

APPLYING FOR SPECIAL CONSIDERATION (SEAS)

If there have been circumstances that have made it hard for you to do your best at study, it's worth putting in an application for special consideration via VTAC's Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS). SEAS also allows institutions to identify applicants from under-represented groups when making selection decisions.

What is SEAS?

VTAC's Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS) is an application process that enables institutions you are applying to get an understanding of any hardship you may have experienced as a student and its impact upon your studies when making selection decisions. If there have been circumstances that have made it hard for you to do your best, you should put in a SEAS application.

SEAS also allows institutions to identify applicants from under-represented groups when making selection decisions for some courses.

SEAS allows selection officers to grant special consideration for course entry to applicants so that you may be offered a place with a lower ATAR selection rank than otherwise required. It does not exempt you from meeting the published institutional and course requirements.

Whether you are currently studying Year 12 or applying as a post school leaver, you may be eligible for consideration.

Eligibility for SEAS

You are eligible to apply for SEAS if you hold:

- Australian or New Zealand citizenship
- a permanent Australian residency visa,
- an eligible Temporary, Bridging or Safe Haven Enterprise visa and are an Australian Year 12 applicant.

Additionally, you need to have applied for a course through VTAC and met the course and institutional requirements. SEAS only becomes available once you have lodged a course application. Most international Australian Year 12 applicants are not eligible for SEAS and are encouraged to contact institutions directly to see if other entry and access programs are available. However, asylum seekers on certain visa subclasses can apply for SEAS.

**Don't wait!
Start working on your SEAS
application early.**

SEAS categories

There are four categories in SEAS. You can apply for all the categories that are relevant to your situation, so long as you apply to each category for a different reason. Further information about each of these categories is available on our website.

- [Category 1: Personal information and location](#). This category includes living or school location, under-representation of a gender in a course or field of study, recognition as an Indigenous Australian, recognition for being from a non-English speaking background and recognition for being the first in your family to attend tertiary study.
- [Category 2: Disadvantaged financial background](#)
- [Category 3: Disability or medical condition](#)
- [Category 4: Difficult circumstances](#). This category includes but is not limited to circumstances such as natural disasters, family disruption, death of a close family member or friend, excessive family responsibility, bullying and discrimination.

Our website also covers which institutions will use SEAS and what categories they will consider.

How might a SEAS application help you?

Special consideration may result in upward adjustments to your selection rank (not your ATAR) for one or more courses. You will not receive notification of whether special consideration has been granted. Questions about how SEAS is used in selection for specific courses should be directed to the institution.

Note: A SEAS application does not exempt you from meeting any of the institutional and course entry requirements. However, consideration of a SEAS application may be given if your performance is slightly below the stated minimum study score for a prerequisite. SEAS does not change your educational results or qualifications. If you are granted special consideration it does not guarantee you an offer.

HOW TO COMPLETE YOUR SEAS APPLICATION

Follow the steps to submit your SEAS application. You can apply for any categories that are relevant to your situation.

1. Log in to your VTAC account

To access the SEAS application, you must log in to your VTAC account using your VTAC ID and PIN.

2. Make sure you've lodged a course application

If you are eligible, SEAS becomes available once you submit a course application.

3. Open the SEAS application

To open the application, select 'Special consideration (SEAS) application' in your VTAC account and then click on the SEAS application link at the top of the page.

4. Fill in the SEAS application and complete the evidence requirements

There are four categories that make up SEAS. You only need to fill out the sections that are relevant to your circumstances. You must fill out at least one category for your SEAS application to be valid. Detailed information for each category can be found at the following links:

- [Category 1: Personal information and location](#)
- [Category 2: Disadvantaged financial background](#)
- [Category 3: Disability or medical condition](#)
- [Category 4: Difficult circumstances](#)

When completing your SEAS application, you may be required to provide evidence. If you don't, your application will not be considered.

Some categories of SEAS require you to submit a description of circumstances, an impact statement, a statement of support or financial evidence. Only provide what is specified as quality, not quantity, is the key to providing good and useful evidence.

Organising and submitting your evidence for a SEAS application can take several weeks. VTAC advises applicants to familiarise themselves with what is required as soon as the circumstances appear, and to make any appointments required for a statement of support as soon as possible.

You will need to provide a description of circumstances and impact statement if you apply for [Category 3: Disability or medical condition](#) or [Category 4: Difficult circumstances](#) and if you don't receive Centrelink or Family Tax benefits and are applying for [Category 2: Disadvantaged financial background](#).

Make sure you:

- Write in your own words. Don't get someone else to write for you. Institutions simply want to know your story from your point of view (and aren't testing your grammar).
- Keep to the key points and within the character limit.
- Allow time to draft. This is so you are confident you have explained the circumstance and their impact on your education.

You can provide your supporting documentation via your VTAC account. You can upload scanned documents or enter your responsible person's email address to collect their statement online.

If you upload documents, VTAC will undertake a preliminary review to ensure each document is suitable. You are encouraged to submit your documents early to allow time for this process.

5. Submit your SEAS application

Click on Submit to complete your SEAS application. You will be sent an email acknowledging that you have submitted an application including a receipt showing the contents of your application. You can also access your receipt through your VTAC account.

**"I had trouble booking an appointment with my doctor to get my statement of support, but once I submitted I felt confident that my selection rank would be more competitive."
- Alex, 18**