

SOUTHERN CROSS UNIVERSITY

ADMISSION INFORMATION SET – UNIVERSITY

1. About Southern Cross University

Southern Cross University is a multi-campus university on Australia's east coast. We are proud of our reputation as a progressive institution, engaging with the communities we serve to create change that has an impact around the world.

Our campuses are located in southeast Queensland adjacent to the Gold Coast Airport, in New South Wales at Lismore and in Coffs Harbour, where the University's National Marine Science Centre is also located. Branch campuses in Sydney, Melbourne and Perth operate in collaboration with EduCo and the University operates The Hotel School Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane in partnership with Mulpha Australia. We also deliver degrees with collaborators in China and Papua New Guinea.

The regions we call home all have unique characteristics as study locations – from cosmopolitan cities, thriving industries and coastal lifestyles to living laboratories of great natural beauty and ecological diversity, right next to the campus.

Our locations have a profound influence on our teaching and academic programs, from business degrees that examine ecological tourism to marine science that is helping to regenerate the reef and engineering to make our urban environments smarter and more sustainable. We celebrate our cultural diversity with a festival every year because it is the diversity that makes us bold, and pushes us to challenge the status quo.

Southern Cross delivers degrees on campus and online, with a rich [academic portfolio](#) covering a wide range of disciplines. Professional placements are a feature of most degrees.

The University is home to [nine research centres](#), all with deep connections to the communities they serve and a commitment to research output that has global relevance, be it marine ecology, organic agriculture, plant and geoscience, adolescent development or flood mitigation.

In the latest [Excellence in Research for Australia](#) report, Southern Cross achieved outstanding ratings of 'at world standard' or above in 23 research fields. In 14 research fields, the University was evaluated at the highest possible classification of 'well above world standard'. This was achieved in the fields of Earth Sciences, Geochemistry, Oceanography, Environmental Science and Management, Ecology, Zoology, Agricultural and Veterinary Sciences, Crop and Pasture Production, Fisheries Sciences, Forestry Sciences, Civil Engineering, Resources Engineering and Extractive Metallurgy, Nursing, Complementary and Alternative Medicine.

Southern Cross has been ranked in the world's top 200 universities under the age of 50 by the Times Higher Education World University Rankings. It's an accolade we don't take lightly – we are constantly reviewing our degrees and pathway programs to make sure you are equipped with the skills and knowledge you need to forge your twenty-first-century career.

CAMPUS LOCATIONS

Our three campuses are located at the Gold Coast, Coffs Harbour and Lismore, with branch campuses in Sydney, Melbourne and Perth. Our online campus is located at your fingertips and spans the world. Each campus – physical or online – has state of the art facilities, and support services to make the best of your university life. All locations are shown on the [University website](#). A link to each detailed location page is provided below.

Gold Coast

Southern Cross Drive, Bilinga QLD 4225
<https://www.scu.edu.au/study-at-scu/why-scu/locations/gold-coast/#>

Lismore

Military Road
East Lismore NSW 2480
<https://www.scu.edu.au/study-at-scu/why-scu/locations/lismore/#>

Coffs Harbour

Hogbin Drive
Coffs Harbour NSW 2450
<https://www.scu.edu.au/study-at-scu/why-scu/locations/coffs-harbour/#>

Sydney

Level 2, 84-86 Mary Street
Surry Hills, NSW, 2010
Australia
<https://www.scu.edu.au/study-at-scu/why-scu/locations/sydney-melbourne-perth/scu-sydney/>

Melbourne

Southern Cross University Melbourne campus
108 Lonsdale St
Melbourne VIC 3000, Australia
<https://www.scu.edu.au/study-at-scu/why-scu/locations/sydney-melbourne-perth/scu-melbourne/>

Perth

Southern Cross University Perth campus
297 Hay Street
Perth WA 6004, Australia
<https://www.scu.edu.au/study-at-scu/why-scu/locations/sydney-melbourne-perth/scu-perth/>

The Hotel School – Sydney

60 Phillip St, Sydney Nsw 2000
<https://Hotelschool.Scu.Edu.Au/Campuses/Sydney/>

The Hotel School - Melbourne

Level 3, 399 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, Vic 3000
<https://Hotelschool.Scu.Edu.Au/Campuses/Melbourne/>

The Hotel School – Brisbane

Level 13, 127 Creek Street, Brisbane, Qld 4000
<https://Hotelschool.Scu.Edu.Au/Campuses/Brisbane/>

Coomera

198 Foxwell Rd,
Coomera, QLD, 4209
<https://www.scu.edu.au/study-at-scu/why-scu/locations/coomera/>

The Hotel School – Hayman Island

1 Raintree Avenue
Hayman Island, QLD, 4801
<https://hotelschool.scu.edu.au/campuses/hayman-island-campus/>

IMPORTANT DATES

Open Days

Open Days are usually scheduled throughout the year.

Due to COVID-19 disruptions, open days are now virtual and can be viewed on the SCU website. Visit the SCU [Discover](#) webpage to see registration times. For the The Hotel School, Visit the SCU [Virtual Open Days](#) webpage to see registration times.

Mid-year applications

Mid-year applications are accepted from May until July. Check our [courses database](#) to find out whether you can apply for your course mid-year.

STAR Applications

The STAR program allows you to secure your place in a Southern Cross University degree before your Year 12 results are even released. It's designed to remove some of the pressure from Year 12 and give you a pathway directly into university study that is not based solely on your Year 12 results. Check our [STAR Early Offer](#) webpage for details on application dates.

UAC and QTAC Applications

Applications to study on campus and some distance education degrees are made online through the University Admissions Centre (UAC), or the Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC). You can apply for a number of courses in this application - we recommend you include a pathway course in your list of preferences in case we are unable to make you an offer for your first choice of degree.

Most applications to study via distance education are submitted online directly to Southern Cross University. For details see the [how to apply](#) page.

Check the [UAC](#) and [QTAC](#), websites to confirm the dates for timely application and late application cut-off dates.

Change of preference period

Our Change of Preference period runs during December. [Chat with us online](#) or call us on 1800 626 481 for advice on your preferences and to find out more about our change of preference events.

Postgraduate applications

Closing dates for postgraduate coursework and research programs vary, so check our [courses database](#) to find out when you can apply.

Accepting and deferring

You should accept or defer as soon as possible after receiving your offer to guarantee your place. Find out more about [accepting your offer](#) or [deferring your offer](#).

Key Dates

Key teaching dates can be found on the [Key dates/Teaching calendar](#) webpage.

2. Admission criteria

Southern Cross University has a variety of admissions pathways for future students to accommodate diverse backgrounds and experience. A broad description on each admissions pathway is described below. To find out more about the course admissions requirements have a look at each course pages. You can look up specific courses on the [courses database](#).

For specific advice or questions regarding an application or a course, please contact the [Future Students Team](#) or the [International Students Team](#). Admission Principles are provided in [Section 1 of the Rules Relating to Awards – Rule 2 – Coursework Awards](#).

You can apply to Southern Cross University in a variety of ways, including online application, or if you're currently completing your HSC or the International Baccalaureate, you can also apply for selected courses through the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) or the Tertiary Admissions Centre equivalent in your state.

Applicants may apply for admission to the University if they fit into the following categories.

Pre-requisites and Assumed knowledge

For some courses we assume that you have completed certain subjects in your secondary studies prior to commencing at the University. To see if your preferred qualification has any Assumed Knowledge, check the course information on [courses database](#).

Please note: Some courses require interviews, portfolios and/or other tests for admission. These may include minimum age and English language requirements. The [courses database](#) provides additional selection criteria.

A. Applicants with higher education study

If you have undertaken any previous tertiary studies you may be considered for admission on the basis of successful study to undergraduate degree courses. You will need to provide a record of your achievement with your application for assessment.

You also might be eligible to apply for credit for your previous studies. See the [Credit for Recognition of Prior Learning](#) webpage for more details.

Applicants who are currently under exclusion from SCU or another institution that are not usually eligible for admission.

For specific advice or questions regarding an application or a course, please contact the [Future Students Team](#) or the [International Students Team](#)

B. Applicants with vocational education and training (VET) study

If you have successfully completed vocational education and training (VET) studies you may be considered for admission on the basis of these studies for entry to undergraduate degree courses. However, this will depend on the level and type of qualification completed.

You also might be eligible to apply for credit for your previous studies. See the [Credit for Recognition of Prior Learning](#) webpage for more details.

For specific advice or questions regarding an application or a course, please contact the [Future Students Team](#) or the [International Students Team](#)

C. Applicants with work and life experience

If you have left secondary education more than 2 years ago, and have not undertaken any tertiary or VET studies you may be considered for admission for entry to undergraduate degree courses on the basis of work and life experiences. You might also be eligible to apply for credit for your previous work and life experience. See the [Credit for Recognition of Prior Learning](#) webpage for more details.

The range of options include:

- a) Alternative Entry through Successful completion of a tertiary preparation course:
- b) Successful Completion of the multiple choice Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT).
- c) Work or field experience of at least one year full-time, or equivalent in an appropriate field.
- d) Submission of a Personal Competencies Statement addressing specific selection criteria.

For specific advice or questions regarding an application or a course, please contact the [Future Students Team](#) or the [International Students Team](#).

Bridging and enabling course entry

The Preparing for Success at SCU Program is available to people who may not meet the formal entry requirements for enrolment in a degree. [Learn more about this program](#).

D. Applicants with recent secondary education (within the past two years)

If you have completed Australian Year 12 Secondary studies within the past two years you may be selected for entry to undergraduate degree courses on the basis of your Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) or equivalent (e.g. Overall Position – OP). Indicative requirements for each course can be found in the [courses database](#). For specific advice or questions regarding an application or a course, please contact the [Future Students Team](#) or the [International Students Team](#).

Other admission options

An applicant completing Year 12 at a high school, or Registered Training Organisation (RTO) in the University's feeder region may be considered for admission under the Star Entry Scheme. Applicants will be assessed on the basis of a report prepared by their Principal and must satisfy any specific University entry criteria.

Interstate Year 12

ATAR/OP or equivalent admission is assessed based on academic performance in the interstate year 12 results.

Overseas Year 12

You may be able to be admitted based on secondary studies completed overseas as long as it is comparable to an Australian Year 12 qualification, and your academic results meet the minimum requirements for the course you applied for.

Bridging and enabling course entry

The Preparing for Success at SCU Program is available to people who may not meet the formal entry requirements for enrolment in a degree. [Learn more about this program on the Preparing for Success webpage](#).

3. Additional information

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Southern Cross University is committed to Indigenous education and offers support for all of its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students through Gnibi College of Indigenous Australian Peoples and Indigenous Australian Student Services (IASS). Applicants may be considered for admission to undergraduate degree courses on the basis of individual assessment programs approved by the University.

For specific advice or questions regarding an application or a course, please contact the [Future Students Team](#).

Domestic applicants with overseas qualifications

An applicant with overseas qualifications may be considered for admission provided the University accepts the applicant's qualifications as being comparable to an Australian qualification which meets the entry requirements for the particular award course or program. Qualifications are assessed using resources including the National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (NOOSR), UK NARIC, University Admissions Centre Assessment of Qualifications Manual and the Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre Schedule to establish the Australian comparability of an applicant's overseas qualifications.

For specific advice or questions regarding an application or a course, please contact the [Future Students Team](#).

English language proficiency

Unless otherwise stipulated in Specific Award Rules, any applicant must satisfy the University's minimum requirement for [English Language proficiency standards](#). Southern Cross University recognises a number of English language tests as proof of English language proficiency. English language requirements for each course can be found in the [courses database](#).

Different areas of study at the university recognise different tests. These are stated on the [UAC website](#):

- All Education courses
- B Occupational Therapy
- B Clinical Sciences (Osteopathic Studies), B Midwifery, B Nursing
- B Health Science - Speech Pathology
- B Community Welfare
- All other courses

For specific advice or questions regarding an application or a course, please contact the [Future Students Team](#) or the [International Students Team](#).

4. How to apply

If you are an Australian citizen, permanent resident or New Zealand citizen currently studying your HSC or the International Baccalaureate (IB), you can apply for selected courses through the [Universities Admissions Centre \(UAC\)](#). Your application will then be processed by UAC. Visit the '[Apply](#)' section of the UAC website to nominate courses you would like to study, in order of preference. Be sure to check UAC's application guidelines and key dates.

The Process

There is no application fee to apply directly to Southern Cross University. Provided you have submitted all relevant information, the assessment generally takes up to two (2) weeks to process. However, if you are applying for credit for recognition of prior learning, applications may take longer. Following submission of your application, you will receive an acknowledgement of receipt of application via email and further email correspondence which will include the unique student number allocated to you and next steps. Once your application has been assessed, you will be notified of the outcome by email.

- If you are a Year 12 student apply through either UAC, QTAC or STAR Entry Scheme.
- If you are not a Year 12 student application choices include UAC, QTAC or direct to the University (online application).

For further information, click on your choice of: [Apply with UAC](#); Apply with [QTAC](#) or Apply Online Apply for [STAR based on Principal's recommendation](#). For specific advice or questions regarding an application or a course, please contact the [Future Students Team](#) or the [International Students Team](#).

5. Offer to a Course and Enrolment

Accepting or Deferring your offer

The University will assess applications and decide about entry to a course. A full offer will be made where course admission requirements are met. If you do not meet all requirements, you may receive a Conditional offer or an offer into an alternative course; or No offer.

You should accept or defer as soon as possible after receiving your offer to guarantee your place. Find out more about [accepting your offer](#) or [deferring your offer](#) on the University's website. If you are not able to accept your offer for the year it is given, you may be eligible to defer the offer. Initial deferment of one year (except for STAR Early Entry offers) is available. Applicants must request deferment directly to the University after acceptance of their offer.

Visit the [Getting Started at SCU](#) webpage to learn more about how to accept your offer and enrol.

Prepare for enrolment and orientation

- The [Getting Started at SCU](#) webpage provides all the required information regarding how to accept your offer and enrol into units. will be emailed to you by the University with your offer of admission.
- The [New to SCU](#) webpage provides all the necessary information on how to prepare for University and become an SCU student.

Attend your orientation session

- Orientation program for all students: <https://www.scu.edu.au/orientation/>
- There are additional orientation programs for International students: <https://www.scu.edu.au/orientation/international-student-orientation/>
- Orientation program for The Hotel School: <https://hotelschool.scu.edu.au/orientation/>

Fees and charges

Fees and charges depend on the course.

- Commonwealth supported students are eligible to receive financial subsidy for their study from the Australian Government. For current fee information visit: <https://www.scu.edu.au/study-at-scu/fees/>.
- International students must pay tuition fees. For more information visit: <https://www.scu.edu.au/study-at-scu/2020-international-courses-and-fees/>
- All students must pay a Student Services and Amenities Fee. Eligible students are able to apply for a SA- HELP loan scheme to defer these fees. For more information visit: <https://www.scu.edu.au/current-students/student-administration/fees-and-charges/>.

Recognition for Prior Learning

If you have undertaken study elsewhere university or VET studies, or had work experience at a professional level during the past 10 years, you may be eligible for Advanced Standing (credit transfer, or recognition of prior learning) which could shorten the length of your study at Southern Cross University. See the [Credit for Recognition of Prior Learning](#) webpage for more details.

For specific advice or questions regarding an application or a course, please contact the [Future Students Team](#) or the [International Students Team](#).

6. Student and campus services

There are a wide variety of student support services available to students including:

- Services and support: <https://www.scu.edu.au/current-students/services-and-support/>
- Accommodation: <https://www.scu.edu.au/current-students/services-and-support/accommodation/>
- Sport, Health and Wellbeing: <https://www.scu.edu.au/current-students/unilife/>
- Security and safety: <https://www.scu.edu.au/property-services/services/security/>
- Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment support: <https://www.scu.edu.au/current-students/services-and-support/sexual-assault-and-sexual-harassment/>
- Indigenous Australian Support Services: <https://www.scu.edu.au/current-students/services-and-support/indigenous-australian-student-services-iass/>
- Student Advocacy Services: <https://www.scu.edu.au/current-students/services-and-support/student-advocacy-service/>
- Chaplaincy: <https://www.scu.edu.au/current-students/services-and-support/multifaith-and-pastoral-care/>
- Health services: <https://www.scu.edu.au/current-students/services-and-support/health-services/>
- Equity and Inclusion support: <https://www.scu.edu.au/engage/equity-and-diversity/>
- Counselling: <https://www.scu.edu.au/current-students/services-and-support/counselling/>

7. Financial assistance

Students may be eligible for financial assistance to support them study at SCU.

- If you would like information on youth and student allowances please refer to the Centrelink website, <https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/centrelink> .
- If you would like information on student loans, including information on HELP, please refer to the StudyAssist website, <https://www.studyassist.gov.au/> .
- Information on student scholarships is available on the scholarship section of the Southern Cross website, <https://www.scu.edu.au/scholarships/>

8. Student profile

This table provides data on students that commenced undergraduate study and passed the census date in the most relevant recent intake period for which data are available, including those admitted through all offer rounds, across all Australian campuses, and international students studying in Australia.

Applicant background	Session 1, 2021	
	Number of students	Percentage of all students
(A) Higher education study (includes a bridging or enabling course)	770	25.9%
(B) Vocational education and training (VET) study	595	20.0%
(C) Work and life experience (Admitted on the basis of previous achievement not in the other three categories)	396	13.3%
(D) Recent secondary education:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Admitted solely on the basis of ATAR (regardless of whether this includes the consideration of adjustment factors) 	179	6.0%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Admitted where both ATAR and additional criteria were considered (e.g. portfolio, audition, extra test, early offer conditional on minimum ATAR) 	31	1.0%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Admitted on the basis of other criteria only and ATAR was not a factor (e.g. special consideration, audition alone, school's recommendation scheme with no minimum ATAR requirement) 	673	22.7%
International students	324	10.9%
All students	2968	100.00%

Notes: L/N - Low numbers: the number of students is less than 5;

N/A – Students not accepted in this category;

N/P – Not published: the number is hidden to prevent calculation of numbers in cells with less than 5 students.

9. Where to get further information

Further information about higher education is available:

- To confirm the University's registration as a Australian University visit the Tertiary Education Quality Standards Agency website, visit: <https://www.teqsa.gov.au/national-register/provider/southern-cross-university>
- To apply through a Tertiary Admission Centre, visit:
UAC: <https://www.uac.edu.au/institutions/southern-cross-university>
QTAC: <https://www.qtac.edu.au/institution/southern-cross-university/>
- If you are not satisfied with the outcomes or process of your admissions or enrolment, please see your options and support for grievances and complaints visit <https://www.scu.edu.au/about/vice-chancellor/student-ombud/>