ABOUT

Australian Catholic University (ACU) has grown rapidly over the past few years. It is a vibrant university with excellent new facilities, award-winning buildings and renowned academics. It is known for its supportive and nurturing learning environment.

ACU empowers students to think critically and ethically, and to bring about change in their communities and professions. It is a publicly-funded university and welcomes students and staff of all beliefs and backgrounds.

ACU is globally connected and has relationships with more than 190 universities and educational institutions around the world. The University has seven campuses around Australia – in Brisbane, North Sydney, Strathfield, Canberra, Ballarat, Melbourne and Adelaide – making it Australia’s only truly national university. It is also one of few Australian universities with a presence in Europe, having recently opened the Rome campus in Italy.

ACU students have the chance to undertake professional placements throughout their studies, ensuring that they are work-ready upon graduation. Community engagement is a core part of every student’s experience and is embedded within most courses.

There is a wide range of scholarships available to undergraduate and postgraduate students.

The University also has a rapidly increasing reputation in research and has seven new research institutes aligned with the four priority research areas: Theology and Philosophy; Health; Education; and the Common Good and Social Justice.

ACU conducts research that makes a difference. Whether it be award-winning stroke studies or investigations on how the world population will find food in the future, ACU research aims to improve social, health and living conditions, influence public policy and improve knowledge in specialist fields.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for entry to ACU’s undergraduate courses you must meet the general requirements listed in one or more of the following categories, satisfy English language requirements and be selected in competition with other eligible applicants.

Australian secondary studies

2017 Australian Year 12 students

If you are a 2017 Australian Year 12 student you are usually assessed on the basis of your Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) or equivalent. Refer to uac.edu.au/undergraduate/admission/ATAR-OP-table.shtml for Queensland OP equivalents.

If you are a 2017 Australian Year 12 student who has previously undertaken Year 12, you will be considered on the basis of your latest ATAR or equivalent.

Offers made to applicants who have an ATAR below the published cut-off

ACU has a number of alternative pathways for admission which may allow 2017 NSW and ACT Year 12 applicants to receive an offer to a course even though they have an ATAR below the published cut-off.

They include:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Scheme
- Bonus points schemes
- Canberra Special Admissions Program
- Educational Access Scheme
- Early Achievers’ Program
- Elite Athletes and Performers Program
- Passion for Business – Early Entry Program
Current students of ACU
Current ACU students, including students on interrupted study, who wish to transfer from one course to another, or one campus to another, must apply online at acu.edu.au/study_at_acu/applying/transfer_applications. For further information, call 1300 ASK ACU (1300 275 228).

Overseas qualifications
Australian citizens or permanent residents of Australia with overseas qualifications from countries where English is not the standard language of instruction must provide evidence of English language proficiency: visit uac.edu.au/undergraduate/admission/eip.shtml. For information on overseas secondary qualifications, visit uac.edu.au/undergraduate/admission/overseas.shtml.

Alternative entry and pathways
If you do not have formal educational qualifications, you may seek admission to the University on the basis of your performance in one of the following:

Tertiary Preparation Certificate/TAFE qualifications
Applicants with TAFE or equivalent qualifications will be considered for admission in competition with all other applicants.

Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT)
STAT is recommended to anyone who is 21 years or older and who does not hold formal educational qualifications.

Pathway programs
After completing a pathway program you may be eligible for admission to a Bachelor degree course, depending on your grades and the course cut-off in the relevant admission cycle. For more information, visit acu.edu.au/pathways, email askacu@acu.edu.au or call 1300 ASK ACU (1300 275 228). The Diploma in Educational Studies (Tertiary Preparation) is designed for domestic and international students who want to study a pre-service teacher degree in early childhood, primary or secondary education but do not currently meet the entry requirements. For more information, visit acu.edu.au/courses/other_courses/pathway/diploma_in_educational_studies_tertiary_preparation.

Employment experience
Employment experience will be considered for non-Year 12 applicants for all courses. For further information on providing documents visit uac.edu.au/undergraduate/apply/documents.shtml.

Limited ATAR
Under certain circumstances you may be eligible for a Limited ATAR. Read section 2.4 in Part 1 for further information.

SCHOOLS RECOMMENDATION SCHEMES
ACU participates in the Schools Recommendation Schemes (SRS), which are processed centrally through UAC. SRS allows current Year 12 students to receive early offers of admission. SRS aim to assist access to higher education using a wide range of selection criteria other than (or in addition to) theATAR. These include school recommendations and senior secondary studies. For information read ‘Entry schemes and bonus points’, section 5.5 in Part 1.

EDUCATIONAL ACCESS SCHEMES
ACU has an Educational Access Scheme (EAS) to assist applicants whose education has been disadvantaged by circumstances beyond their control for a substantial period of time. ACU EAS applications are processed centrally through UAC. Read section 5.5 in Part 1 for further information on EAS.

EQUITY SCHOLARSHIPS
ACU Equity Bursaries and Commonwealth Indigenous Scholarships are open to all eligible students applying to or enrolled at ACU. Applications are processed centrally through UAC. Apply online at uac.edu.au/equity. Read section 7.6 in Part 1 for further information on Equity Scholarships.

ACU also offers a number of scholarships and bursaries that are available to students applying to or enrolled at ACU. Apply online at acu.edu.au/scholarships.
ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AUSTRALIANS

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants may be offered admission upon establishing their potential for success by attending an interview with staff of the relevant faculty and a member of the Indigenous Higher Education Unit. Support is available from the Indigenous Higher Education Unit before and after the interview. No separate application is required provided Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent has been indicated on the UAC application. Applicants will be contacted automatically. Applications for ACU’s specific Indigenous programs must be made directly through the University’s online application system.

Dhara Daramoolen (ACT) and Yalbalinga (NSW) Indigenous Higher Education Units

Staff at Yalbalinga and Dhara Daramoolen provide Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with social, cultural, personal and academic support as well as a place to meet and work on assignments. For those students needing tutorial support, they can also arrange for the employment of tutors. For further information, call the Canberra campus on (02) 6209 1222 or the Strathfield campus on 1800 733 405 or (02) 9701 4258.

ENROLMENT

Advanced standing/academic credit

Applications for advanced standing/academic credit must be made at the time of enrolment.

Deferment of offer

- Available to all applicants, for up to one year only
- Will lapse if any post-secondary studies undertaken.

For more information, visit acu.edu.au/study_at_acu/applying/returning_to_study.

Fees and charges

For fee information, visit acu.edu.au/costs-of-uni. All students must pay student contributions for a Commonwealth-supported place (CSP). Read section 7.2 in Part 1. Students are also required to pay a Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF). The SSAF fees for 2017 were:

- full-time students – $147 per half year ($294 annually)
- part-time students – $110 per half year ($220 annually).

For more information, visit acu.edu.au/study_at_acu/fees_and_scholarships/fees/ssafees_and_services.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Youth and student allowances

For details on Youth Allowance, Austudy and ABSTUDY, visit humanservices.gov.au.

STUDENT AND CAMPUS SERVICES

ACU has a range of student support services. These include counselling, chaplaincy, academic assistance and learning support, and employment and career advice. Campus facilities include a medical centre, computing centre, sporting and recreation facilities, and a childcare centre.

The University supports a variety of student organisations, clubs and societies for students to become involved in campus life. For more information on ACU’s student and campus services, visit acu.edu.au/study_at_acu/parents_and_care_advisors/parents_information/student_services_and_support.

Students with disabilities and special needs

For students with disabilities and special needs ACU has dedicated support services. Visit acu.edu.au/student_experience/support_services/disability_services for details.