

Policy Title: Admissions

Policy Owner: Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)

Keywords: Admissions Entry Pathways Awards

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1. INTENT

This policy governs the requirements for admission into all courses at Edith Cowan University (ECU) and the pathways through which eligibility for course entry can be demonstrated.

2. ORGANISATIONAL SCOPE

This policy applies to all ECU staff involved in the processes governed by this policy.

3. DEFINITIONS

TERM	DEFINITION
Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF)	The national policy for regulated qualifications in the Australian education and training system.
ATAR	Australian Tertiary Admission Rank
Entry pathway	The pathway through which an applicant gains entry to the University
Mature-age	Mature entry (for applicants who will be 20 years of age or over in the year they are intending to commence studies)
Minimum English Standard	The minimum English standard required for entry to an ECU course
Portfolio Entry	Entry based on an assessment of a portfolio of evidence, showing an ability to succeed in higher

	education. This entry pathway may also require an interview
Notional ATAR	An ATAR derived based on an entry pathway or prior study
STAT	Special Tertiary Admissions Test
TEQSA	Tertiary Education Quality Standards Agency
TISC	Tertiary Institutions Service Centre
WACE	Western Australian Certificate of Education
WAM	Weighted Average Mark

4. POLICY CONTENT

4.1 ECU's awards align with the requirements of the following Commonwealth Government instruments:

- a. The [Higher Education Standards Framework \(Threshold Standards\) 2015](#); and
- b. The [Australian Qualifications Framework](#) (AQF).

4.2 This policy is aligned to the [AQF Qualifications Pathways Policy](#) and the granting of advanced standing; recognition of prior learning; and credit transfer will be carried out in compliance with that policy.

4.3 Attachment 1 contains the detailed entry pathways and admission requirements for each type of course offered at ECU, including AQF Levels 1 to 10 and ECU's non-AQF courses.

4.4 All applicants for entry into ECU courses will be assessed in a transparent and equitable manner.

4.5 Courses delivered by other institutions are assessed for entry into ECU courses in accordance with the [Advanced Standing Policy](#).

4.6 In cases of educational disadvantage the Academic Registrar may admit a student by giving consideration to the applicant's relative disadvantage and previous performance in other relevant studies.

4.7 In appropriate disciplines in Performing Arts, students will normally be required to meet the ECU minimum entry requirements. Students with outstanding performing arts capability may be admitted to the course with the approval of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), without satisfying these requirements, if there is demonstrated evidence of outstanding performance capability in the discipline for which entry is sought.

4.6 The admission requirements are reviewed on an annual basis by the Academic Registrar. Minor amendments proposed by the Academic Registrar must be

endorsed by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) and forwarded to the Academic Board for noting.

- 4.7 When a course-specific minimum ATAR is amended, the Notional ATAR for other entry pathways must also be reviewed.

5. ACCOUNTABILITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

In relation to this policy:

- a. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) has overall responsibility for the content of this policy and its operation; and
- b. Academic Registrar is responsible for the proper application of the requirements set down in this policy.

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS:

Other documents which are relevant to the operation of this policy are:

- [Australian Qualifications Framework](#)
- [AQF Qualifications Pathways Policy](#)
- [Advanced Standing Policy](#)
- [Curriculum Approval Policy](#)
- [English Standards Policy](#)
- [Admission, Enrolment and Academic Progress Rules](#)

7. CONTACT INFORMATION

For queries relating to this document please contact:

Policy Owner	Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)
All Enquiries Contact:	Manager, Quality and Academic Governance
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8. APPROVAL HISTORY

Policy Approved by:	Vice-Chancellor
Policy First Approved:	28 July 2005
Date last modified:	20 December 2011, 19 June 2013 (AB28/13), 30 April 2014

Revision History:	20 September 2007, 28 September 2009,
Minor Revisions:	April 2016 - Minor revision update to reflect academic organisation re-design. January 2017 – Minor Revisions (AB107/16)
Next Revision Due:	April 2019
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TABLE 1: AQF AWARDS - LEVELS 1 TO 4

For entry into	Admission Requirements and Pathways
Certificates I-IV	<p>For admission to WAAPA VET courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English language standards, if applicable; and • Successful audition and/or folio and/or interview. <p>For admission to Professional Development courses offered through ECU as a VET RTO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No specific requirements

TABLE 2: AQF AWARDS - LEVELS 5 TO 7

For Entry Into	Admission Requirements and Pathways
Level 5 Diploma	<p>Meet the published English language standards and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic admission standard for the course; or • Recognition of prior learning, including credit transfer where applicable.
Level 6 Advanced Diploma	<p>Meet the published English language standards and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic admission standard for the course; or • Recognition of prior learning, including credit transfer where applicable.
Level 6 Associate Degree	<p>Meet the published English language standards and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic admission standard for the following entry pathways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ATAR or notional ATAR minimum entry rank on basis of previous studies ○ Special Tertiary Admissions Test ○ University Preparation Course ○ Indigenous University Orientation Course ○ Indigenous Student Intake Test ○ Portfolio entry where accepted; and • Pre-requisites where applicable. • School leaver applicants must have completed the equivalent of 12 years of schooling to be eligible for direct admission to a Level 7 Bachelor or Level 6 Associate degree
Level 7 Bachelor Degree	

TABLE 3: AQF AWARDS - LEVELS 8 TO 10

For entry into	Admission Requirements and Pathways
Level 8 Bachelor Honours Degree	Meet the published English language standards and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achievement of the specified weighted average mark in the preceding Level 7 Bachelor degree.
Level 8 Graduate Certificate	Meet the published English language standards and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 7 Bachelor degree; or • Equivalent prior learning including at least five years appropriate professional experience
Level 8 Graduate Diploma	Meet the published English standards and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 7 Bachelor degree; or • Equivalent prior learning including at least five years appropriate professional experience.
Level 9 Masters Degree (Coursework)	Meet the published English language standards and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For a 120 credit point Masters Degree - have completed a Level 8 course in the same discipline; or • For a 180 credit point Masters Degree - have completed a Level 7 course in the same discipline; or • For a 180 credit point Masters Degree - have completed a Level 8 course in a different discipline; or • For a 240 credit point Masters Degree - have completed a Level 7 course in a different discipline; or • Where accepted, equivalent prior learning, including at least five years appropriate professional experience.
Level 9 Masters Degree (Research)	Meet the published English language standards and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For a 1 year Masters Degree - have completed a Level 8 course in the same discipline; or • For a 1.5 year Masters Degree - have completed a Level 7 course in the same discipline; or • For a 1.5 year Masters Degree - have completed a Level 8 course in a different discipline; or • For a 2 year Masters Degree - have completed a Level 7 course in a different discipline; or • Where accepted, equivalent prior learning, including at least five years appropriate professional experience.
Level 9 Masters Degree (Extended)	Meet the published English language standards and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 7 Bachelor Degree; or

TABLE 3: AQF AWARDS - LEVELS 8 TO 10

For entry into	Admission Requirements and Pathways
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equivalent prior learning, including at least five years appropriate professional experience.
Level 10 Doctoral Degree (Research)	<p>Meet the published English language standards and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 9 Masters Degree (Research); or • Level 8 Bachelor Honours Degree (First or Upper Second class); or • Demonstrated capacity to undertake original PhD-level research.
Level 10 Doctoral Degree (Professional)	<p>Meet the published English language standards and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 9 Masters Degree (Research); or • Level 9 Masters Degree (Coursework) with 2/3 research component; or • Level 8 Bachelor Honours Degree; or • Demonstration of extensive professional experience and the capacity to undertake original doctoral-level research in a professional setting.

TABLE 4 ECU NON-AQF AWARDS

For entry into	Admission Requirements and Pathways
University Diploma University Certificate University Associate Certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet the published English language standards if applicable and: • Year 12 completion or equivalent; or • Mature entry (for applicants will be 20 years of age or over in the year they are intending to commence studies).