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Categories of disadvantage

Disrupted schooling – D01A, D01B, D01C, D01D

You can only claim one disadvantage under the disrupted schooling category.

Disadvantage code: D01A

Eligibility criteria:

You attended three or more different secondary schools in Australia during Years 10, 11 and 12 or equivalent.

Note: Eligibility does not include moving from junior high school to senior high school, attendance at an intensive language centre/s, or schools attended as part of an exchange program.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

- details of the secondary schools you attended during Years 10, 11 and 12 or equivalent and the period you attended each school
- reason/s why you changed schools.

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

No.

Supporting documentation required:

A record of attendance (see page 7) from each secondary school you attended during Years 10, 11 and 12 or equivalent.

Disadvantage code: D01B

Eligibility criteria:

You have English as your first language and started school in Australia during Year 11 and/or Year 12 or equivalent.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

- details of the date you arrived in Australia
- details of the school/s you attended and the period/s attended
- the country in which you undertook your secondary education before coming to Australia.

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

No.

Supporting documentation required:

- a copy of your passport indicating date of entry to Australia or an international movement record from the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP)
- a record of attendance (see page 7) from each secondary school you attended during Year 11 and/or Year 12 or equivalent.

Disadvantage code: D01C

Eligibility criteria:

You moved interstate during Year 11 and/or Year 12 or equivalent.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

- details of the secondary schools you attended since the beginning of Year 10 (school, state/territory and period attended)
- reason/s why you moved interstate.

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

No.

Supporting documentation required:

A record of attendance (see page 7) from each school you attended during Years 10, 11 and 12 or equivalent.

Disadvantage code: D01D

Eligibility criteria:

You have missed long periods of schooling in Year 11 and/or Year 12 or equivalent for reasons other than a medical condition/s.

Note: This does not include student exchange programs.

If you have been absent from school for medical reasons, refer to disadvantage code P01A.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

- details of why you missed long periods of school
- the periods you missed school, including the school year.

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

No.

Supporting documentation required:

A letter from your school confirming any period/s you have missed school. The document must be on the school letterhead and must be signed by the principal or another senior person at the school.

Financial hardship – F01A, F01B, F01C, F01D

You can only claim one disadvantage under the financial hardship category.

Disadvantage codes: F01A and F01B

Eligibility criteria:

You received:

- Youth Allowance, Austudy or ABSTUDY during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent (F01A)

OR

- another Centrelink income and asset-tested entitlement such as the Disability Support Pension (F01B)

for a period of at least three months during Year 11 and/or Year 12 or equivalent.

Note: This does not include Family Tax Benefit payments – refer to disadvantage F01D.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

- the type of entitlement you're receiving, eg Youth Allowance, Austudy, ABSTUDY, Disability Support Pension
- the period for which you've received the entitlement.

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

No.

Supporting documentation required:

If you're currently receiving a Centrelink payment, write your Centrelink Customer Reference Number (CRN) in section 3, on page 1 of the EAS application form. UAC will verify your payments directly with Centrelink.

If you're not currently receiving a Centrelink payment, but did so during Years 11 and/or 12 or equivalent, attach a copy of your most recent Centrelink income statement. The documentation must be in your name.

Your CRN is on all Centrelink Income Statements and Health Care Cards. Your CRN isn't the same as your Centrelink Customer Access Number (CAN). Contact Centrelink to obtain your CRN if you're unsure.

This number must be allocated to you and not to your partner, parent or guardian. If the CRN provided has not been allocated specifically to you, Centrelink will not release the required information to UAC and will make you ineligible for consideration.

Disadvantage code: F01C

Eligibility criteria:

You experienced exceptional financial hardship during Year 11 and/or Year 12 or equivalent.

Note: F01C is for a small number of applicants who experience exceptional financial hardship but who are not in receipt of Centrelink benefits. This generally doesn't include applicants whose family income is above the threshold for eligibility for a Centrelink (or other income and asset-tested) entitlement.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

- why you're not currently eligible for a Centrelink income and asset-tested entitlement
- a description of the exceptional financial hardship you've experienced
- the period of the exceptional financial hardship.

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

Yes.

Supporting documentation required:

Documents to show your complete financial picture. These may include:

- an ATO Notice of Financial Assessment for the last financial year and copies of pay slips for the last two months
- a copy of a Health Care Card
- a copy of a statement with details of any Centrelink income and asset-tested entitlement you're receiving (this may include Family Tax Benefit A)
- any other documents to demonstrate your exceptional financial hardship.

If you're living with your parent/s (or with a partner) and you're being financially supported, you must also provide evidence of your parent/s or partner's income (eg an ATO Notice of Financial Assessment for the last financial year).

If you're being financially supported by your parent/s (whether you're living with them or not), they must also prepare a statement which states that they're supporting you. In the statement they must also provide details of any other dependent children, including their ages and whether or not they are tertiary students living at or away from home.

Disadvantage code: F01D

Eligibility criteria:

Your parent/s or guardian/s received Family Tax Benefit Part A during Year 11 and/or Year 12 or equivalent.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

The period for which your parent/s or guardian/s have received the payment.

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

No.

Supporting documentation required:

- Have your parent/guardian complete and sign section 3 on page 1 of the EAS application form
- OR
- a copy of a Centrelink income statement issued to your parent/s or guardian/s demonstrating their receipt of Family Tax Benefit Part A. The letter must be dated within the period of your Year 11 and/or Year 12 or equivalent
- OR
- a Centrelink Family Assistance letter that has been issued to your parent/s or guardian/s demonstrating their receipt of Family Tax Benefit Part A. The letter must be dated within the period of your Year 11 and/or Year 12 or equivalent.

Note: Your parent/s or guardian/s can view and download their Centrelink income statement/s by logging into their Centrelink online account, or myGov if they have set up an account.

Your parent/s or guardian/s must call or visit a Centrelink office to obtain a Centrelink Family Assistance letter. Allow at least a week for Centrelink to process your request. Alternatively, you can include a Centrelink letter obtained online.

Home environment and responsibilities

Severe family disruption – H01A, H01B, H01C, H01D

Disadvantage code: H01A

Eligibility criteria:

Your home environment was severely disrupted due to the death of an immediate family member or close friend during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent.
Note: If the deceased suffered a long-term illness/disability, you may also claim under disadvantage H01B if eligible.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

- the date of death
- the nature of your relationship with the deceased
- the effect on your home environment and you personally
- the effect on your educational performance.

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

Yes.

Supporting documentation required:

A copy of the death certificate or funeral notice.

Disadvantage code: H01B

Eligibility criteria:

Your home environment was severely disrupted for a period of at least six months due to the severe or life-threatening illness/disability of an immediate family member or close friend during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

- the nature of your relationship to the person with the illness/disability
- the duration of the illness/disability and the school years involved
- the effect on your home environment and you personally.

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

Yes.

Supporting documentation required:

A medical certificate/report giving full details of the length of illness and its severity. Include information about treatment, medication, hospitalisation.

Disadvantage code: H01C

Eligibility criteria:

- Your home environment was severely disrupted due to the separation of your parents during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent
- OR
- You (the applicant) experienced separation.

Note: Applicants who provide evidence of the legal finalisation of a divorce during Years 11 and/or 12 or equivalent will not be given consideration where there is no evidence of disruption to the home environment.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

- details of the period of family upheaval, including its duration and the school years involved
- the date of separation
- the effect on your home environment and you personally.

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

Yes.

Supporting documentation required:

- a copy of divorce papers or other appropriate supporting documents
- a copy of documents relating to any associated legal proceedings (eg Apprehended Violence Order, Police Record of Interview).

Note: If your parents have separated but not divorced, and therefore there are no documents showing legal proceedings or divorce papers, you will need to supply independent documentation from a responsible person to confirm that the separation has occurred. This could be a letter from the family solicitor, accountant, relationship counsellor or a school counsellor you have spoken to. If you cannot provide supporting documentation, this disadvantage cannot be assessed.

Disadvantage code: H01D

Eligibility criteria:

Your home environment was severely disrupted due to criminal/legal matters for a period of at least six months during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent. Criminal/legal matters may include coronial inquiries, medical tribunals or police investigations.

Note: You cannot claim disadvantage for offences for which you've been convicted, for traffic/parking infringements or for investigations or legal proceedings against you which have not yet been resolved.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

- details of the type of criminal/legal matters, the duration of the matters and who the matters involved
- the effect on your home environment and you personally.

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

Yes.

Supporting documentation required:

A copy of documents relating to the criminal/legal matters (eg police fact sheets, bail undertakings, coronial inquiries, medical tribunals, police investigations).

Excessive family responsibilities – H03A, H03B, H03C

Disadvantage code: H03A

Eligibility criteria:

You've had excessive responsibility for care of children and/or other family members for a period of at least six months during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

- details of who you care for and why you're required to provide care
- the number of hours these responsibilities take each week
- the period you've had these responsibilities and the school years involved
- details of support you've received from friends, family, neighbours or an agency
- details of the number and ages of residents in the household
- details of the illness or infirmity of any household members
- the effect on your home environment and you personally.

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

Yes.

Supporting documentation required:

- Medical certificates/reports confirming the medical condition/disability of any family members, where relevant
- documentation confirming the number and ages of siblings resident in the household, eg birth certificates
- the employment status of your parents
- if you are in receipt of Centrelink Carer Allowance include a recent Centrelink income statement (issued in Year 11 and/or 12) to support your application. You may still be eligible if you don't receive a Centrelink Carer Allowance
- additional statements from a responsible person/people (eg doctor, lawyer, social worker, religious or community leader). The responsible person must be aware of your need to undertake excessive caring responsibilities and be able to explain how this has impacted on your educational performance.

Disadvantage code: H03B

Eligibility criteria:

You've had excessive work requirements for a period of at least six months during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent for at least one of the following:

- supporting yourself, while living independently
- supporting your family
- responsibility to work in the family business.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

- the reason/s you have to work
- the number of hours you work each week
- the type of work you do
- the period you've had these responsibilities and the school years involved
- the effect on your home environment and you personally.

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

Yes.

Supporting documentation required:

- a statement of service from your employer/s on the company letterhead
- if you work in a family business you'll need to provide independent verification of your work requirements (eg business accountant)
- additional statements from a responsible person/people (eg doctor, lawyer, social worker, religious or community leader). The responsible person/people must be aware of your need to work and be able to explain how this has impacted on your educational performance.

The statement/s of service must include:

- your job title
- period of employment including start date (and end date if no longer employed)
- average number of hours worked per week.

Disadvantage code: H03C

Eligibility criteria:

You've had excessive responsibility for the care of yourself, while living independently, with no family or partner support, for a period of at least six months during Year 11 and/or Year 12 or equivalent.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

- details of why you're required to care for yourself
- the period you've had this responsibility and the school years involved
- details of any support you receive from friends, family, neighbours or an agency
- details of your accommodation
- details of your income and any other means of support
- if relevant, details of your employment status
- the effect on your home environment and you personally.

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

Yes.

Supporting documentation required:

- Documentation substantiating:
 - your independent residential status (eg lease documents, crisis accommodation)
 - your employment status if relevant
 - all sources of income and other means of support.
 - any Centrelink documents confirming 'Unreasonable to live at home' status
- additional statements from a responsible person/people (eg registered health professional, lawyer, accountant). The responsible person/people must be aware of your need to care for yourself and be able to explain how this has impacted on your educational performance.

Abuse of applicant, parents or sisters/brothers – H04A

Disadvantage code: H04A

Eligibility criteria:

You, or your parents, or any of your sisters/brothers have experienced abuse for a period of at least six months during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent. This could include abuse in terms of extreme physical or verbal torment experienced at school or in the home environment.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

- details of the abusive situation including duration of the abuse and the school years involved
- details of any absences from school because of the abusive situation
- the effect on your home environment and you personally.

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

Yes.

Supporting documentation required:

Medical certificates/reports giving details of the abuse, its duration and severity, including:

- medical certificates/reports about any treatment, medication and/or hospitalisation
- a letter from your school providing details of any absences from school and/or disruption to your learning. The document must be on the school letterhead and must be signed by the principal or another senior person at the school
- a copy of any legal proceedings (eg Apprehended Violence Order, Police Record of Interview), if appropriate.

English language difficulty – L01A, L01B, L01C

Disadvantage code: L01A – For current Australian Year 12 applicants only

Eligibility criteria:

All of the following:

- you are a current Australian Year 12 applicant
- you experience difficulty with the English language
- you came directly to Australia from a non-English speaking country
- you began your education in an Australian school in Year 11 and/or Year 12 or equivalent.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

- the country and the language in which you undertook your secondary education before coming to Australia
- details of English as a Second Language (ESL) support that you receive (eg at school or outside of school, hours per week, the period you've been receiving this support).

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

Yes.

Supporting documentation required:

- Copies of your school reports for your secondary education studies undertaken before coming to Australia. These documents must be translated into English. For more information about document translation, read the EAS Supporting documentation fact sheet available on the UAC website at uac.edu.au/eas
- a copy of your initial immigration visa showing the date stamp for your first arrival in Australia, or other document from the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) on official letterhead confirming the date of your first arrival
- an Intensive English Centre (IEC) record of attendance (if you attended an IEC)
- a record of attendance (see page 7) from each school you've attended.

Disadvantage code: L01B – For current Australian Year 12 applicants only

Eligibility criteria:

All of the following:

- you are a current Australian Year 12 applicant
- you experience difficulty with the English language
- you came directly to Australia from a non-English speaking country
- you began your education in an Australian school during Years 7–10.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

The country and the language in which you undertook your education before coming to Australia.

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

Yes.

Supporting documentation required:

- a copy of your initial immigration visa showing the date stamp for your first arrival in Australia, or other document from the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) on official letterhead confirming the date of your first arrival.
- record of attendance from an Intensive English Centre (IEC), if you attended an IEC
- record of attendance (see page 7) from your current school.

Disadvantage code: L01C – For non-Year 12 applicants only

Eligibility criteria:

All of the following:

- you are a non-Year 12 applicant
- you experience difficulty with the English language
- you came directly to Australia from a non-English speaking country in 2013 or after
- before your arrival you didn't undertake any formal education at an institution where the language of instruction was English.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

- the date you immigrated to Australia
- details of your studies before and after you arrived in Australia (include years studied, name of studies, name of institution, country, language of instruction, studies completed or not, equivalent full-time years enrolled).

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

- No.

Supporting documentation required:

- a copy of your initial immigration visa showing the date stamp for your first arrival in Australia, or other document from the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) on official letterhead confirming the date of your first arrival
- copies of documentary evidence of studies undertaken in Australia
- copies of documentary evidence of studies undertaken before you arrived in Australia. These documents must be translated into English. For more information about document translation, read the EAS Supporting documentation fact sheet available on the UAC website at uac.edu.au/eas.

Personal illness/disability – P01A

If you're a current Year 12 student who became ill just before/during your HSC exams you may be eligible to submit an illness/misadventure appeal with the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) by completing an appeal form available from the school principal and/or NESA. For further details, visit <http://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/rules-and-processes/illness-misadventure>.

If you have a disability and are having problems with the UAC application process, contact us. You can call us on 1300 ASK UAC (1300 275 822) or (02) 9752 0200 from mobiles between 8.30am and 4.30pm (Sydney time) Monday to Friday, email us using the enquiry form at uac.edu.au/enquiry, or write to the Equity Unit, UAC, Locked Bag 112, Silverwater NSW 2128 Australia. We will help you with your application.

Disadvantage code: P01A
Eligibility criteria: For a period of at least six months during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent you experienced: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ a severe and long-term or a severe and recurrent medical/psychiatric condition or disability OR <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ a learning, sensory, physical, psychological or other disability/disorder. P01A consideration will not necessarily be given to applicants who have not sought and utilised recommended options (made by a registered health professional) for their condition, disability, illness or disorder, where relevant. You're not eligible if you've suffered a series of minor illnesses, have an ongoing minor medical condition stabilised by medication or if you become ill or suffer a condition that affects your examination performance only. In addition, you are not eligible if you are only receiving ongoing rehabilitation or treatment, where the commitment is less than two hours per week.
Applicant's Statement requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ details of your medical condition/disability in the period you've had your medical condition/disability and the school years involved■ details of treatment you have received for your medical condition/disability.
Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required? Yes.
Supporting documentation required: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Medical Impact Statement■ medical certificates/reports relating to the medical condition you have claimed■ letter from your school that provides details of any absences from school and/or disruption to your learning. The document must be on the school letterhead and must be signed by the principal or another senior person at the school.
Additional requirements for applicants with learning disabilities: Applicant's Statement requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ if you have not applied for disability provisions by NESA, you must explain why. Supporting documentation required: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ if you have been granted disability provisions by NESA, a copy of the Authority's disability provisions decision advice along with copies of any documentation submitted to the Authority OR <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ if you have not been granted disability provisions by NESA, provide evidence of clinical assessments conducted by a qualified professional such as an educational or neuro-psychologist or learning disability specialist using recognised valid, reliable and standardised tests. These must have been undertaken within the last three years.

Refugee status – R01A

Disadvantage code: R01A
Eligibility criteria:
You entered Australia as a refugee, or on a Global Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 202), or were granted a refugee, or a Global Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 202) after your arrival.
Applicant's Statement requirements:
Not required.
Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?
No.
Supporting documentation required:
A copy of any one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ your Australian Refugee or humanitarian visa■ your Red Cross or United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) registration■ copy of your document for travel to Australia.

School environment – S01D

Disadvantage code: S01D
Eligibility criteria:
You're studying any of your Year 12 courses through a secondary distance education centre or an Access Program as a result of circumstances beyond your control or choosing; for example, the Year 12 course you have chosen is not provided by the secondary school you are attending. Note: Applicants are not eligible for consideration under S01D if they undertake study at a Community College, Saturday school, TAFE or other equivalent provider, even if the course is not offered by their school.
Applicant's Statement requirements:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ details of your HSC program and how you're studying (eg at school, by distance education or through an Access Program)■ the reason/s for your enrolment in HSC courses by distance education or through an Access Program.
Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?
Yes.
Supporting documentation required:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ your Confirmation of Entry from NESA for the 2017 HSC, or■ a letter from the distance education centre or Access Program confirming your enrolment and the courses you are undertaking. <p>The Educational Impact Statement must confirm you are studying courses through a secondary distance education centre or an Access Program as a result of circumstances beyond your control or choosing. If you don't provide an Educational Impact Statement confirming this, you will be assessed as ineligible for this disadvantage code.</p>

School environment – S01C, S01E, S01R

The list of schools included in each sub-category is available from UAC's website at uac.edu.au/eas/schools.

- If you are a 2017 Year 12 student who attended a school included in any of the categories listed below in 2017 and only intend to claim S01C, S01E or S01R, you don't have to submit an EAS application as UAC will automatically generate an 'electronic' application for you.
- If you intend to claim additional disadvantages, you must submit an EAS application, but you don't need to include details of your attendance in 2017 at a school included in any of the categories listed below, as UAC will automatically add these to your application.
- If you attended a school included in any of the categories listed below before 2017, but during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent, you must submit an EAS application and claim the relevant disadvantage code.

Disadvantage code: S01C

Eligibility criteria:

You attended an Australian rural school (not in S01E) during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent.

A rural school is defined as being located in a town with:

- a population of less than 10,000 people and a distance of at least 100km from the nearest centre with a population of 10,000
- OR
- a population of less than 5,000 people and a distance between 50km and 99km from the nearest centre with a population of 10,000.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

- the name of your school
- the period you attended the school.

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

No.

Supporting documentation required:

A letter from your school, which must:

- be on the school letterhead and signed by the principal or another senior person at the school
- confirm the period you attended the school and the number of students in Year 12
- verify the population of the town in which your school is located and the distance to the nearest centre with a population of 10,000.

Disadvantage code: S01E

Eligibility criteria:

You attended a school during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent that:

- has been identified by the NSW Department of Education and Communities (DEC) as among the most socio-economically disadvantaged in the NSW Government sector, or
- has been identified by DEC as geographically isolated or participating in the Connected Communities program, or
- has been identified as comparable to schools in the above categories by the Catholic Education Commission of NSW.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

- the name of your school
- the period you attended the school.

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

No.

Supporting documentation required:

Record of attendance (see page 7) from your school.

Disadvantage code: S01R

Eligibility criteria:

You attended an Australian rural or regional school during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent.

Note: Eligibility is based on the postcode of your school, not your residential address.

A school is classified as an Australian rural or regional school if the postcode for the physical location of the school is classified as other than Major City by the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) system as provided by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Visit doctorconnect.gov.au to check the postcode classification of your school.

Applicant's Statement requirements:

- the name of your school
- the period you attended the school.

Educational Impact Statement (EIS) required?

No.

Supporting documentation required:

A record of attendance (see page 7) from your school.