Understanding how selection works

If you are thinking about applying for university entry it’s important that you understand how university selection works. This fact sheet explains how the universities select applicants for their courses.

Important things you need to know
1 What are your chances of selection?
2 How do the universities allocate places in each course?
3 What is the difference between eligibility and rank, and why is it important?

1 Your chances of selection
Your chances of being selected for a place in a university course depends on how many places the course has available (the quota), how many other applicants are also applying for the course (so whether entry is competitive), and whether your qualifications make you both eligible to apply for a place and competitive against the other eligible applicants who are also applying.

2 How are places allocated?
Each course will have a total number of places it can allocate. This is called the quota. Most undergraduate courses divide the quota into smaller groups of places, known as subquotas. Each subquota relates to a specific academic qualification, allowing different types of qualifications to be fairly compared and ranked. This is especially important in competitive courses where more eligible applicants have applied than there are places in the course. Each subquota and its eligibility and ranking rules are explained in this fact sheet. Click on a link below to find out more about that subquota.

3 Eligibility and rank
Whether you are eligible to apply for a place in a course depends on meeting the universities’ rules for selection. Most undergraduate courses determine eligibility by a minimum academic qualification. Each course may consider different types of qualifications in its selection, depending on what subquotas it has. You might be able to compete in more than one subquota, depending on the course rules and your qualifications.

Many courses are competitive and have more applicants than places available, so eligible applicants must be ranked for selection. Applicants are ranked in order of academic merit. Ranking methods vary for each type of qualification, and can also vary between the universities and the different courses, so it’s important that you read this fact sheet to understand how ranking and competitiveness might affect your chances of selection in a course.

There are five types of subquota relating to different qualifications. Click below to go directly to information on that subquota. Click the SATAC logo to return to this page.
Year 12 Subquota

Who is eligible to compete in a year 12 subquota?

All Universities
If you hold year 12 qualifications and you have never studied at higher education level*, you are eligible to compete in a year 12 subquota for all undergraduate courses.

If you hold year 12 qualifications and you have also studied at higher education level, whether you are eligible to compete in a year 12 subquota normally depends on how long you were enrolled in higher education level study. This varies between the universities and from course to course, as we’ll explain.

‘One year’ in relation to length of study means the equivalent of one full-time year, which is 80 credit points at Charles Darwin University; 36 units at Flinders University or at the University of South Australia; 24 points at the University of Adelaide; or the interstate/overseas equivalent.

* The term ‘higher education level’ in this context means study at diploma level or above at a university or equivalent e.g. a college of advanced education, institute of technology, institute of higher education. It also includes bachelor degree courses undertaken at TAFE or other registered training organisations provided that the degree course is listed on the AQF higher education register of qualifications for the relevant period of accreditation.

The Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) is a national system of classification of tertiary awards offered by tertiary institutions such as universities, TAFEs and other registered training organisations.

Charles Darwin University
For all undergraduate courses:
If you have studied at higher education level for a total of one year or less, you are still eligible to compete in the year 12 subquota.
If however, you have studied at higher education level for a total of more than one year, you are not eligible to compete in the year 12 subquota.

Flinders University
For Medicine/Surgery:
If you have studied at higher education level for any period of time, you are not eligible to compete in the year 12 subquota.
For all other undergraduate programs:
If you have studied at higher education level for a total of two years or less, you are still eligible to compete in the year 12 subquota.
If however, you have studied at higher education level for a total of more than two years, you are not eligible to compete in the year 12 subquota.

University of South Australia
For all undergraduate programs:
If you have studied at higher education level for a total of two years or less, you are still eligible to compete in the year 12 subquota.
If however, you have studied at higher education level for a total of more than two years, you are not eligible to compete in the year 12 subquota.

Exceptions

The following courses do not have a year 12 subquota

Charles Darwin University
Children’s Services

Flinders University
Government and Public Management (VET pathway)

University of South Australia
Policing
UniSA Foundation Studies

The University of Adelaide
For Medicine/Surgery:
If you have studied at higher education level for any period of time, you are not eligible to compete in the year 12 subquota.
For all other undergraduate programs:
If you have studied at higher education level for a total of two years or less, you are still eligible to compete in the year 12 subquota.
If however, you have studied at higher education level for a total of more than two years, you are not eligible to compete in the year 12 subquota.
Year 12 Subquota

Australian year 12 qualifications

SA and NT year 12 2013
If you are completing the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) or the Northern Territory Certificate of Education and Training (NTCET) in 2013, to be eligible to compete in a year 12 subquota for undergraduate courses at all four universities, you must:

You can find detailed information about tertiary entrance requirements under the SACE/NTCET in the booklet ‘Tertiary Entrance 2014, 2015, 2016’ which is published by SATAC and distributed to all South Australian and Northern Territory schools for students in years 10, 11 and 12.

SA and NT year 12 2011 to 2012
If you completed the SACE or NTCET in 2011 or 2012, in order to be eligible to compete in a year 12 subquota, the requirements are the same as above (for 2013).

SA and NT year 12 1993 to 2010
If you completed the SACE or NTCET in the period 1993 to 2010, in order to be eligible to compete in a year 12 subquota, you must have:

• qualified for the SACE/NTCE;
• obtained a university aggregate and an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) (formerly Tertiary Entrance Rank (TER));
• fulfilled the Higher Education Selection Subject (HESS) requirements for the course; and
• fulfilled any prerequisite subject requirements for the course.

Note that, for the years 1993 to 1996, the meeting of HESS requirements is determined by the possession of an appropriate ‘all courses’ or ‘some courses’ aggregate.

SA and NT year 12 in 1992 or earlier
If you sat year 12 in any year(s) from 1954 to 1992, to be eligible to compete in a year 12 subquota you must have completed a minimum of five year 12 subjects in any two attempts (or any three if you were an adult at the time). To be eligible for most undergraduate courses you must have a

minimum of five Publicly Examined Subjects (PES). You must also fulfil any prerequisite subject requirements for the course.

International Baccalaureate (IB)
If you are studying (or have studied) in the IB Diploma Program, to be eligible to compete in a year 12 subquota you must complete the IB Diploma. You must also fulfil any prerequisite subject requirements for the course.

You can find detailed information about tertiary entrance requirements under the IB in the booklet ‘IB and Tertiary Entrance in SA and NT 2014, 2015, 2016’ which is published by SATAC and distributed to all South Australian and Northern Territory schools for students in years 10, 11 and 12.

Interstate year 12
If you are completing (or have completed) an Australian year 12 program interstate (except Queensland), you must receive an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) or Tertiary Entrance Rank (TER). If you are completing (or have completed) year 12 in Queensland, you must receive an Overall Position (OP). You must also fulfil any prerequisite subject requirements for the course.

Australian non-standard year 12 program:
If you are completing (or have completed) a non-standard year 12 program anywhere in Australia (e.g. Waldorf, School of Tomorrow), SATAC will use guidelines agreed to by the universities to assess the qualification and determine your eligibility to compete in a year 12 subquota, and also whether you have fulfilled any prerequisite subject requirements for the course.

SA and NT year 12 1997 to 2012
If you completed the SACE, NTCE or NTCET in the period 1997 to 2012, your rank in the year 12 subquota will be based on your ATAR.

SA and NT year 12 1993 to 1996
If you completed the SACE in the period 1993 to 1996, your rank in the year 12 subquota will be based on your ‘some courses’ aggregate which SATAC will convert to an ATAR using a statistical table based on percentile rankings.

SA and NT year 12 1992 or earlier
If you sat year 12 in any year(s) from 1954 to 1992, your rank in the year 12 subquota will be based on the aggregate of your best five scaled scores from any two attempts (or from any three if you were an adult at the time). SATAC will convert this aggregate to an ATAR using a statistical table based on percentile rankings.

International Baccalaureate (IB)
If you completed the IB Diploma Program, your rank will be based on your IB points total (in the range 24-45) which SATAC will convert to an ATAR according to the conversion table on the next page. The table was developed by SATAC and has been approved by the universities.

Interstate year 12 2010 to 2013
If you completed or are completing an Australian year 12 program interstate (except Queensland) in the period 2010 to 2013, your rank will be based on your ATAR.

If you are completing (or have completed) a non-standard year 12 program anywhere in Australia (e.g. Waldorf, School of Tomorrow), SATAC will use guidelines agreed to by the universities to assess the qualification and determine your eligibility to compete in a year 12 subquota, and also whether you have fulfilled any prerequisite subject requirements for the course.

Ranking Australian year 12 qualifications

SA and NT year 12 2013
If you are completing the SACE or the NTCET in 2013, your rank in a year 12 subquota will be based on your ATAR.

SA and NT year 12 1997 to 2012
If you completed the SACE, NTCE or NTCET in the period 1997 to 2012, your rank in the year 12 subquota will be based on your ATAR (2010 to 2012) or TER (1997 to 2009) as ATARs and TERs obtained in these years are directly comparable with an ATAR obtained in 2013.

SA and NT year 12 1993 to 1996
If you completed the SACE in the period 1993 to 1996, your rank in the year 12 subquota will be based on your ‘some courses’ aggregate which SATAC will convert to an ATAR using a statistical table based on percentile rankings.

SA and NT year 12 1992 or earlier
If you sat year 12 in any year(s) from 1954 to 1992, your rank in the year 12 subquota will be based on the aggregate of your best five scaled scores from any two attempts (or from any three if you were an adult at the time). SATAC will convert this aggregate to an ATAR using a statistical table based on percentile rankings.

International Baccalaureate (IB)
If you completed the IB Diploma Program, your rank will be based on your IB points total (in the range 24-45) which SATAC will convert to an ATAR according to the conversion table on the next page. The table was developed by SATAC and has been approved by the universities.

Interstate year 12 2010 to 2013
If you completed or are completing an Australian year 12 program interstate (except Queensland) in the period 2010 to 2013, your rank will be based on your ATAR.

If you are completing (or have completed) a non-standard year 12 program anywhere in Australia (e.g. Waldorf, School of Tomorrow), SATAC will use guidelines agreed to by the universities to assess the qualification and determine your eligibility to compete in a year 12 subquota, and also whether you have fulfilled any prerequisite subject requirements for the course.
# IB to ATAR conversion table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IB Points*</th>
<th>Equivalent ATAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>99.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>99.95</td>
</tr>
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<td>39</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>74.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>69.90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*IB points total (in the range 24-45), derived from the results gained in both Higher Level and Standard Level subjects and possibly augmented by bonus points based on the standard achieved in the Extended Essay and the Theory of Knowledge.

## Interstate year 12 1996 to 2009

If you completed an Australian year 12 program interstate in the period 1996 to 2009 your rank will be based on your home state rank (TER, ENTER, UAI, OP etc) which SATAC will convert to an ATAR using a common index agreed to by all states and territories.

## Interstate year 12 in 1995 or earlier

If you completed a year 12 program interstate in 1995 or earlier, SATAC will convert your home state score to an ATAR using a statistical table based on percentile rankings.

## Australian 2012 year 12 results comparison table

The table opposite provides 2013 year 12 applicants with information about how their results compare across Australia. The table relates to 2012 results and is a guide only.

As the table shows, an ATAR of 81.00 in any state or territory (except Queensland) is the same as an ATAR of 81.00 from any other state or territory (except Queensland). So if you are completing your year 12 studies in 2013 or later in one of these states or territories and are planning to apply to institutions in other states or territories, your ATAR remains the same.

For applicants with an OP from Queensland, the Queensland Studies Authority will provide SATAC with an equivalent ATAR.

## 2012 year 12 results comparison table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACT, NSW, NT, SA, TAS, VIC, WA ATAR</th>
<th>QLD Overall Position (OP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>99.95</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>35.00</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NZ National Certificate of Educational Achievement (Level 3)

If you are completing (or have completed) the NZ NCEA (Level 3), to compete in a year 12 subquota you must fulfil all the requirements for entrance to a university in New Zealand as stipulated by the board of the NZQA (New Zealand Qualifications Authority). For details, go to www.nzqa.govt.nz. You must also fulfil any prerequisite subject requirements for the course.

New Zealand Bursaries Examination

If you sat the NZ Bursaries Examination, to compete in a year 12 subquota you must have either:

- qualified for an ‘A’ or ‘B’ Bursary; or
- achieved at least a Grade C in a minimum of three Bursary subjects and gained the Higher School Certificate.

You must also fulfil any prerequisite subject requirements for the course.

British A Levels

If you have completed British A Levels, to compete in a year 12 subquota you must have obtained a minimum of grade E in at least two A Level subjects. You must also fulfil any prerequisite subject requirements for the course.

Scottish Highers

If you have completed Scottish Highers or Advanced Highers, to compete in a year 12 subquota you must have obtained a minimum of grade C in at least three Higher level subjects. You must also fulfil any prerequisite subject requirements for the course.

Other overseas year 12 level qualifications

SATAC will use the guidelines agreed to by the universities to assess your qualification and, if applicable, convert your results to an ATAR.

SATAC will convert the aggregate to an ATAR according to the conversion table on the next page. The tables were developed by SATAC and have been approved by the universities.

Scottish Highers

If you have completed Scottish Highers or Advanced Highers, your rank will be based on the aggregate of your grades from either a minimum of three Higher subjects or a minimum of two Advanced Higher subjects. Each grade is converted to a numeric score using the table on the next page.

SATAC will convert the aggregate to an ATAR according to the conversion table on the next page. The tables were developed by SATAC and have been approved by the universities.

Other overseas year 12 level qualifications

SATAC will use the guidelines agreed to by the universities to assess your qualification and, if applicable, convert your results to an ATAR.
## British A Levels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A Level Grade</th>
<th>A Level Score</th>
<th>AS Level Grade</th>
<th>AS Level Score</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>A*</td>
<td>NA</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
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<td>E</td>
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## Scottish Highers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Highers Grade</th>
<th>Highers Score</th>
<th>Advanced Highers Grade</th>
<th>Advanced Highers Score</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>C</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>72</td>
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</table>

## British A Levels/Scottish Highers to ATAR conversion table*

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<th>Aggregate</th>
<th>Equivalent ATAR</th>
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<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>60.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This is a ‘short’ version of the table and there are other values not reproduced above.
Who is eligible to compete in a higher education subquota?

All Universities

If you have studied at higher education level*, whether you are eligible to compete in the higher education subquota for a given course depends upon the length of time you have studied.

In all cases below, ‘one year’ in relation to length of study means the equivalent of one full-time year, which is 80 credit points at Charles Darwin University; 36 units at Flinders University or at the University of South Australia; 24 points at the University of Adelaide; or the interstate/overseas equivalent. ‘One semester’ means the equivalent of one half of one full-time year.

* The term ‘higher education level’ in this context means study at diploma level or above at a university or equivalent eg a college of advanced education, institute of technology, institute of higher education. It also includes bachelor degree courses undertaken at TAFE or other registered training organisations provided that the degree course is listed on the AQF higher education register of qualifications for the relevant period of accreditation.

The Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) is a national system of classification of tertiary awards offered by tertiary institutions such as universities, TAFEs and other registered training organisations.

All universities

For all undergraduate courses/programs except Medicine/Surgery at the University of Adelaide*:

If you have studied at higher education level for exactly one semester or more, you are eligible to compete in the higher education subquota.

If however, you have studied at higher education level for less than one semester, you are not eligible to compete in the higher education subquota.

* There are specific eligibility requirements for competing in the higher education subquota for Medicine/Surgery at the University of Adelaide. Refer to the Faculty of Health Sciences website at health.adelaide.edu.au for more information.
Minimum level of study accepted

All universities
To be eligible to compete in a higher education subquota for undergraduate courses, you must either:
• have undertaken higher education level study at an Australian institution; or
• have undertaken study overseas at a level which is deemed to be the equivalent of Australian higher education level study (see below).

Higher education study undertaken overseas
If you have studied at higher education level overseas, SATAC will use the guidelines agreed to by the universities to assess your study and determine your eligibility to compete in a higher education subquota.
SATAC can give you advice over the telephone and/or in person (for more complex cases) if you are unsure of the equivalence of your overseas higher education study. You should contact SATAC as early as possible to allow the maximum time for dealing with your enquiry.

Ranking higher education qualifications
To rank applicants in a higher education subquota, SATAC must first calculate a Grade Point Average (GPA). This is done for each higher education level course you have studied at an Australian institution or overseas equivalent for the equivalent of one semester full-time or longer.
You can find information on the method for calculating a GPA in the fact sheet ‘Calculating a Grade Point Average’.

Applicants awaiting current year results
For entry in semester 1 2014, results from study up to and including semester 2 2013 will be included in the GPA calculation. Results from later study periods will not normally be included. This may impact on applicants undertaking study in summer school or at Open Universities Australia.
TAFE/VET Subquota

Who is eligible to compete in a TAFE/VET subquota?

You will find references in this section to the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) in relation to levels of awards. The AQF is a national system of classification of tertiary awards offered by tertiary institutions such as universities, TAFE and other registered training organisations.

All Universities

If you have a completed TAFE/VET award, whether you are eligible to compete in a TAFE/VET subquota depends upon the level of the award you have completed. The rules vary between institutions and from course to course.

Note that if you have undertaken a bachelor degree course at TAFE and it is listed on the AQF higher education register of qualifications, you will compete in the higher education subquota.

* The term ‘higher education level’ in this context means study at diploma level or above at a university or equivalent eg a college of advanced education, institute of technology, institute of higher education. It also includes bachelor degree courses undertaken at TAFE or other registered training organisations provided that the degree course is listed on the AQF higher education register of qualifications for the relevant period of accreditation.

Charles Darwin University
For all undergraduate courses:
If you hold a completed TAFE/VET award at AQF Certificate IV level or above, you are eligible to compete in the TAFE/VET subquota.

Flinders University
For all undergraduate courses:
If you hold a completed TAFE/VET award at AQF Certificate III level or above, you are eligible to compete in the TAFE/VET subquota.

The University of Adelaide
For Nursing and Oral Health:
If you hold a completed TAFE/VET award at AQF Certificate III level or above, you are eligible to compete in the TAFE/VET subquota.

For all other undergraduate programs:
If you hold a completed TAFE/VET award at AQF Certificate IV level or above, you are eligible to compete in the TAFE/VET subquota.

University of South Australia
For Business and Health Sciences programs except Nursing and Midwifery:
If you hold a completed TAFE/VET award at AQF Certificate IV level or above and you have not subsequently studied at higher education level* for a total of more than two years, you are eligible to compete in the TAFE/VET subquota.

For Nursing and Midwifery programs:
If you hold a completed TAFE/VET award at AQF Certificate IV level or above and you have not subsequently studied at higher education level for a total of more than two years in the field of Nursing, you are eligible to compete in the TAFE/VET subquota.

Note that for most Health Sciences programs, you would need to hold a TAFE/VET Diploma in order to be competitive for selection.

For all other undergraduate programs:
If you hold a completed TAFE/VET award at AQF Certificate IV level or above, you are eligible to compete in the TAFE/VET subquota.
Vocational qualifications completed overseas

SATAC will use the guidelines agreed to by the universities to assess your qualification regarding its equivalence to TAFE/VET awards offered in Australia and hence determine your eligibility to compete in a TAFE/VET subquota. SATAC can give you advice over the telephone and/or in person (for more complex cases) if you are unsure of the equivalence of your overseas vocational qualification. You should contact SATAC as early as possible to allow the maximum time for dealing with your enquiry.

Ranking TAFE/VET qualifications

**Charles Darwin University**

Your rank in a TAFE/VET subquota will be based on the level of the award. If you hold a completed VET award from Charles Darwin University, this rank will be augmented by one bonus point.

*For Nursing courses:*  
If you have employment experience as an enrolled nurse, your rank will be augmented by bonus points based on the length of that experience.

**Flinders University**

Your rank in a TAFE/VET subquota will be based on the level of the award.

*For Nursing courses:*  
If you are an enrolled nurse with a current practising certificate, your rank will be augmented by bonus points.

**The University of Adelaide**

Your rank in a TAFE/VET subquota will be based on the level of the award.

*For Nursing:*  
If you hold a completed TAFE/VET award at AQF Diploma level or above in the field of Nursing, your rank will guarantee entry to the program.

**University of South Australia**

Your rank in a TAFE/VET subquota will be based on the level of the award.

*For Business programs:*  
If you hold a completed VET award from Bradford College, Eynesbury Institute, Kaplan Business School or the South Australian Institute of Business and Technology, your rank will be augmented by bonus points.

*For Information Technology, Engineering and the Environment programs:*  
If you hold a completed VET award from the South Australian Institute of Business and Technology, your rank will be augmented by bonus points.

*For Nursing programs:*  
If you are an enrolled nurse with a current practising certificate, your rank will be augmented by bonus points.
Special Entry Subquota

What is special entry?

Special entry enables people who don’t have the necessary qualifications (such as year 12, higher education or TAFE/VET) or whose qualifications aren’t competitive enough, the chance to apply successfully for university courses.

The universities recognise that the skills required to be successful in their courses can be acquired through a person’s life experiences, so most undergraduate university courses welcome special entry applicants and SATAC assesses more than 3,000 such applicants each year.

There are three main criteria which may be used for selecting special entry applicants - the Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT), a personal competencies statement about their life’s experiences and/or information about their employment experience. What is involved for each of these is fully described below.

Most courses at Flinders University consider tertiary preparation qualifications within the special entry subquota, but the other universities have a separate tertiary preparation subquota.

If you are thinking of applying as a special entry applicant it’s important that you find out:

- if you are eligible to be a special entry applicant;
- if the course(s) you are interested in considers special entry applicants; and
- what criteria the course(s) uses to select its special entry applicants (STAT and/or personal competencies statement and/or employment experience).

Who is eligible for special entry to university?

Each university has different rules regarding who is eligible to compete in a special entry subquota. These rules are about your age, how much post school study you have done and when you last studied.

* The term ‘higher education level’ in this context means study at diploma level or above at a university or equivalent eg a college of advanced education, institute of technology, institute of higher education. It also includes bachelor degree courses undertaken at TAFE or other registered training organisations provided that the degree course is listed on the AQF higher education register of qualifications for the relevant period of accreditation.

The Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) is a national system of classification of tertiary awards offered by tertiary institutions such as universities, TAFEs and other registered training organisations.
Who is eligible continued...

**Charles Darwin University**
To be eligible to compete in the special entry subquota:
- you must be 19 years or over before 1 January 2014, and;
- you must not hold a completed higher education* level award, and;
- if you were last enrolled in a course leading to a higher education level award in 2011, 2012 or 2013, you must not have completed more than the equivalent of one full-time year of study in that course.

**Flinders University**
To be eligible to compete in the special entry subquota using the STAT:
- you must be 18 years or over before 1 February 2014; and
- if you have studied at higher education* level and, in all attempts at higher education study, you have accumulated more than the equivalent of two full-time years of study, you must wait until two years have elapsed since you were last enrolled in a higher education course. For 2014 entry, this means your last year of enrolment must have been 2011 or earlier.

To be eligible to compete in the special entry subquota based on the completion of a recognised tertiary preparation course:
- you must not hold a completed higher education level award, and;
- if you have studied at higher education level and, in all attempts at higher education study, you have accumulated more than the equivalent of two full-time years of study, you must wait until two years have elapsed since you were last enrolled in a higher education course. For 2014 entry, this means your last year of enrolment must have been 2011 or earlier.

**The University of Adelaide**
To be eligible to compete in the special entry subquota for all programs except Medicine/Surgery and Music programs:
- you must be 18 years or over before 1 February 2014, and
- you must not have completed a higher education* level award in the last two years i.e. in 2012 or 2013, and
- if you were last enrolled in a course leading to a higher education level award in 2012 or 2013, you must not have completed more than the equivalent of two full-time years of study in that course.

For Medicine/Surgery:
- you must be 18 years or over before 1 February 2014, and
- you must never have been enrolled in a course leading to a higher education award.

For Music programs:
- you must be 18 years or over before 1 February 2014.

**University of South Australia**
To be eligible to compete in the special entry subquota for all programs:
- you must be 18 years or over before 1 February 2014, and
- you must not have completed a higher education* level award for any period of time during 2012 or 2013.

Do I need to meet prerequisites?

**Charles Darwin University**
You must meet any prerequisite subject requirements. Check the course entry carefully when applying for any information on prerequisites.

**Flinders University**
You must meet any prerequisite subject requirements. Check the course entry carefully when applying for any information on prerequisites.

If you wish to apply for a specialist science or engineering course but you cannot meet the prerequisites, you are advised to apply for the Bachelor of Science (BSc) course. You can then undertake introductory level topics within the BSc which will meet the prerequisites for specialist science and engineering courses. Completion of these topics does not guarantee entry in a subsequent year to a specialist science or engineering course.

**The University of Adelaide**
You must meet any prerequisite subject requirements. Check the program entry carefully when applying for any information on prerequisites.

Details of prerequisite requirements for special entry applicants can be found at www.adelaide.edu.au/student/admission/criteria.html.

**University of South Australia**
You must meet any prerequisite subject requirements. Check the program entry carefully when applying for any information on prerequisites.
There are three main criteria which may be used for selecting special entry applicants.

• the Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT);
• a personal competencies statement about your life experiences;
• information about your employment experience.

Many courses offered by the three universities in South Australia use only the results of your STAT to make selections. Others will also consider a personal competencies statement and/or your employment experience if you wish to submit them. If you do submit a personal competencies statement or your employment experience, they will only be used to enhance your STAT rank - a poor statement or a low employment experience rank will not reduce your STAT rank.

For courses offered by Charles Darwin University except Midwifery, any or all of the three selection criteria are considered which means you may choose not to sit the STAT but only to submit a personal competencies statement and/or information about your employment experience. The University however, recommends that you sit the STAT in order to maximise your chances of selection.

For Midwifery you must sit the STAT.

Charles Darwin University

The selection criteria used in the special entry subquota for all courses except Midwifery are as follows:

• STAT is recommended;
• personal competencies statements and employment experience are also considered.

Flinders University

Note that for entry to most courses, Flinders University considers tertiary preparation qualifications within the special entry quota but that other universities have a separate tertiary preparation subquota.

The selection criteria used in the special entry subquota are as follows:

If you have not completed a recognised tertiary preparation course (including the Flinders Foundation Course):

• STAT is compulsory;
• personal competencies statements and/or employment experience may be considered.

If you have completed a recognised tertiary preparation course, you are not required to sit the STAT although you may choose to do so.

In addition:

• for Creative Arts courses, a portfolio or audition is required.

The University of Adelaide

The selection criteria used in the special entry subquota are as follows:

For all programs:

• STAT is compulsory;
• personal competencies statements and/or employment experience may be considered.

In addition:

• for music programs, an audition is required
• for Medicine and Dental surgery, UMAT and an interview is required.
• for Oral Health, an interview is required.

University of South Australia

The selection criteria used in the special entry subquota are as follows:

• STAT is compulsory;
• personal competencies statements and/or employment experience may be considered.

Further information

Details of the criteria used for selecting special entry applicants for individual courses/programs are available from the SATAC website at www.satac.edu.au.

If you wish to be considered in the special entry subquota, you must complete the normal online application.

The instructions in the application will tell you what the STAT involves, how to apply and prepare for the test, the costs involved and how to have a previous STAT result considered.

There is also information on how to write a personal competencies statement and how to submit it to SATAC.

If you wish you can include details of your employment experience in the application.

Ensure that you lodge your application by the closing date, and pay the relevant application fees (including the STAT fee, if applicable).

If you have already applied for university courses online but did not apply to sit the STAT, you can still arrange to sit the test. Please contact SATAC for advice.
Tertiary Preparation Subquota

Who is eligible to compete in a tertiary preparation subquota?

Charles Darwin University
Almost all undergraduate courses have a tertiary preparation subquota. The exceptions are:
- Children’s Services
- Medicine/Surgery
If you have completed a recognised tertiary preparation, foundation or enabling course of a minimum six months duration, or an Indigenous Preparation Program previously offered by Charles Darwin University, you are eligible to compete in the tertiary preparation subquota.

The University of Adelaide
None of the programs at the University of Adelaide has a specific tertiary preparation subquota.
Wilto Yerlo offers preparation programs for Indigenous students who wish to gain entry to the University’s undergraduate programs. Contact the University of Adelaide for more information.

University of South Australia
Almost all undergraduate programs have a tertiary preparation subquota. The exceptions are:
- Construction Management
- Economics
- UniSA Foundation Studies
If you have completed a recognised tertiary preparation, foundation or enabling course of a minimum six months duration, you are eligible to compete in the tertiary preparation subquota.

Ranking applicants in a tertiary preparation subquota

Charles Darwin University
Your rank in a tertiary preparation subquota will be either 65 or 70, depending on the length of the course you completed.
If you have completed the Preparation for Tertiary Study Program (TEP2) or the ACIKE Preparation for Tertiary Success (PTS2), your rank will be augmented by one bonus point.

University of South Australia
Your rank in a tertiary preparation subquota will normally be either 65 or 70, depending on the length of the course you completed.
If you have completed the UniSA Pathway for Adult Learners (UniSA-PAL) program, your rank will be based on your level of achievement within the program as determined by the University of South Australia.
If you have completed the UniSA Foundation Studies program, your rank may be based on your level of achievement within the program.