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A survey on UAC procedures

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT

(1) What is this study about?

You are invited to take part in a voluntary, online, anonymous survey about the procedures used by the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC).

You have been invited to participate because you recently applied to university through UAC. This Participant Information Statement tells you about the research study. Knowing what is involved will help you decide if you want to take part in the research. Please read this statement carefully and ask questions about anything that you don't understand or want to know more about.

Participation in this research study is voluntary.

By giving your consent to take part in this study you are telling us that you:

- ✓ Understand what you have read.
- ✓ Agree to take part in the research study as outlined below.
- ✓ Agree to the use of your personal information as described.

(2) Who is running the study?

The study is being carried out by the following researchers:

- Mr Alexander Kiefer, Honours student in the University of Sydney School of Economics;
- Associate Professor Pablo Guillen Alvarez, University of Sydney School of Economics;
- Associate Professor Mark Melatos, University of Sydney School of Economics.

Alexander Kiefer is conducting this study as the basis for the Bachelor of Economics (Honours) at The University of Sydney. This will take place under the supervision of Associate Professor Pablo Guillen Alvarez.

(3) What will the study involve for me?

In the survey you will be asked to provide answers to questions related to the UAC procedures.

(4) How much of my time will the study take?

We don't expect the survey to take more than 15 minutes of your time.

(5) Who can take part in the study?

This study is limited to people who applied to universities through UAC for entry in 2019.

(6) Do I have to be in the study? Can I withdraw from the study once I've started?

Being in this survey is completely voluntary and you do not have to take part. Your decision whether to participate will not affect your current or future relationship with the researchers or anyone else at The University of Sydney or UAC.

If you decide to take part in the survey and then change your mind before finishing you don't need to submit your answers. Incomplete survey data will not be analysed. You will not receive any payment if you fail to submit a complete survey.

The survey software generates unidentifiable data so it will not be possible to withdraw once you have submitted your answers.

(7) Are there any risks or costs associated with being in the study?

Aside from giving up your time, we do not expect that there will be any risks or costs associated with taking part in this study.

(8) Are there any benefits associated with being in the study?

You will receive a $5 monetary compensation for completing the survey plus a bonus. The exact size of the bonus depends on both your answer and a random draw. Payment will require you to provide your mobile telephone number (which will be deleted after payment is made).

(9) What will happen to information about me that is collected during the study?

By providing your consent, you are agreeing to us collecting unidentifiable personal information about you for the purposes of this research study. Your information will only be used for the purposes outlined in this Participant Information Statement, unless you consent otherwise.

Note that you will need to provide your name and a mobile telephone number to generate a receipt for the purpose of payment. This information is not part of the survey and will not be matched to your survey answers.

(10) Can I tell other people about the study?

Yes, you are welcome to tell other people about the study.

(11) What if I would like further information about the study?

When you have read this information, Associate Professor Pablo Guillen will be available to discuss it with you further and answer any questions you may have. If you would like to know more at any stage during the study, please feel free to contact Pablo by email at pablo.guillen@sydney.edu.au.

(12) Will I be told the results of the study?

You have a right to receive feedback about the overall results of this study. Once the study is complete UAC will send an email to all participants including a lay summary of the results.

(13) What if I have a complaint or any concerns about the study?

Research involving humans in Australia is reviewed by an independent group of people called a Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC). The ethical aspects of this study have been approved by the HREC of The University of Sydney (Protocol Number 2019/xxx). As part of this process, we have agreed to carry out the study according to the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007). This statement has been developed to protect people who agree to take part in research studies.

If you are concerned about the way this study is being conducted or you wish to make a complaint to someone independent from the study, please contact the University using the details outlined below. Please quote the study title and protocol number.

The Manager, Ethics Administration, The University of Sydney:

- **Telephone:** +61 2 8627 8176
- **Email:** ro.humanethics@sydney.edu.au
- **Facsimile:** +61 2 8627 8177

This information sheet is for you to keep