



Factsheet No. 3

NDCO Newcastle-Hunter
www.newcastle.edu.au/ndco

University Entry Pathways in Brief

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Making the move from school to university is a big change for anyone. For students with disability the change is even bigger. So how do you succeed? Prepare early, base your decisions on good information, and plan ahead for any disability supports you may need.

Processes for entering uni can be described based on two basic categories. There are the pathways that use your UAI score from your HSC performance to decide whether you meet the minimum entry criteria of a course. Plus there are programs that use alternative criteria not based on your UAI score. These other entry processes take into account different qualifications and considerations.



Summary of University Admission Processes

For more detail on each type of entry process see the [FAQ sheets](http://www.uws.edu.au/rdlo/getready/faq/index.htm) referred to in this entry at <http://www.uws.edu.au/rdlo/getready/faq/index.htm>

Admission Process	Explanation
Universities Admission Index score (UAI)	<p>UAI is the main process for HSC students to enter uni. UAI gives a numerical measure to the overall academic performance of an HSC student compared to other HSC students across NSW.</p> <p>Uni course places are awarded to applicants with the highest UAI.</p> <p>For more details see FAQ Sheet 11: What is a Universities Admission Index score? How is my Universities Admission Index score used to get me into university?, access through link above.</p>
Educational Access Schemes (EAS)	<p>EAS programs are designed to provide assistance to students who have faced educational disadvantage through year 11 and/or 12.</p> <p>Essentially EAS programs allow entry to students with a lower UAI than the usual UAI cut off (the minimum UAI score accepted for entry into the course). This aim is to balance the effect of the student's educational</p>

Admission Process	Explanation
	<p>disadvantage on their ability to reach the marks needed to get into uni. 'Educational disadvantage' means something that has affected your ability to perform to your maximum potential at school. Educational disadvantage can be, for example, having a disability, living in a remote area, money problems within the family or a death or illness in your family.</p> <p>For more details see FAQ Sheet 12: What is the Educational Access Scheme? How can the Educational Access Scheme help get me into university?, access through link above.</p>
<p>Alternative entry schemes</p>	<p>Alternative entry schemes are designed for applicants not using an HSC as the basis for their application for entry into uni.</p> <p>Instead, individual unis set special entry criteria which do not rely on HSC results. These schemes are usually targeted at specific groups to help give applicants a better chance of getting into uni.</p> <p>For more details see FAQ Sheet 13: What is an alternative entry scheme?, access through above link.</p>
<p>Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT)</p>	<p>Entry using STAT results involves sitting for a written test that assesses your uni-related academic skills.</p> <p>The uni uses your STAT score to decide whether you meet the entry requirement for the course you have applied for.</p> <p>For more details see FAQ Sheet 14: What is the Special Tertiary Admissions Test? How can I use the Special Tertiary Admissions Test to get into university?, access through link above.</p>
<p>University preparation courses</p>	<p>Some unis offer courses that help students develop the academic skills and/or knowledge needed for uni such as essay writing, reading academic material, analytical skills, statistics or physics.</p> <p>Your results in such courses may be used by the uni to decide whether you meet the course entry criteria.</p> <p>For more details see FAQ Sheet 15: What is a University preparation course? How can a university preparation course help get me into university?, access through link above.</p>
<p>Non-award courses</p>	<p>These courses run by the unis are similar in content and assessment to units offered by the uni in its award courses (such as degrees, graduate diplomas, etc).</p> <p>Satisfactory performance in a set of these non-award units can be used to apply for entry into uni. See individual uni websites for more details.</p>
<p>TAFE/Tertiary Preparation Certificate</p>	<p>This TAFE course is specifically designed to teach students skills and content needed to complete a uni course. Satisfactory performance in this course can be used to apply for uni entry into many courses at most unis.</p> <p>See TAFE NSW Course information for more details.</p>
<p>Other courses - TAFE</p>	<p>There are specific TAFE courses that can lead you into a related uni course. A uni may take into account your results from TAFE courses that are relevant to the uni course you are applying for.</p> <p>See TAFE website - TAFE to Uni for more details.</p>