

Alternative university entry schemes



8. Alternative university entry schemes

Tertiary disability advisers

Alternative Entry information from the Universities Admission Centre (UAC) website for each institution may assist school leavers who are seeking entry but do not meet the usual criteria.

Note: Information for international students, students without the HSC and mature age students is not included here. Check UAC and separate university information for details.

Disadvantaged students

The Educational Access Scheme (EAS) for students who have experienced long-term educational disadvantage is detailed on the [UAC website](#) as well as in information that has been sent to schools.

Participating institutions (except University of Technology Sydney, which allocates places for eligible applicants) use EAS assessments to apply equity adjustments that increase an applicant's selection rank.

Equity adjustments do not change your ATAR, instead they change your selection rank for a particular course. The application of equity adjustments does not guarantee you entry to a course, as you still need to meet the published lowest selection rank.

Some universities consider late applications to the scheme up to early January. Contact individual universities for late closing dates.

Aboriginal students, elite athletes and performers

Each university has a special entry scheme for indigenous students. Many have schemes for elite athletes and performers. Check [UAC](#) and separate university information for details. Indigenous Centres at Australian Universities are detailed in **fact sheet 13 - Aboriginal Youth**.

Schools Recommendation Schemes (SRS)

[Schools Recommendation Schemes \(SRS\)](#) are one of the ways institutions make early offers to current Australian Year 12 students who have applied for undergraduate admission through UAC.

SRS offers are made before ATARs are released. Students may receive one or more conditional offers and then decide which offer to convert to unconditional.

SRS aim to assist access to higher education for current Australian Year 12 students using a wide range of selection criteria, including school recommendations, Year 11 Studies, your Educational Access Schemes (EAS) application, (If applicable) and intuition specific documents (if applicable).

Institutions have their own policies on determining SRS eligibility and making offers. These approaches may include:

- making offers based solely on SRS criteria
- making offers based on both SRS criteria and ATAR/selection rank
- making offers based on SRS criteria and ATAR and equity criteria

There are two types of offers available under SRS. Successful applicants may receive:

Unconditional SRS offers

You can only receive one unconditional offer in each round.

If you're not selected for an unconditional offer for your first preference, you'll be considered equally with all other eligible applicants for your second preference and so on.

Notification

Your unconditional offer will be sent to you by email. You can also access it by logging in to your UAC application for undergraduate admission and selecting 'View correspondence'.

To accept your unconditional offer, follow the instructions set out in your offer. You must accept your offer by the date specified by the institution, otherwise you may lose your offer.

Conditional SRS offers

Conditional SRS offers require you to meet other condition/s before the institution will make you an unconditional offer. These condition/s may include a minimum ATAR, course prerequisites, a personal statement, a portfolio, an audition, an interview or a test. Conditional SRS offers will only be made in November Round 1 and can be made to any preference.

Conditional SRS first offers are released in November, and can be made to any of your university preferences.

Notification

Your conditional offer will be sent to you by email. You can also access it by logging in to your UAC application for undergraduate admission and selecting 'View correspondence'.

To convert your conditional offer to an unconditional offer, you must:

- meet the condition/s stipulated in the offer
- meet all other institution requirements for that course
- include the course in your list of preferences by midnight mid-December (closing date of change of preference for December Round 2).

It is possible to receive more than one conditional offer, but only one of them can become an unconditional offer in December Round 2.

If you receive more than one conditional offer, once your ATAR is released you can determine if you meet the criteria for those offers. You will then need to decide which course preference you would most like to convert into an unconditional offer and order your preferences accordingly by mid-December.

Receiving further offers

Once you've received an unconditional offer, you can't be made an unconditional offer to any lower course preferences in the next round unless you change your preferences.

So, to receive further offers in subsequent rounds, you first need to accept the course you've already been offered, then move that course down to the bottom of your list of course preferences or remove it entirely. (As long as you have accepted an offer, removing it from your list of preferences will not affect your existing offer.)

Alternatively, if you receive an unconditional offer to a lower preference, you will automatically be considered for higher preferences in the next round.

To change your preferences, log in to your UAC application and go to 'Update course preferences'.

If you then receive an offer to a course in your new list, you can decide whether to accept it and withdraw from your original course, or not accept the new offer and keep your place in your original course.

Check [UAC Schools Recommendation Schemes](#) website to download the Schools Recommendation Scheme application guide and for application closing dates.

Early Offer Schemes

Some universities have early offer schemes for Year 12 students. Through these schemes, Year 12 applicants may be offered courses independently of their final Year 12 results and on the basis of a range of criteria, including recommendations provided by schools.

The Schools Recommendation Schemes is an early offer scheme that you apply for through UAC. All other early offer schemes must be applied for directly through each institution.

For more information, check [UAC - Undergraduate Fact Sheet - Early Offer Schemes](#)

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