

# ELIGIBILITY AND COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To be considered for a course you must meet eligibility requirements, including prerequisites.



## Understanding eligibility

To be considered for courses offered through VTAC, you need to meet a number of eligibility requirements.

### 1. Residency requirements

To apply for a course through VTAC, you must be:

- An Australian citizen, an Australian permanent resident or a New Zealand citizen, or
- A temporary resident studying an Australian Year 12 or the International Baccalaureate (IB), or
- Living overseas, studying an Australian Year 12 and planning to obtain a student visa, or
- Living in New Zealand, completing the IB and planning to obtain a student visa.

### 2. Minimum tertiary entrance requirements

Minimum tertiary entrance requirements are the minimum level of education you need to have completed to be considered for selection into tertiary studies when applying through VTAC. VTAC is responsible for assessing your minimum tertiary entrance requirement status.

#### Post-secondary VET courses

Certificates I-III generally have no minimum tertiary entrance requirements. However, Certificate IV or higher level VET courses require applicants to have successfully completed VCE (or equivalent), VM, or to have met specific special entry requirements.

#### Undergraduate higher education courses

The minimum tertiary entrance requirements for higher education courses in CourseSearch are satisfactory completion of the VCE or equivalent. This includes the satisfactory completion of VCE Units 3 and 4 of one of the following English studies: English, English as an Additional Language, Literature or English Language.

Completion must be in sequence and in the same calendar year unless interrupted study status is granted.

VCE equivalents include interstate or overseas equivalents to VCE, the IB and some study at Certificate IV or higher.

### 3. Course requirements

Course requirements are listed under each course entry in VTAC CourseSearch. They can be found under the headings 'Essential requirements' and 'Admission criteria'.

#### Prerequisite studies

Essential requirements and admission criteria include the prerequisite studies required for entry to courses in the next intake. If you are in Year 10 or Year 11, see Prerequisite and Course Explorer for prerequisite studies relevant to your year.

See the following page for more information on prerequisites.

#### Select your category: Current Year 12 or recent secondary graduate

Essential requirements and admission criteria depend upon the education you have previously completed and so you will need to select the category that applies to you. Current Year 12 students select the year that they are studying year 12. If you are in Year 10 or Year 11 select this category too, as an indicator of what you may need to complete to apply in your year. However, be aware essential requirements and admission criteria can change between years, so check again when you are applying.

#### Essential requirements

Essential requirements need to be completed either before applying, before enrolling or during the course. For example, you may be required to complete a first aid certificate before enrolling or a police check before a work placement.

#### Admission criteria

Admission criteria details what will be considered when selecting applicants for entry into a course. For example, your ATAR or academic history are considered here.

# PREREQUISITES

Prerequisites are studies you need to have completed to be eligible for selection into a course. They are set two years in advance so that Year 10 students can plan ahead.

## Why you must check prerequisites

As you get closer to finding your ideal course, and your other course preferences, you will need to check the prerequisites for every course that interests you. If you don't have a prerequisite for a course, you are not eligible for selection. If you're in Year 10 or Year 11 you may also be thinking about which Unit 3 and 4 studies to complete. This might mean stopping a study after Unit 1 and 2. Before you decide on your subjects, it's important to check the prerequisites for any of your preferred courses to see what Unit 3 and 4 studies are required, and if your eligibility for the courses could be affected.

## Where to find prerequisites

The prerequisite studies listed in CourseSearch are for the next intake into a course. By the time course applications open in August, CourseSearch will be updated for courses commencing in the following year. Prerequisites can be found under 'essential requirements' and 'admission criteria' in each course entry.

**VCE prerequisite explorer** is a tool within CourseSearch that is specifically designed for looking up prerequisites. It contains prerequisites for Year 10's, Year 11's and Year 12's.

## Minimum study scores

All Unit 3 and 4 prerequisites have a minimum VCE study score that you need to meet. This is the VCE study score, not the scaled study score.

While prerequisite studies are listed two years ahead of time, the minimum study score for each prerequisite is set in the year you apply.

## Prerequisite statements

Prerequisite statements do vary: some courses specify particular studies, others list a group you must complete one or two studies from. You should also check the level at which studies must be completed. For example, a prerequisite statement that says 'Units 3 and 4: a study score of at least 20 in any English' means you must have successfully completed and obtained a minimum VCE study score of 20 in any of the VCE English subjects.

## Using VCE prerequisite explorer

The VCE prerequisite explorer is a function within CourseSearch which allows you to enter the VCE studies in your actual or proposed Year 12 program, to check your eligibility for courses based on their prerequisite studies. You can find it at the bottom of the list of search filters.

## Whole VCE program

With this option, enter a program of Year 12 studies—these can be the actual studies you are studying, or if you are in Year 10 or Year 11, studies you are thinking of taking for Year 12. Pick the year in which the tertiary courses will commence, which is the year after you finish year 12.

Press the 'list courses' button to see the list of courses you will be eligible for if you successfully complete and pass the studies you have listed. The number of courses will usually be very large, and includes courses with no prerequisite studies.

## Comparing study programs

You can save this search profile, and compare it to another search to see the effect of adding or removing studies from your program. For example, removing a study will mean you will no longer be eligible for a course which requires that study as a prerequisite. Conversely, adding a study will add any courses which require that study to the list of courses you are eligible for.

## Courses without prerequisites

You can also find courses that do not have any prerequisite studies. Select the 'That have no prerequisites' option under the 'Show courses' heading. You can use this on its own, or in conjunction with a VCE program to show all courses you are eligible for.