes international students).

2016 (2017 admission)	Number	%
WACE students (inc. Mature Age)	25,441	
WACE students who applied through TISC	12,498	49.1%
WACE students offered a university place	11,349	90.8%

Cut-off and indicative ATARs, as well as application and offer statistics by course, are on the TISC web site (<http://www.tisc.edu.au/static/statistics/statistics-index.tisc>).

10 VISITS TO SCHOOLS

TISC has staff available to visit schools to explain procedural matters relating to university admission, including how to apply, calculation of the ATAR, preference system, etc. Feedback from students, parents and staff indicate that these sessions are greatly appreciated.

If you would like a TISC staff member to visit to speak to your Year 12 students, parents or staff, please contact Robyn (9318 8038).

TISC's Executive Officer will be visiting the following country areas in 2017:

Great Southern	17-21 July
Kalgoorlie	16 August
South West	21-25 August

If you have not yet booked in your TISC presentation for 2017, we suggest you do so without delay, to avoid missing out.

11 TISC PUBLICATIONS AND DESPATCHES TO SCHOOLS

11.1 Online publications

- School Circulars
- Admission Requirements for School Leavers
- Admission Requirements for Mature Age Students
- University Admission – Information for International Baccalaureate (IB) students

TISC emails TISCUpdates subscribers when this information is published or updated. As this is the only notification that will be sent, please ensure that at least one person from your school is a subscriber (see item 13 below for details about how to subscribe).

11.2 Despatches to schools

- University prospectuses
- *2018 TISC Guide*

These publications are distributed to schools. Despatches to schools are always addressed to the Principal, but are intended for distribution to Year 12 students.

11.3 Publication/despatch schedule:

- **February, August and October and other times as appropriate**
School Circulars published (*online only*). Email notification of publication sent to TISCUUpdates subscribers (see item 13 of this Circular).
- **May**
University prospectuses for 2018 entry despatched, for distribution to 2017 Year 12 students.
- **June**
2020 Admission Requirements for School Leavers brochure, for 2017 Year 10 students, published (*online only*).
- **Early August**
2018 TISC Guide for 2017 Year 12 students published and despatched to schools. All Guide information is also published on TISC's website.
- **November**
2019 Admission Requirements for Mature Age Students brochure, for 2018 mature age students, published (*online only*) (TBC).

12 TISC REPORTS AVAILABLE TO SCHOOLS

TISC provides three reports to schools on their recently-completed Year 12 cohort:

- University Admissions Qualification Register
- University Application Statistics Report
- Offers by Field of Education

The reports for 2016 Year 12 students have been available since early January.

Access to the reports is available to one authorised user from each school. TISC invited schools to apply for this access to 2016 students' results and pay the required fee in TISC School Circular in October 2016. If you have any queries about your school's access to the reports, contact Robyn, 9318 8038.

13 SUBSCRIBE TO TISCUUpdates

The *Subscribe to TISCUUpdates* facility is a free subscription service enabling subscribers to be advised when TISC's website is updated. TISC emails subscribers when school circulars or new information about university admission are published on TISC's website. No other notification is sent. To subscribe, click the link under the Resources menu on the home page of www.tisc.edu.au.