










Alternative Entry Pathways into University- Make success your focus!

A common misconception is that Senior School students have to do an ATAR pathway (4 or more ATAR courses) to attend University. **This is NOT true.** In fact, as of the start of 2017 the minimum ATAR that a student would need to generate to get into ANY university course is 70. This means that unless a student is averaging in the high 50's and attaining a solid C grade in all of their ATAR courses, they will not attain an ATAR score that will give them entry. More importantly, this misconception often results in students struggling through courses they are not enjoying or being successful! This can be hard to cope with and can affect how students feel about all of their courses and school in general.

Please make SUCCESS your focus. You can attain University entry through a range of different options other than generating an ATAR. Please use the links provided to explore your options. Your Senior School team and teachers are also available to provide you with help and support.

We will explore some of these options for two of the most popular Universities - ECU and Curtin. Note - the information is a guide only and you must explore these programs for yourself.

University	Alternative Entry course title	Requirements summary	Other
	Qualification from a recognised training organization (RTO) Student completes a General/ VET course in Year 12 then attends TAFE (or similar) for one year	Approved Certificate IV/ Advanced Diploma, Associate Diploma (e.g. TAFE)	TISC website - Alternative Entry pathways
	Portfolio Pathway involves successfully attaining WACE and..... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductory letter • A resume • Two written references • Copies of certificates, awards or academic records including school reports • An interview may also be part of the process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WACE • English - ATAR C grade or General English A grade • No ATAR courses are specified but you should be doing courses that are prerequisites for the course you wish to study at ECU For example you could do up to 3 ATAR courses that are related to the area you wish to study. The number of ATAR courses is NOT specified so you can apply with LESS than 3 ATAR courses but you should also apply for UPC (see below) 	ECU website Not all courses at ECU available via Portfolio entry but you can transfer after successful completion of a year at ECU - for a list of the courses you can do see this link Recommended that you also apply for University Preparation Course pathway (see below) Talk to ECU for yourself about this pathway
	University Preparation Course (UPC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open to school leavers and mature age students. • Free to Australian Citizens • If you are successful you are given direct entry into a large number of ECU courses • (Note - variety of formats available including a "Summer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WACE • Minimum C grade in General English • No ATAR courses are specified but you should be doing courses that are prerequisites for the course you wish to study at ECU 	This course covers information/ communication technology skills, academic research and writing, mathematical concepts and wide range of interpersonal communication skills. Great introduction to University and courses and career information before

	<p>Program" in which you can complete the UPC prior in an extensive program and commence courses at the start of the year.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The general UPC is a semester course and is recommended for many students. 		<p>you choose your course! ECU preparation course</p>
<p>Curtin University</p> 	<p>Variety of alternative entry courses called "Enabling courses" depending on your background of course pathway preference - For example Indigenous Tertiary Enabling course/ English Language Enabling course/ Enabling course in Science, Engineering and Health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WACE No ATAR courses specified English - not specified but ATAR not required. I would suggest you need a C or better in General English! 	<p>TISC website link</p>
<p>Curtin University</p> 	<p>UniReady</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WACE No ATAR courses specified English - not specified but ATAR not required. I would suggest you need a C or better in General English! 	<p>One year course - download their pamphlet from this link</p>
<p>Curtin University</p> 	<p>Portfolio (Requirements very similar to ECU)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WACE English Competency - Scaled score of 50 or more in ATAR English or an A grade in General English Minimum of one ATAR course and passes in 3 general courses Satisfy prerequisites for the course you wish to enter 	<p>Check you the information at the link below - includes a very informative video Portfolio entry into Curtin</p>
<p>Other options e.g. Murdoch University</p> 	<p>OnTrack (14 week program) Portfolio (Bachelor of Arts)</p>	<p>Similar to Portfolio entry above</p>	<p>TISC link</p>

It is vital that you do your own research into the many alternative pathways into University. Here are the main links you should explore for further information. I would also encourage you to phone the admission officer at the relevant university if in doubt.

Edith Cowan University – Alternative Entry Pathways	Curtin University – Alternative Entry Pathways	Murdoch University – Alternative Entry Patways	TISC – Alternative Entry (General information for all Universities)
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Remember – Be informed about the pathway that best suits you and make success your focus!

Owen Goyder

Associate Principal – Senior School

Other useful sites:

[Senior School Bulletin Board](#)

[Senior School Success Planner \(direct link from SSBB\)](#)