



Teaching Courses

Most teaching courses have additional course requirements that need to be completed for you to be eligible for an offer to study teaching.

It is important to read through the course listing in VTAC's [CourseSearch](#) for each course you are applying for, as each course may have different requirements.

The most common course requirement is a **Situational Judgement Test** which is a non-academic test that helps the institution assess an applicant's personal and professional attributes. This test can be taken through a third party company called Acuity Insights, which administers the **Casper test**, or in some cases, **directly through the institution**.

Why must initial teacher education applicants undertake a Situational Judgement Test?

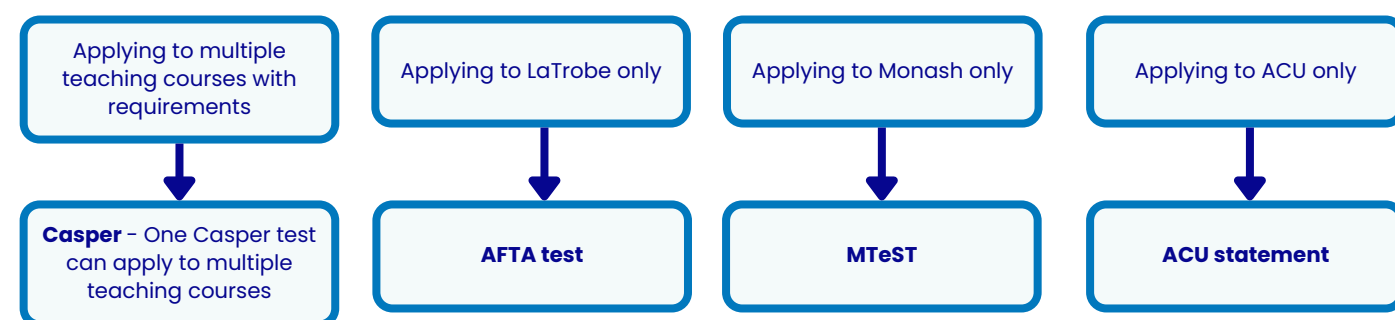
The Victorian Government, in partnership with the Victorian Institute of Teaching, introduced Casper and equivalent tests as a requirement for initial teacher education (ITE) courses to ensure the applicant's personal attributes are assessed for selection into a teaching course. This framework aligns with the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership's Action Now: Selection of entrants into initial teacher education – Guidelines.

Under the framework, an applicant's academic capabilities and non-academic capabilities (personal attributes) must be assessed for suitability for entry to ITE courses. These tests are a tool for assessing personal attributes.

How do I know which test to complete?

All initial teacher education courses require applicants to demonstrate their personal attributes. While some use Casper, others assess personal attributes in other ways. To find out if Casper, or another test or interview is required, look under Essential Requirements and Admission Criteria in the relevant course entries on CourseSearch.

Use this guide and always check the course listing for up to date course requirements:



Test requirements are stated in the **Essential Requirements** and **Requirements Checklist** sections of **the course listing in CourseSearch**.

Examples of requirements listed on CourseSearch:

Selection and application

Casper

Compulsory: All applicants are required to complete Acuity Insights as part of their application. Acuity Insights is a requirement for many of the initial teacher training courses in Victoria. It is a non-cognitive online test designed to assess an applicant's personal and professional attributes. Acuity Insights consists of two parts, however only the Casper component is compulsory for Federation University applications.

Requirements checklist

You must meet the following requirements before you are eligible for an offer:

- ✓ Prerequisite
- ✓ Situational Judgement Test

Casper test

The Casper test is administered on select dates and can be booked through the [Acuity Insights website here](#). The test can be taken online and will incur a fee. For more information, please refer to the Acuity Insights website.

How to Provide Casper Results to VTAC

When registering for the Casper test through Acuity, you must provide your **VTAC ID** and select the distribution option (i.e. VTAC or Direct application). For VTAC applications, ensure that you have selected the distribution option as “[institution] – VTAC”, not “[institution] – Direct”.

Once your results are finalised, they will be electronically transmitted from Acuity to VTAC and included in your account. The same Casper test score will be used for all courses that require this test type in your course application.

To ensure your results are considered in time for the offer rounds, it is important to plan ahead and sit the Casper test within the relevant time period.

How long are my results valid?

Casper results can only be used for one selection cycle. These run annually from 1 August of one year to 31 July the following year. You need to sit the test again if you apply for ITE courses in a later selection cycle.

If I sit Casper, get an offer and defer, do I have to sit the test again?

No, once you have accepted an offer you do not have to sit Casper for that course again.

Tests and selection statements offered through Institutions

For some courses, there may be free alternatives to the Casper test, meaning you can choose between sitting the Casper test, or choosing a test directly through the institution. However, not all institutions offer alternatives and tests specific to one institution are not transferable to other institutions. If you have multiple institutions within your course application preference list, you will need to take the tests required by each of the institutions to be eligible.

More information for each test can be found within the course listing under the “Course Requirements” tab, as well as directly on the institution’s website.

Australian Catholic University offers the [Teacher Selector Statement \(TSS\)](#), which is submitted along with your VTAC application. You can complete the TSS form after you submit your course application under the “Additional tasks” section in your VTAC applicant dashboard.

La Trobe University offers the [Aptitude for Teaching Assessment \(AFTA\) test](#), which is an online test. Once completed, upload your completion certificate within the “Additional tasks” tab in your VTAC applicant dashboard.

Monash University offers the [Monash Teaching Suitability Test \(MTeST\)](#), which is an online test involving a series of open-ended questions. Monash will provide these results directly to VTAC.

How should I arrange my preferences when I don’t know the outcome of my test?

VTAC recommends that you arrange your preference list with your highest preference at the top, however, we also recommend placing some pathway courses below your top preferences in case the outcome of the test is unfavourable.

Pathway is a term used to describe a course that can provide an alternative way of entering the course you ultimately want to study. VTAC recommends adding pathway courses to your preference list as they allow you to continue to study and develop your knowledge, attributes and skills should you not be successful in gaining entry into your preferred course. Pathways don’t necessarily guarantee you entry into your preferred course as academic achievement and other selection considerations still apply, however the best way to learn more about pathway courses is to speak to your preferred institutions directly.

Example pathway courses to teaching include a Bachelor of Arts for those interested in primary teaching, or secondary teaching in the Humanities or Studies of Society and Environment (specific subjects apply), or a Bachelor of Science for those interested in primary teaching, or secondary teaching in the Sciences or Mathematics (specific subjects apply).