

The VTAC Gazette

September 2018

Content

Policy clarification on how unscored studies contribute to the ATAR – 2019 and beyond.	1
Timetable changes	2
Renaming of offer rounds	2
Free TAFE for Priority Courses initiative	3
Cancelled course codes	5
New course codes	5
Course title changes	5
Qualification changes	6
Other amendments	6
Policy reminders	6

Policy clarification on how unscored studies contribute to the ATAR – 2019 and beyond.

In November/ December 2017, VTAC reported that from 2019, the rules on how unscored studies can contribute to the calculation of the ATAR will be amended.

In that policy statement we indicated that unscored increments which previously contributed the average of the primary four, including those for unscored VCE VET and VFE block credit, will instead be calculated using 10% of the lowest study score of the primary four.

An unintended consequence of change is that in some cases the lowest study score could in fact be one of the English studies which is not only a compulsory requirement of the ATAR calculation, but also used as the first study in all instances.

This was never the intention of the policy. As a point of clarification, VTAC wishes to advise that the policy has been updated as follows:

Revised policy statement

Unscored increments which previously contributed the average of the primary four, including those for unscored VCE VET and VFE block credit, will instead be calculated using **10% of the fourth study score** of the primary four.

Research undertaken by VTAC indicated that using the lowest scaled study score of the primary four, rather than the primary four average, was a closer match to what occurs for students with scored studies. It also showed that **using the fourth study score of the primary four** will ensure students with an unscored fifth or sixth increment are not disadvantaged over those who take a scored increment.

This change does not apply to higher education increments as part of the VCE or to the Legitimate One Year increment.

Timetable changes

Dates for international applicants

December international change of preference dates

International students now have an extra day to change preferences after ATARs are released and have these new preferences considered for the December international round offers (formerly known as the international early round). The new deadline is **4.00 pm Saturday 15 December**.

International offer rounds moved from February to January

So that international students have more time to make visa, transport, and living arrangements that rely on course offers, all February international rounds will be moved to January.

Offer rounds for international applicants

December offer round international	19 December 2018
January offer round 1 international	8 January 2019
January offer round 2 international	11 January 2019
January offer round 3 international	16 January 2019
January offer round 4 international	21 January 2019
January offer round 5 international	25 January 2019

New applications for later international rounds

Applicants who apply before 4.00 pm Saturday 15 December 2018 will be considered for all international offer rounds.

New international course applications will be accepted after this date until 5.00 pm Friday 22 January 2019. These later applications will be considered for the international offer rounds that remain after the application fee is paid. See the [VTAC dates and fees](#) page for payment deadlines.

International Baccalaureate results date

International Baccalaureate results will be released at **11.00 am (AEST) 3 January 2019**, a day earlier than previously documented.

Renaming of offer rounds

VTAC wishes to advise that offer round nomenclature has been updated. From this point forward, offer rounds will be named by month-number-cohort.

Key changes to be aware of are:

- VTAC will no longer refer to 'early rounds'. These rounds will instead be named in the month-number-cohort format.
- What was previously known as Round 2 offers for domestic students will be 'February offer round 1 domestic'.
- Supplementary offers begin after February offer round 1 domestic.

For all dates and renamed offer rounds see [VTAC dates and fees](#).

Free TAFE for Priority Courses initiative

From 1 January 2019, eligible students will not pay course tuition fees in 30 priority non- apprenticeship courses, across the TAFE Network in Victoria. A further 20 government-subsidised apprenticeship pathway courses (sometimes called pre-apprenticeships) will also be free.

Eligibility

Any Australian citizen or permanent resident or a New Zealand citizen is eligible to do Free TAFE for Priority Courses in Victoria if they meet the following criteria:

- Under 20 or upskilling
 - » aged under 20 (regardless of any other qualifications they might hold), or
 - » are 20 or older and enrolling in a course that is a higher qualification than the highest qualification previously attained
- Victorians who need additional support. Victorians who are:
 - » unemployed and clients of the Jobs Victoria Employment Network;
 - » retrenched workers, or
 - » automotive supply chain workers
- Looking to change careers
 - » Victorians who want to reskill, change careers, improve their employment prospects and/or meet the needs of local industries, subject to availability of TAFE places, and prioritised based on need.

For further information about Free TAFE visit www.freetafe.vic.gov.au.

Free TAFE initiative courses through VTAC

Free TAFE priority courses that can be applied for through VTAC are listed below. The links lead to each course's entry in CourseSearch. These places have a course code ending in 4.

INSTITUTION NAME	COURSE NAME
Box Hill Institute	Diploma of Nursing Diploma of Accounting Certificate III in Commercial Cookery Certificate IV in Cyber Security Diploma of Community Services
Chisholm	Certificate IV in Accounting and Bookkeeping Diploma of Accounting Certificate III in Community Services Diploma of Community Services Certificate IV in Cyber Security Diploma of Nursing Diploma of Justice
Federation University	Automotive Servicing Technology (Pre-apprenticeship) Automotive Vocational Preparation (Pre-apprenticeship) Building and Construction Community Services Construction Pathways (Pre-apprenticeship) Disability Electrotechnology Engineering Studies (VET) Horticulture Individual Support Nursing (VET) Plumbing

INSTITUTION NAME	COURSE NAME
Holmesglen Institute	Certificate IV in Accounting Diploma of Accounting Advance Diploma of Accounting Certificate IV in Building and Construction (Building) Diploma of Building and Construction (Building) Certificate IV in Allied Health Assistance Diploma of Nursing Certificate IV in Allied Health Assistance Nutrition and Dietetics
Melbourne Polytechnic	Diploma of Building and Construction (Building) Advanced Diploma of Building Surveying Certificate IV in Accounting Certificate III in Hospitality Certificate III Commercial Cookery Certificate IV in Cyber Security
RMIT University	Building and Construction (Building) (Certificate IV) Building and Construction (Diploma) Allied Health Assistance (Certificate IV) Nursing (Diploma) Education Support (Certificate IV) Accounting (Diploma) (Advanced Diploma) Alcohol and Other Drugs (Certificate IV) Community Services (Certificate IV) Youth Work (Certificate IV)
Swinburne University	Certificate IV in Accounting and Bookkeeping Certificate IV in Allied Health Assistance Certificate IV in Community Services Certificate IV in Cyber Security Certificate IV in Disability Certificate IV in Mental Health Certificate IV in Youth Work Diploma of Community Services Diploma of Accounting Diploma of Building and Construction (Building) Diploma of Justice Diploma of Nursing
Victoria University	Certificate IV in Accounting Diploma of Accounting
William Angliss Institute	Certificate III in Commercial Cookery Certificate III in Tourism Certificate III in Hospitality

Cancelled course codes

CODE	COURSE TITLE	CAMPUS	CANCELLATION TYPE	DATE
Chisholm Institute				
Direct	Design and Visual Arts	Frankston	Campus offering cancelled	9 September 2018
Direct	Software Development	Frankston	Campus offering cancelled	9 September 2018
Deakin University				
1400614221	Business Analytics/Information Technology	Cloud campus	Course code cancelled	27 September 2018
1400514221	Business Analytics/Information Technology	Melbourne Burwood	Course code cancelled	27 September 2018
Melbourne Polytechnic				
6900210324	Horse Breeding	Epping	Course cancelled	12 September 2018
Monash University				
2800211551, 2800211553	Criminology	Caulfield	Course code cancelled	26 September 2018
RMIT University				
3200332391, 3200332393	Engineering-Electrical (Honours)/ Commerce	City	Course cancelled	8 September 2018
3200231093	Medical Radiations-Medical Imaging (Radiography)	Bundoora	IFP code cancelled	17 September 2018
3200231113	Medical Radiations-Radiation Therapy	Bundoora	IFP code cancelled	17 September 2018
3200231083	Medical Radiations-Nuclear Medicine	Bundoora	IFP code cancelled	17 September 2018
3200231413	Health, Physical Education and Sport (Secondary)	Bundoora	IFP code cancelled	19 September 2018

New course codes

CODE	COURSE TITLE	CAMPUS	ADDITION TYPE	DATE ADDED
Chisholm Institute				
Direct	Community Services	Bass Coast	New campus offering	4 September 2018
Direct	Justice	Dandenong	New campus offering	4 September 2018
CQUniversity				
1700110711	Laws/Business	Online	New course entry	4 September 2018
1700110721	Laws/Information Technology	Online	New course entry	4 September 2018
1700110701	Laws/Property	Online	New course entry	4 September 2018
1700110691	Laws/Science (Psychology)	Online	New course entry	4 September 2018
1700110731	Science (Criminology and Psychology)	Online	New course entry	4 September 2018
Swinburne University of Technology				
3401011334	Community Services - Diploma	Wantirna	New campus offering	11 September 2018
3400211404	Cyber Security - Certificate IV	Hawthorn	New course entry	27 September 2018

Course title changes

INSTITUTION AND CODE	NEW COURSE TITLE	OLD COURSE TITLE	DATE CHANGED
CQUniversity			
1700110481	Allied Health	Health Science (Allied Health)	24 September 2018

Qualification changes

INSTITUTION AND CODE	COURSE TITLE	DATE CHANGED
Swinburne University of Technology		
3400110574, 3401010574	Accounting - Certificate IV	3 September 2018
3400277204	Accounting - Certificate IV/Diploma	3 September 2018
The Certificate IV component of these courses is now the Certificate IV in Accounting and Bookkeeping.		

Other amendments

CODES	COURSE TITLE	DATE CHANGED
RMIT University		
3200231061	Education (Primary and Disability Inclusion)	3 September 2018
3200210311	Education (Primary and Physical Education/Sport)	3 September 2018
3200233001	Education (Primary)	3 September 2018
3200231411, 3200231413	Health, Physical Education and Sport (Secondary)	3 September 2018
These courses are currently being accredited for 2019 by the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT).		
3200210051	Education (Primary and Early Childhood Education)	3 September 2018
This course is currently being accredited for 2019 by the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) and the Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA).		

Policy reminders

Post-secondary results from institutions that use My eEquals

First published August 2018

VTAC cannot accept scans of original transcripts from certain institutions that use My eEquals. See the [list of affected institutions](#).

With most Australian and New Zealand universities choosing to provide their students digital My eEquals transcripts in place of hard copies, VTAC has had to review what can be accepted to ensure supporting transcripts are legitimate.

Several institutions have chosen not to display explicit text on their My eEquals PDFs that allow them to be clearly identified as My eEquals documents when printed and scanned. Due to the difficulty of detecting techniques used in altering digital documents, and to be compliant with My eEquals advice, VTAC will not accept printed or printed and scanned My eEquals results.

As such, VTAC will also no longer be able to accept scans of applicants' hard copy documents (certified or non-certified) from any institution that has not placed explicit information (such as text), or clear features (such as the My eEquals logo), on their My eEquals documents identifying they are of digital origin. This is to ensure a saved, printed and re-scanned My eEquals file cannot be misconstrued as a scan of that institution's official hard copy. My eEquals cannot guarantee a file has not been edited or manipulated prior to printing where the student has saved a non-secure copy of the .pdf file. Instead, applicants from affected institutions must provide either a digitally signed PDF transcript from My eEquals or original official hard

ATAR 2019: Changes to how unscored studies contribute to the ATAR

First published November/December 2017

From December 2019, the rules on how unscored studies can contribute to the calculation of the ATAR will be amended. Unscored increments for VCE VET and VFE block credit are currently calculated as the average of the primary four. From December 2019, they will instead be calculated using 10 per cent of the lowest study score of the primary four.

Research undertaken by VTAC indicates that using the lowest scaled study score of the primary four, rather than the primary four average, is a closer match to what occurs for students with scored studies. It also shows that using the lowest study score of the primary four will ensure students with an unscored fifth or sixth increment are not disadvantaged over those who take a scored increment. This change does not apply to higher education increments as part of the VCE or to the Legitimate One Year increment.

SEAS

First published July 2018

Asylum seekers are now eligible for SEAS

The SEAS application is now available to international applicants on some Temporary, Bridging and Safe Haven Enterprise visas. Once a course application is made, applicants with an eligible visa will have access to the SEAS application through their VTAC account.

Difficult circumstances: refugees and asylum seekers with or without permanent residency

When applying to SEAS Category 4: Difficult circumstances as an eligible refugee or asylum seeker, applicants will be prompted to supply a copy of their passport with the relevant visa page or a copy of their visa grant notice. The impact statement is then optional, however applicants must still supply a statement of support from a responsible person.

Disadvantaged financial background: Department of Veteran Affairs benefits

A reminder that recipients of Department of Veteran Affairs benefits are eligible to apply for SEAS Category 2: Disadvantaged Financial Background. Applicants must provide a copy of their 'statement of pension' as VTAC is unable to access it electronically.

Disability or medical condition: 'health practitioners'

Statements of support for applications to SEAS Category 3: Disability or medical condition are to be provided by a health practitioner. Health practitioners include, but are not limited to, GPs, physiotherapists, psychologists, counsellors in the field of health and school nurses.

If the applicant is unable to provide a statement from a health practitioner, a statement of support provided by a non-medical counsellor, coordinator or teacher may be accepted as a last resort.

View the VTAC Gazette archive: www.vtac.edu.au/publications



VICTORIAN TERTIARY ADMISSIONS CENTRE

40 Park Street, South Melbourne, VIC 3205

Telephone: +61 3 9926 1020

www.vtac.edu.au

Facebook: facebook.com/vtacguide

Twitter: twitter.com/vtacguide

YouTube: youtube.com/vtacmedia