



# The University of Sydney

## ADMISSION TO UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

**Approved by:** Academic Board on ~~16 October 2002~~ 15 October 2003

**Date of effect:** 1 January ~~2003~~ 2004

These Resolutions of the Academic Board must be read in conjunction with the University of Sydney (Amendment Act) Rule 1999, Part 9, the University of Sydney (Coursework) Rule 2000, and the Delegations of Authority: Academic Functions.

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## 1. Definitions

Faculty	includes a College Board, Board of Studies or the Australian Graduate School of Management Ltd
Dean of a Faculty or Dean	includes a College Principal or Director, a Director of the Australian Graduate School of Management Ltd or a Chair of a Board of Studies
Award course	<p>An award course is a formally approved program of study that can lead to an academic award granted by the University. An award course requires the completion of a program of study specified by course rules. Award courses are approved by Senate, on the recommendation of the Academic Board. Students normally apply to transfer between Award courses through the UAC. The award course name will appear on testamurs. The University broadly classifies courses as undergraduate, postgraduate coursework or postgraduate research. The award courses offered by the University are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Higher doctorates</li><li>Doctor of philosophy (PhD)</li><li>Doctorates by research and advanced coursework</li><li>Master's degree by research</li><li>Master's degree by coursework</li><li>Graduate diploma</li><li>Graduate certificate</li><li>Bachelor's degree</li><li>Advanced diplomas</li><li>Associate diplomas</li><li>Diplomas</li><li>Certificates</li></ul>
Unit of study	<p>A unit of study is the smallest stand-alone component of a student's course that is recordable on a student's transcript. Units of study have an integer credit point value, normally in the range 3-24. Each approved unit of study is identified by a unique sequence of eight characters, consisting of a four character alphabetical code which usually identifies the department or subject area, and a four character numeric code which identifies the particular unit of study. Units of study can be grouped by subject and level.</p>

## 2. Admissions policy

- (1) The University's admissions policy is the responsibility of the Senate and of the Academic Board, acting on the recommendation of its Undergraduate and Graduate Studies Committees. The Academic Board has resolved that selection criteria should be clearly expressed so that, as far as possible decisions can be taken by administrative staff at either the Admissions Office or Faculty level.

- (2) Recognition of institutions, programs and courses is the responsibility of the Academic Board, acting on the recommendation of its Undergraduate and Graduate Studies Committees. Programs and courses may generally be recognised for the purposes of admission to candidature where the program of study undertaken for the examination and the standard of the examinations are considered to be equivalent to the program and standard required for candidates for the NSW Higher School Certificate or to the equivalent of the completion of a first year undergraduate program of study at the University of Sydney.
- (3) The University is required to maintain appropriate records of the basis for admission of students so that the effectiveness of admission criteria can be evaluated. These records should be kept in accordance with University Record Keeping Policy and Guidelines on Academic Record Keeping.
- (4) The University's student record systems are required to record the basis for a student's admission with sufficient details to allow statistical reviews of the progression rate of students admitted through special admissions programs (including Broadway and Flexible Entry).

**3. Admission Requirements: General Principles**

- (1) Faculties may impose selection criteria in addition to the applicant's secondary and tertiary record from time to time. Such additional criteria must be reported to the Academic Board for approval and incorporation into the Academic Board's schedule of approved criteria, and a minimum of eight (8) months notice must be given to prospective students.
- (2) Applicants are also required to meet any specified English language requirements as specified by the Academic Board (see English Language Requirements).
- (3) The Academic Board has resolved that weightings applied to selection criteria must be made public and be the same for all applicants in a course.
- (4) Normal admission to the University is based primarily upon academic merit. However, the University recognizes that, for many reasons, some applicants are not able to demonstrate their full potential for success at tertiary level study through the normal qualifying examinations. The University, therefore, provides means for such applicants to enter courses. Details may be found in the University of Sydney (Amendment Act) Rule 1999, Part 9, Division 4, Special Admission to Undergraduate Courses for Local Applicants, and Resolutions of the Academic Board relating to Equity programs and Failure and Exclusion.

**4. Assumed Knowledge and Additional Selection Criteria**

(see also University of Sydney (Amendment Act) Rule 1999, Part 9, Division 6, Additional selection criteria, entry requirement prerequisite and assumed knowledge for local and international students.)

<b>Course</b>	<b>Assumed Knowledge</b>	<b>Recommended Studies</b>	<b>Special Entry Requirements or Other Information</b>
<b>AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND NATURAL RESOURCES</b>			
Agricultural Economics	Mathematics		
Agriculture (Science in Agriculture), Horticultural Science, Land & Water Science	Mathematics and Chemistry		
Resource Economics	Mathematics Extension 1 and Chemistry	Biology or Earth & Environmental Sciences	
Animal Science	Mathematics and Chemistry	Biology	
<b>ARCHITECTURE</b>			
Design Architecture	Mathematics and English (Advanced)		
Design Computing	Mathematics		
<b>ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES</b>			
Arts, Arts (Advanced), Arts (Languages)	Depends on the first year subjects selected		Some languages are offered at Advanced (A) and Basic (B) level, with some intermediate (AB) units of study. A and AB units of study have prerequisites of appropriate HSC (or equivalent) courses. B units of study have no prerequisites.
Arts/Science, Arts/Commerce	Mathematics. Other assumed knowledge depends on the first year subjects selected		
Arts (Media & Communications)	Mathematics		
Music, Arts/Music	Music 2		Applicants must attend an audition and an interview
Social Sciences, Arts (Informatics), Arts/Social Work, Social Work	Depends on the first year subjects selected		
Arts/Theology			Applicants must obtain a letter from the Sydney College of Divinity confirming suitability for admission to candidature for the Bachelor of Theology degree

<b>DENTISTRY</b>			
Dentistry			Only available to graduates. Applicants will be considered for admission according to the following criteria: Previous performance in a bachelor's degree; Performance in the Graduate Australian Medical School Admission Test (GAMSAT); Performance in a semi-structured interview; and Performance in a practical aptitude test.
<b>ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS</b>			
All courses	Mathematics (Mathematics Extension 1 for Business Information Systems)		
<b>EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WORK</b>			
Education (Primary)	Any two units of English and any two units of Mathematics		
Education Human Movement, Education Humanities/Arts, Education/Arts-Psychology	Depends on first year subjects selected		
Education Maths/Science, Education Science/Science, Education Science/Psychology	Mathematics		
Education Secondary (Design & Technology)			Entry through TAFE Level 4 Certificate
Teaching			Only available to graduates, as initial component of Master of Teaching. All applicants are required to demonstrate proficiency in English.
<b>ENGINEERING</b>			
All courses	Chemistry and Physics and HSC Mathematics Extension 1		

<b>HEALTH SCIENCES</b>			
Aboriginal Health and Community Development	None		Preference is given to applicants who have experience in issues which are relevant to indigenous people. Aboriginal people are particularly encouraged to apply. Applicants may be required to attend an interview, undertake tests or complete a questionnaire as specified by the faculty.
Occupational Therapy	Chemistry		Applicants for occupational therapy, speech pathology, orthoptics, medical radiation technology, leisure and health and exercise and sport science who are not completing the HSC or equivalent in the year of application must complete a questionnaire as well as lodging a UAC application.
Physiotherapy	Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry		
Speech Pathology	Chemistry	Mathematics or English Advanced	
Orthoptics	Two of Chemistry or Biology or Physics		
Nuclear Medicine Technology, Diagnostic Radiography, Radiation Therapy	Mathematics plus one of Biology, Chemistry or Physics		
Rehabilitation Counselling	Mathematics		Selected applicants who are not sitting the HSC or equivalent in the year of application may be required to attend an interview. Final selection will be based on academic merit and/or employment background with preference given to those with some relevant work experience.
Leisure & Health	Chemistry or Biology		
Exercise and Sport Science	Chemistry and one of Mathematics, Physics or Biology	Physics, Biology, HSC Mathematics Extension 1 and PDHPE	
Behavioural Health Science, Health Information Management	Mathematics		
Hearing & Speech	Chemistry	English Advanced	
Health Sciences	Mathematics and Chemistry	HSC Mathematics Extension 1	
<b>LAW</b>			
Law (Graduate)	Graduate Entry		
Combined Law	Depends on degree combined with Law but none for Law itself		
<b>MEDICINE</b>			
Medicine			Not available to non-graduates

<b>NURSING</b>			
Nursing Full Time, Nursing Part Time, Nursing/Arts, Nursing/Science	Biology or Chemistry or PDHPE, General Mathematics. For combined degree Arts: depends on the first year subjects selected. For combined degree Science: Mathematics or Mathematics (Extension 1). Other assumed knowledge depends on the areas or programs studied.		Applicants with Enrolled Nurse qualifications will be considered for admission. Hospital trained registered nurses apply directly to the Faculty of Nursing, not through UAC.
Nursing (Indigenous Australian Health)	Biology or Chemistry or PDHPE, General Mathematics		Interview
<b>PHARMACY</b>			
Pharmacy, Pharmacy (Rural)	Mathematics plus either Chemistry and Physics OR Chemistry and Biology		Selection for all applicants involves the consideration of UAI/TER or equivalent or tertiary studies record <u>and</u> the results of a Special Tertiary Admission Test (STAT)
<b>RURAL MANAGEMENT ORANGE CAMPUS</b>			
Farm Management	None		It is assumed that students have basic farm skills. It is recommended that students gain 12 months practical farming experience before starting the course. The required means of achieving this experience is under review and applicants who feel they have met this requirement should contact the Course Co-ordinator to arrange an interview
Business (Agricultural Commerce), Horticultural Management, Management, Rural Business Administration, Adv. Dip. Viticulture Management	None		
Equine Business Management	None		Applicants must complete an interview and a horse handling/riding practical prior to admission and must satisfy health requirements as determined by the faculty

<b>SCIENCE</b>			
Computer Science & Technology	Mathematics or HSC Mathematics Extension 1		Applicants for the BSc (Advanced), BSc(Advanced Mathematics) and BSc (Molecular Biology and Genetics Courses, in addition to achieving satisfactory TERs are required to obtain marks in specified subjects in the HSC or equivalent which will allow enrolment in the necessary advanced unit of study
Science (Advanced Maths)	Mathematics Extension 2		
Computer Science & Tech (Advanced OR Orange), Information Technology, Science/Arts, Science/ Commerce	Mathematics Extension 1		
Science, Science (Advanced)	Mathematics or Mathematics Extension 1. Other assumed knowledge depends on the areas or programs studied.		
Science (Bioinformatics)	Mathematics Extension 1 and (2U Biology and 2U Chemistry)		
Science (Environmental)	Mathematics Extension 1 and 2 Unit Chemistry.		
Science (Marine Science), Science (Molecular Biology & Genetics)	2 Unit Chemistry and Mathematics.		
Science (Molecular Biotechnology)	Mathematics or Mathematics Extension 1, 2 Unit Biology, 2 Unit Chemistry		
Science (Nutrition)	Mathematics or Mathematics, Extension 1, 2 unit Chemistry and 2 unit Biology or 2 unit Physics.		
Medical Science (Year 1)	HSC Mathematics and (2 unit chemistry and 2 unit physics) OR (2 unit chemistry and 2 unit biology).		
Psychology	Mathematics		
Science (Media & Com)	Mathematics or Mathematics Extension 1 (depending on subjects chosen).		
<b>VETERINARY SCIENCE</b>			
Veterinary Science	Chemistry and Physics and Mathematics	Biology	All applicants who have previously undertaken university study must, in addition to applying through UAC, undertake the Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT). Criteria include: excellent academic record; high score in STAT and evidence of a strong commitment to a career in Veterinary Science

<b>SYDNEY COLLEGE OF THE ARTS VISUAL ARTS</b>			
Visual Arts (Fine Arts, Object Art & Design, Media Arts)		Visual Arts	Interview/Portfolio
<b>SYDNEY CONSERVATORIUM OF MUSIC</b>			
All courses	Music 2		Applicants must satisfactorily complete an interview and audition
<b>CROSS FACULTY COURSES</b>			
Liberal Studies, Liberal Studies (International), Liberal Studies (Orange)	Mathematics Other Assumed Knowledge depends on subjects studied		

The policy regarding the approval of assumed knowledge requirements and the timeline for the introduction of new or amended requirements are set out in Part 3, Section 2 (2) and Part 4, Section 3 (2) of the Academic Board Resolutions: Creation, Variation and Deletion of Award Courses and Units of Study.

## 5. Secondary Studies

### (1) More than one Secondary Qualification

- (a) The most recent Universities Admission Index (UAI) or equivalent gained from all attempts by a person who has attempted a school leaving examination more than once shall be the secondary school component for determining eligibility for admission.
- (b) Offers of admission will be deemed to be made on the correct results of the applicants seeking admission and if the results officially communicated to candidates are subsequently found to be incorrect, the University will act as follows:
  - (i) *A higher UAI or equivalent than that originally awarded*  
The University will endeavour to admit the applicant to the course to which the correct UAI would have earned admission, provided that in the opinion of the Dean of the faculty concerned, it is not too late in the year to commence studies effectively.
  - (ii) *A lower UAI or equivalent than that originally awarded*  
The University will reserve the right to withdraw an offer of entry at any time within the first four weeks of the semester for which an offer of entry was made and accepted. If an offer is withdrawn the University will endeavour to place the applicant concerned into the course in which his or her results would entitled enrolment. No offer of entry will be withdrawn without the approval of the Dean of the faculty concerned and the Registrar.

### (2) Conversion of interstate results

The conversion of interstate and New Zealand results in secondary studies will occur in accordance with the Interstate Transfer Index endorsed by the New South Wales Vice-Chancellors' Conference and which is based on the distribution of marks for all candidates.

**(3) Flexible Entry Scheme**

- (a) Faculties may approve flexible entry schemes for specified courses.
- (b) Pursuant to Part 9(38) and Part 9(41) of the University of Sydney (Amendment Act) Rule 1999, the University establishes for most undergraduate award courses a UAI cut-off. Eligible applicants for such courses with a UAI, or UAI equivalent, equal to, or greater than, the UAI cut-off will be admitted on the basis of their UAI.
- (c) Flexible entry schemes for specified courses apply to eligible applicants with UAI or UAI equivalents lying below the UAI cut-off for that course. Flexible entry schemes will comprise two components:
  - (i) A flexible entry UAI band, lying between the UAI cut-off and the lower limit to the band. This lower limit will not normally lie more than 5 UAI points below the UAI cut-off;
  - (ii) A flexible entry criterion or criteria, additional to the UAI, which allows admission of eligible applicants whose UAI lies within the flexible entry band. In order to monitor equity for applicants, flexible entry criteria must be selected from the list approved by the Academic Board from time to time (see 3(d) below);
  - (iii) Faculties wishing to amend their flexible entry criteria must seek the approval of the Academic Board, with any approved changes to be published in the UAC Guide in the following year.
- (d) Board approved flexible entry criteria are:
  - (i) Performance in the HSC, or HSC equivalent, in subjects relevant to the course;
  - (ii) Performance in extra-curricular academic activities relevant to the course (e.g. Science Olympiads);
  - (iii) Aptitude for the course, evidence by relevant work and/or other experience, submission of a portfolio, and/or submission of a statement of interest in the course. Faculties may use written submissions, interviews, or other methods to obtain information about aptitude.
- (e) Applicants may be considered using criteria under flexible entry schemes and under educational access schemes (e.g. Broadway), provided that their UAI lies within the approved band for both schemes. Admission bands are not normally widened for applicants who are eligible for consideration under for more than one special admission program.

**6. Secondary studies completed overseas**

- (1) A completed senior secondary qualification from overseas can be used as the basis for admission to undergraduate courses by local students if the qualification is considered to be equivalent to the New South Wales Higher School Certificate. The University has determined a list of overseas secondary qualifications which are deemed equivalent.
- (2) The list of the overseas secondary qualifications which are accepted by the University and the procedures for assessing them have been established and are reviewed in conjunction with the Universities Admissions Centre and other universities in NSW and the ACT.

## 7. Tertiary Studies

- (1) Applicants who have completed the equivalent of at least one full-time year of approved tertiary study at an Australian Associate Diploma level or higher (i.e. 48 credit points of study at the University of Sydney, or part-time equivalent) are eligible to be considered for admission to candidature.
- (2)
  - (a) Qualifications accredited under the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) must be of at least Diploma level or higher and be complete to be considered for admission to candidature if the qualification is from a recognised institution.
  - (b) The methods used for assessing overseas tertiary qualifications have been established and are reviewed in conjunction with the Universities Admissions Centre and other universities in NSW and the ACT. They are based upon the guidelines established by the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition.
- (3) The best attempt at tertiary study of applicants who have more than one attempt at tertiary study is considered.
- (4) The weighting given to secondary versus tertiary results will normally be 50:50, but faculties may adopt a different weighting where good cause exists.
- (54) Applicants who have completed some tertiary study may be eligible to receive some credit for completed units of study (see University of Sydney (Amendment Act) Rule 1999 Part 9 Division 8: Granting Credit).

## 8. Access and Equity Programs

Whilst entry to the University is based primarily upon academic merit, the University recognizes that, for many reasons, some applicants are not able to demonstrate their full potential for success at tertiary level study through the normal qualifying examinations. The University, therefore, provides means for such applicants to enter courses. These schemes are:

- (1) **Educational Access Scheme: The Broadway Scheme**
  - (a) The Broadway Scheme is designed to assist applicants who have experienced long term educational disadvantage to gain entry to the University.
  - (b) The scheme can assist current or previous candidates for NSW/ACT Year 12 and interstate equivalent programs attending high school or a TAFE college or overseas equivalent and who have suffered long-term educational disadvantage, or severe disadvantage during Years 11 and/or 12 or equivalent.
  - (c) The methods used for assessing long term educational disadvantage have been established and are reviewed in conjunction with the Universities Admissions Centre and other universities in NSW and the ACT. They may include (but not exclusively) adverse home environment, adverse, study conditions, chronic illness, or disability or personal trauma, disrupted schooling, English language problems, excessive family responsibilities, family disruption, financial hardship, geographical isolation or physical abuse.
  - (d) Applicants approved under the scheme are allowed to compete for admission with a UAI or equivalent of up to five rank points below the course cut-off or equivalent.

- (e) The Broadway Scheme is not available:
  - (i) To applicants who have a record of tertiary studies; or
  - (ii) To full-fee paying international applicants; or
  - (iii) For entry to local fee paying courses.

**(2)(a) Faculty of Health Sciences: Multicultural Entry Scheme**

The Faculty of Health Sciences recognizes the need to increase the number of health professionals with the linguistic skills and cultural backgrounds which will assist them to deal with the needs of non-English speaking persons in the Australian community. It offers up to 5% of places to persons undertaking the current Higher School Certification who have appropriate language skills and an understanding of the needs of community groups with English as a second language, but who would not otherwise gain admission.

This scheme is open to applicants from non-English speaking backgrounds completing the current HSC who are proficient in a language other than English, and who have an understanding of the needs of major community groups. Applicants are required to sit an externally assessed test for which a fee is payable. Applications and information about the test are available on the Web site at [www.crc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.crc.nsw.gov.au). The closing date for applications is the last Friday in October each year.

**(2)(b) Faculty of Health Sciences: Vocational Entry Scheme**

This scheme allows completion of relevant TAFE courses and/or work experience to be taken into consideration for admission to courses which are vocationally oriented. Applicants are required to submit a written application to the Admissions Officer, Faculty of Health Sciences, in addition to the UAC application, by 30 November each year.

**(3) Cadigal Program**

The Cadigal Program is guided by the principle that improving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) participation in higher education is not simply a matter of opening the doors. It is dependent on the provision of appropriate support to students entering courses under special admission arrangements. It takes into account the educational disadvantage experienced by ATSI people. It aims to address such disadvantage by providing preparatory studies for ATSI people wishing to undertake degree level study, the option to undertake the first year of study on a reduced load, and the opportunity to participate in an on-going support program.

In addition to the avenues currently available to all students seeking entry into University courses, special provisions are proposed for ATSI people seeking admission to University courses under the following categories:

- (a) HSC applicants - completion of the NSW Higher School Certificate (or equivalent) with the minimum UAI as set by the Cadigal Program for the course applied for.
- (b) Mature age applicants - must be 21 years or over. These applicants will be eligible for consideration for admission upon meeting one or more of the following requirements:
  - (i) Completion of an approved tertiary preparation course relevant to the course of study applied for;
  - (ii) Completion or partial completion of an accredited course at a tertiary institution; or

- (iii) Demonstration of, to the satisfaction of the Undergraduate Studies Committee, a capacity to succeed in course work at University level.

Selection of applicants will be based on application and interview by the AEC. Under this Program it is proposed that up to 5% of University places will be made available to suitable ATSI applicants.

**(4) Mature Age Applicants (Local Students)**

- (a) To be eligible to apply under the Mature Age Entry Scheme candidates must meet all four of the following criteria. Candidates must:
- (i) be at least 21 years of age on 1 March of the year of entry to the University;
  - (ii) not have a UAI or equivalent interstate or overseas qualification that would enable them to compete for normal admission;
  - (iii) not have been enrolled for at least two full-time semesters (part-time equivalent) of study in a Bachelor's degree or higher level qualification, an Associate Diploma or higher level qualification, or not have completed an AQF Diploma or Advanced Diploma, at a recognised tertiary institution;
  - (iv) have completed one of the following approved preparation courses:
    - a University Preparation Course offered by the University's Centre for Continuing Education
    - the Tertiary Preparation Certificate Course offered at a NSW TAFE college
    - a Limited HSC (The University of Sydney does not use the Limited HSC for automatic selection. Applicants who present more than nine units at the HSC and are eligible for a UAI will not be considered under the Mature Age Entry Scheme.)
    - the Open Foundation Course or NEWSTEP Program offered by the University of Newcastle
    - the University Preparation Program offered by the University of New South Wales
    - enrolled nursing qualifications for entry to the Bachelor of Nursing
- (b) (i) Based on the results achieved in one of the above preparation courses faculties will determine the minimum level of academic merit required and the offers to be made.
- (ii) Results of the preparation courses above are valid only for two full-time years or equivalent immediately following completion of the course with the exception of enrolled nursing qualifications.
- (c) For courses in the Faculty of Health Sciences which are vocationally oriented, work experience and completion of relevant TAFE courses and AQF courses from accredited providers may be taken into consideration. In addition, applicants may be interviewed to evaluate personal qualities and likelihood of success.
- (d) (i) Levels of assumed knowledge specified for each course or equivalent, are normally considered as prerequisites for Mature Age Entry Scheme applicants. (see Assumed Knowledge and Additional Selection Criteria).
- (ii) Mature Age Entry Scheme applicants are also required to meet any additional, selection criteria such as (but not limited to) interviews, work portfolios or practical examinations.

- (e) The Mature Age Entry Scheme is open for entry to most HECS based undergraduate courses offered through UAC, with the exception of such courses as may be determined by faculties from time to time.

**(5) Elite Athletes or Performers**

**Preamble**

Elite athletes or performers who believe that their training and/or competitive commitments have affected their HSC preparation are not eligible for special consideration under the University's Broadway scheme. These students may apply for special consideration under the Elite Athletes or Performers Scheme.

Approval under this scheme does not guarantee admission but allow applicants, who have been assessed as being "elite" and whose competitive commitments have impeded their HSC performance, to compete for a place with a UAI of up to five ranks below the reported HECS course cut-off or equivalent for the year of admission.

Assessment of elite status will be undertaken by the relevant University sporting body for athletes and by the Faculty to which admission is sought for performer applicants, normally prior to the publication of HSC results for Semester One offers.

Consideration of applications for admission that qualify as elite in either a sport or performance area will be undertaken by the relevant Faculty.

The University of Sydney has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the New South Wales Institute of Sport (NSWIS) which *inter alia* aims "to attract and encourage elite athletes to pursue undergraduate and postgraduate courses at the University of Sydney". Athletes who hold NSWIS scholarships applying for admission to the University of Sydney are considered to be elite under the terms of the MoU and therefore do not need to have their status assessed but will be referred to relevant Faculties for consideration for admission (see 3.1).

**1. Application for Special Consideration**

- 1.1 Persons wishing to apply for special consideration as an elite athlete or performer must write to the Admissions Office outlining their circumstances and include their UAC application number, supporting documentation, and contact details of two referees no later than 1 November.
- 1.2 Applications received by the Admissions Office are recorded and a letter of acknowledgement of receipt is sent to each applicant.

**2. Assessment of Elite Status**

- 2.1 In the case of **Athlete** applications, these are forwarded by the Admissions Office to the relevant University sporting body (SUSU/SUWSA) for assessment of elite status;
- 2.2 In the case of **Performer** applications, these are forwarded to the relevant Faculty to which the applicant has applied for admission for assessment of elite status;
- 2.3 Assessment of elite status in both cases is based on advice from referees and liaison with appropriate experts in the relevant sport/performance area;
- 2.4 Advice regarding elite status and the level of allowance to be made (i.e. the number of points, from one to five, to be discounted from the Main Round UAI cut-off for the course) is sent to the Admissions Office by the relevant sporting body (in the case of Athlete applications) or Faculty (in the case of Performer applications).

**3. Consideration of Applications for Admission**

- 3.1 All qualifying applications, including applications from NSWIS scholarship holders, are forwarded to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and International);
- 3.2 Applications are reviewed by the Elite Athlete/Performers Sub-Committee and collated with other information, such as HSC results and course preferences, and forwarded to relevant Faculties for their consideration.;
- 3.3 Faculties may choose to interview applicants as part of the process of considering applications;
- 3.4 Faculties forward recommendations for offers to award bearing courses or to other non-award/preparation courses, such as the Faculty of Arts' Access Scheme, to the Admissions Office.

**4. Notification to Applicants**

- 4.1 Admissions Office will notify applicants by mail of the outcome of their application.

**5. Elite Athlete/Performer Admissions Sub-Committee**

- 5.1 The membership of the Elite Athlete/Performer Admissions Sub-Committee shall comprise:
  - the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and International), who shall be Chairperson,
  - the Chair of the Academic Board,
  - the Pro Vice-Chancellor of each College, or their nominee, and
  - the University Registrar, or his nominee.
- 5.2 The Sub-Committee shall report annually to the Undergraduate Studies Committee of the Academic Board (via the Admissions Sub-Committee) regarding the performance of the scheme.

**(6) Rural Students Entry Scheme into Physiotherapy**

The purpose of the Rural Student Entry Scheme is to redress the imbalance that currently exists in the proportion of health care professionals within urban and rural settings. The School of Physiotherapy endeavours to support the rural health community by enabling suitable students with significant rural backgrounds to compete for a separate entry quota. The School has set aside up to five places in its physiotherapy course for prospective rural students who meet the selection criteria outlined below. (The reduced UAI will reflect a degree of educational disadvantage, but should not compromise the applicant's ability to meet the academic requirements of the course). Applicants must be Australian Citizens, New Zealand Citizens or Australian Permanent Residents.

**Criteria for Selection**

- 1. For current New South Wales HSC students or equivalent, a UAI of not less than 5 points below the main round cut off mark for the year of entry. All New South Wales HSC students from the previous year (or equivalent) are eligible to apply if they have not completed one full-time year (or part-time equivalent) of tertiary study and meet the UAI cut off as described above for current New South Wales HSC students. (Tertiary study refers to Diploma, Advanced Diploma, Bachelors Degree or higher qualification recognised by the University of Sydney).
- 2. Applicants must have completed at least the last four years of secondary education at a rural school (the definition of "rural" is detailed below).
- 3. Applicants must have lived in a rural area for a significant period of time (the definition of "rural" is detailed below).

4. Applicants must be able to demonstrate a commitment to a career in a rural health setting. (This may include an exceptional record of involvement and achievement in community affairs at school or local community level in a rural environment).

#### **Definition of “Rural”**

The basis for the definition of “rural” will be the area encompassing the rural NSW Area Health Service regions, as announced by the NSW Department of Health on 16 March 1966, or the equivalent definition of rural applicable to other States. Basically, all of New South Wales is considered rural with the exception of Sydney, Central Coast, Newcastle, Wollongong, the Blue Mountains and their surrounding areas.

#### **Application Process**

In addition to lodging an application with the University Admission Centre (UAC), applicants must complete a Rural Student Entry Scheme application form and return it to the Faculty of Health Sciences by the due date (usually late November). All supporting documentation including a reference from the applicant’s School Principal and at least one other rural community leader must be attached to the application form. Applicants who meet all of the criteria for selection will then be ranked according to their confirmed UAI score.

#### **(7) Rural and Regional Entry Scheme Pilot Program**

Students who attend school outside metropolitan areas of NSW or within the Orange, Dubbo or Bathurst regions and want to study at the University's Centre for Regional Education, Orange (CREO) on the University of Sydney's Orange Campus may be eligible to be considered under the University's Rural and Regional Entry scheme. This scheme allows students who have attended rural schools to receive a five point UAI bonus for entry into ~~all~~ courses taught at CREO on the University's Orange Campus. and unless a Faculty advises the Academic Board otherwise, all courses offered at CREO will be deemed to be covered by this scheme.

Non-school leavers will also be considered if they apply for a course at CREO on the Orange Campus and their permanent home postcode (i.e. the applicant’s principal place of residence) falls into a specified eligible area.

#### **(8) Special Consideration for Admission Scheme**

This scheme is for applicants with a record of tertiary study who have experienced some form of disadvantage during their secondary or tertiary studies. It is not strictly speaking a special admission scheme, as it is available to applicants with a record of tertiary study, but it serves a similar purpose. Applicants are required to submit a statement to the Admissions Office, accompanied by supporting documentation which proves their claims. This application is in addition to the mandatory application for admission through UAC.

The scheme is available for admission into all of the University's undergraduate courses which are offered through UAC. However, only applicants who can demonstrate a serious disadvantage will be eligible for consideration. The scheme is not an avenue for applicants to submit personal statements or references which provide superfluous information about themselves but do not establish that they have been disadvantaged.

Applicants who receive consideration under this scheme will normally only be eligible for admission if their results are already within five ranks of the applicable cut-off. If you require further information about this scheme and/or an application form you can contact the Admissions Office. Applicants for this scheme should make their submissions in August or September, at the same time as lodging their on-time UAC applications.

## **9. Failure and Exclusion**

- (1) Applicants who have been excluded from an associate diploma, diploma or degree program and who successfully complete at least one semester of study at degree level subsequent to the exclusion or provide a satisfactory explanation of the circumstances for the exclusion may be allowed to compete for admission.
- (2) Applicants with a record of failure and/or exclusion at tertiary study and who believe their studies have been affected by circumstances beyond their control may apply for special consideration by the relevant faculty.

## **10. Local Fee-Paying Applicants**

- (1) Entry to the University as a fee-paying local student is determined on the basis of merit. Entry criteria will be determined by course and special quotas and the number of applicants competing for places.
- (2) In courses that have additional entry requirements (such as interviews, objective tests etc) for entry to HECS-liable places, the same additional entry criteria will apply for fee-paying places. (see Assumed Knowledge and Additional Selection Criteria)
- (3) Local fee-paying students may apply to transfer to HECS-based university places. All such applications will be assessed with reference to the applicant's secondary and/or tertiary results in accordance with the assessment procedure for HECS-based places.

## **11. International Fee-paying Applicants**

The Academic Board policy on international fee-paying applicants found below should be read in conjunction with the University of Sydney (Amendment Act) Rule 1999, Part 9 – Admission to Courses, Division 5.

### **(1) International Fee-Paying Applicants – General Provisions**

- (a) Admission to University of Sydney courses under the local quota is restricted to persons having Australian or New Zealand citizenship or who have permanent residence in Australia. Other applicants apply as international applicants and must hold an appropriate immigration authority enabling them to undertake courses of study in Australia.
- (b) International applicants will be considered for entry to the University on a fee-paying basis only. Those attempting an Australian Year 12 or International Baccalaureate in Australia must apply through the Universities Admissions Centre. Other international applicants will need to apply directly to the University.
- (c) The Dean of each faculty sets academic selection criteria for international students that should ensure that those admitted as international students have a reasonable likelihood of success.

**(2) Foundation Programs**

- (a) International applicants who have successfully completed an approved University Preparation Program which was commenced as an international student are eligible for consideration for admission to candidature.
- (b) The following preparation programs have been approved by the Academic Board for admission of international applicants:
- (i) University of Sydney International preparation program (or authorized providers of this program)
  - (ii) University of New South Wales Foundation Studies Certificate
  - (iii) Canberra Institute of Technology Foundation Studies
  - (iv) Deakin Foundation Studies Program
  - (v) Foundation Studies Program (Advanced Certificate) from the Sydney Institution of Business and Technology
  - (vi) Monash University Foundation Year
  - (vii) Trinity Foundation Studies Program (Trinity College, affiliated with the University of Melbourne)
  - (viii) TAFE Tertiary Preparation Course (TPC)
  - (ix) Western Australian Universities Entrance Program
  - (x) Wollongong University Entrance Program
  - (xi) Advanced International Certificate of Education, University of Cambridge
  - (xii) Foundation Studies Program, Bradford College, University of Adelaide.
- (c) The Academic Board recognises the following categories of foundation and preparatory programs automatically:
- (1) courses offered by institutions in Australia who are authorised to self-accredit their courses under the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF); and
  - (2) courses offered by institutions in New Zealand who are authorised to self-accredit their courses under the New Zealand Qualifications Framework (NZQF); and
  - (3) courses offered by private providers subject to the courses in:
    - (i) Australia being accredited under AQF at Certificate IV level; and
    - (ii) New Zealand being accredited under NZQF at Certificate IV level.
- Courses offered by overseas providers are considered for recognition on a case-by-cases basis.

**(3) Tertiary Studies**

Applicants who have completed the equivalent of at least two full-time semesters of approved tertiary study at Associate Diploma or higher level (i.e. 48 credit points of study at the University of Sydney, or part-time equivalent), or equivalent, are eligible for consideration for admission, in accordance with the criteria specified for local applicants. Such applicants may be eligible to receive some credit for completed units of study. (see University of Sydney (Amendment Act) Rule 1999 Part 9 Division 8: Granting Credit)

## 12. Change of Residency of International Fee-Paying Students

### (a) Prior to 31 March census date for semester 1 enrolments; and Prior to 31 August census date for semester 2 enrolments

- (i) If a student is granted permanent residency prior 31 March for a standard semester 1 enrolment, or 31 August for a standard semester 2 enrolment, and their UAI rank or equivalent (based on the applicant's secondary and/or tertiary record) is equal to or above the UAI of the HECS cohort for the same course, and there are places available, the student's residential status will be converted to that of HECS.
- (ii) If the student's UAI rank or equivalent (based on the applicant's secondary and/or tertiary record) is below that of the HECS cohort for the same course, the student's residential status will be converted to that of a local fee-paying student.

### (b) After 31 March census date for semester 1 enrolments; and After 31 August census date for semester 2 enrolments

If a student has a change in residency status to that of permanent residency after 31 March for a standard semester 1 enrolment, or 31 August for a standard semester 2 enrolment, the student will continue as an international fee-paying student for that semester, and (except in the case of Medicine) change status to that of local fee-paying for second semester but may subsequently compete for a HECS place should places be available.

## 13. English Language Requirements

- (a) Applicants who have not completed an Australian educational qualification may have to provide proof of proficiency in English through internationally recognized tests such as CULT, IELTS or TOEFL or through satisfactory completion of an appropriate course at the University's Centre for English Teaching unless the applicant has a record of satisfactory achievement in secondary/tertiary studies in an English-speaking country, when the language of instruction was in English.
- (b) Where there is insufficient evidence of current English competence relevant to a particular course of study, faculties reserve the right to ask the applicant to undergo a further assessment of written and/or spoken English. Faculties that prescribe such further assessment are required to report the circumstances and the form of the assessment to the Undergraduate Studies Committee.
- (c) All applicants must either have a record of satisfactory achievement in secondary/tertiary studies in which the language of instruction was in English or must meet one of the following English language requirements as a condition of entry:
  - (i) a qualification accepted by the University as proof of proficiency in English (e.g. GCE 'A' level A to C pass in the subject English or other Humanities subjects);
  - (ii) CULT score of 70;
  - (iii) overall band score of IELTS 6.5 (with a minimum of 6.0 in each band);
  - (iv) TOEFL 233 plus TWE (Test of Written English) at 4.5 (scores older than two years are not accepted);
  - (v) APIEL score of 4 or above;
  - (vi) satisfactory level of English achieved through completion of appropriate modules offered by the University's Centre for English Teaching.

- (d) International Baccalaureate students who have gained the diploma can be regarded as having met the University of Sydney minimum English requirements, provided they have met one of the following criteria:
- (i) Completion of two Languages A1 in English at Higher or Standard Level;
  - (ii) Completion of Language A2 English as a Group 2 subject at either Higher or Standard Level;
  - (iii) Completion of Language B English at Higher Level with Grade 4 or more; or completion of Language B English at Standard Level with a Grade 5 or more;
  - (iv) Completion of the International Baccalaureate diploma, where English was the means of instruction and the response language for all papers. *(to be renegotiated with the International Office)*
- (e) Special requirements are as follows:  
The minimum English language requirements for specific courses are listed in the attached schedule.

### Schedule 1. Faculty-specific English Language Requirements

Faculty/Course		English Language Requirements
Faculty of Architecture	TOEFL: IELTS:	600 or better, plus TWE at 4.5+ Overall band score of 7.0 or better
Faculty of Law	IELTS:	Overall band score of <del>7.5</del> with a minimum score of 7.0 in each of the components
Faculty of Nursing	IELTS:	Overall band score of <del>7.0</del> with a minimum score of 7.0 in each of the components