

**THE ATAR AND**

**APPLYING**

**THROUGH UAC**

**YEAR 12 INFORMATION**

**UAC**

**UNIVERSITIES  
ADMISSIONS  
CENTRE.**



# WHAT IS UAC?

UAC processes applications for:

- University Entry
- College Entry
- Schools Recommendation Scheme
- Educational Access Schemes
- Equity Scholarships

Calculates the ATAR for NSW HSC students.

**THE ATAR**



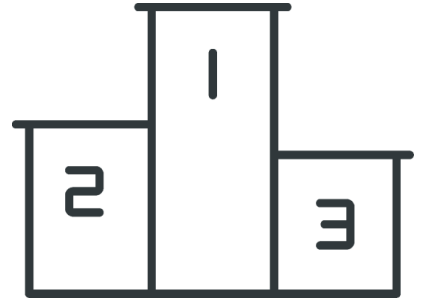
# WHAT IS THE ATAR?

The **Australian Tertiary Admission Rank** is...

- Is a **RANK** not a mark out of 100.
- It's about **POSITION**.
- A number between 0.00 and 99.95.
- Used by universities to rank and select students.

# HSC vs ATAR

- **Performance vs Position.**
- HSC marks = **performance** against the standards.
- ATAR = **position** against all other students in NSW.
- Good performance does not guarantee a high position.
- The only thing **YOU** can control is your **performance**.



Like your **position**  
in a race

# THE SCALING PROCESS

- The scaling process is designed to encourage students to take courses for which they are best suited and which best prepare them for future studies
- The underlying principle is that a student should neither be advantaged nor disadvantaged by choosing one HSC course over another
- The NESA HSC mark in a course indicates a standard reached in that course
- A scaled mark indicates a student's position in the course if all 71,401 HSC students had completed that course.
- Because of the lack of comparability of HSC marks achieved in different courses, marks of individual students are scaled before the ATAR is determined.

# THE ATAR AND SCALING

- The **scaled mean** of a course tells us about the **strength** of the competition.
- High scaled mean = high achievers
- Low scaled mean = varied abilities
- The scaled mean of a course doesn't automatically lead to a high or low ATAR.
- It doesn't matter what courses you study, you just have to do well!

**Remember the ATAR is about POSITION!**

# 2018 HSC

These tables show data for selected Category A and B courses from the 2018 HSC.

Category A Subject	Median Band	Median Mark	HSC Mean	Scaled Mean	Max. ATAR
Aboriginal Studies	3	67	67.6	27.8	98.90
Physics	4	75	73.6	61.0	99.95

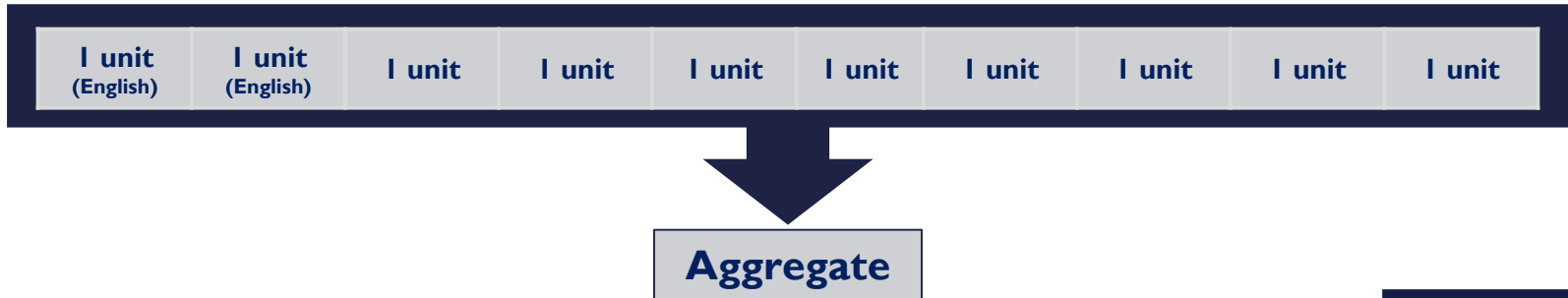
Category B Subject	Median Band	Median Mark	HSC Mean	Scaled Mean	Max. ATAR
Hospitality	4	74	72.8	36.6	98.75



# ATAR CALCULATION

The ATAR is based on an aggregate of scaled marks in 10 units of ATAR courses comprising of the following:

- The best 2 units of English
- The best 8 of the remaining units  
(can include up to 2 units of Category B courses)



# MEET FRED & LAURA

2018 – Median ATAR 69.65

		Fred		Laura	
Course	2018 Median Mark	HSC mark	Percentile	HSC mark	Percentile
Biology	76	70	33	80	64
Business Studies	75	70	37	80	66
English Advanced	82	70	11	80	42
Mathematics	80	70	24	80	51
Modern History	77	70	30	80	62
Visual Arts	80	70	10	80	52
ATAR		57.55		77.95	

# APPLYING THROUGH UAC



# APPLYING TO UNI

1. Prepare
2. Apply
3. Manage
4. Accept

# TIMELINE OF EVENTS



# STEP 1: PREPARE



**Visit** Career Expos and uni Open Days.



**Investigate** all course possibilities.



**Check** for additional selection criteria (eg interview or portfolio).



**Talk** to unis, career advisers and UAC staff for details on applying.



**Research** UAC's courses at [uac.edu.au](http://uac.edu.au) or the MYUAC App.

# STEP 2: APPLY

Applications open 3 April 2019.

- 1) **Apply** online using your UAC PIN and NESA student number.
- 2) **List** up to 5 courses in your order of preference.
- 3) **Pay** processing charge.
- 4) **Additional** applications (EAS/ES/SRS).

**Educational Access Schemes**

**Schools Recommendation Schemes**

**Equity Scholarships**





# EDUCATIONAL ACCESS SCHEMES

- For students whose studies were negatively affected as a result of circumstances beyond their control or choosing.
- Apply online by Sept to receive eligibility notice before ATAR release.
- Disadvantage lasting **6 months or longer**
- Educational Impact Statement is a statement provided by your school in support of your application.
- If successful under EAS your selection rank may be increased.

# SCHOOLS RECOMMENDATION SCHEMES

- Early offer schemes.
- Online application opens 3 April.
- Submit your undergraduate application first.
- Not all courses are offered through SRS.
- Institutions may use your:
  - Year 11 results
  - school's rating of your aptitudes and abilities
  - EAS application (if applicable).
- Conditional and unconditional offers.

# EQUITY SCHOLARSHIPS

- For students who are most in need of financial support while studying.
- Most scholarships are awarded to applicants who receive Centrelink payments and/or who can demonstrate additional types of disadvantage.
- Apply online.
- Submit your undergraduate application first.
- Supporting documents will be needed and can be uploaded online to your application.

# STEP 3: MANAGE

- Understand your selection rank
- Research adjustment factors
- When and how to change your preferences

# SELECTION RANK

- The selection rank is the rank or number that universities use to make offers to students.
- Your selection rank can be:
  - ATAR only
  - ATAR + adjustment factors
  - ATAR + adjustments + addition selection criteria.



# ADJUSTMENT FACTORS

- Used to increase your selection rank.
- **DO NOT** change your ATAR.

Four types:

- Subject adjustments
- Location adjustments
- Equity adjustments
- Elite athlete and performer adjustments

# ADJUSTMENT FACTORS & LOWEST SELECTION RANK

For example: Bachelor of Sandology

6 applicants have applied for the course, with only 3 places open.

1. 89 (ATAR of 89)
  2. 88 (ATAR of 83 + 5 adjustment points)
  3. 87 (ATAR of 85 + 2 adjustment points)
- 
4. 86 (ATAR of 86)
  5. 85 (ATAR of 76 + 9 adjustment points)
  6. 84 (ATAR of 84)

Therefore, the lowest selection rank for that year would be **87**.

Remember, adjustment factors **DO NOT** change your ATAR.

# CHANGE OF PREFERENCES

Once you know your ATAR, review your preferences.

- Research adjustment factors.
- Check the course's lowest selection rank.
- Make sure your preferences are realistic!
- Monitor change of preference closing dates.
- Change preferences online or via the MYUAC app.



# STEP 4: ACCEPT YOUR OFFER

- Accept any offer you receive: there is no guarantee of another offer.
- Follow the uni's instructions on accepting, enrolling and deferment.
- To be considered in the next offer round you must:
  1. Accept your offer.
  2. Remove your offer from your preference list.
  3. Change your preferences.



1  
Receive an  
offer

2  
Accept  
your offer

3  
Remove offer  
Change your  
preferences

# CONNECT WITH US...



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