



CAREERS CENTRE

What are Bonus ATAR Points?

Universities allocate bonus points in certain circumstances. Examples include performance in relevant HSC subjects, elite athlete and performers' entry schemes, living or attending school in an area defined by the university, and consideration through Educational Access Schemes (see below). Bonus point schemes are different for each university, and often for each course at the same university. This means that your selection rank can be different for each course you list in your course preferences. For most Year 12 applicants, their selection rank for each preference is their ATAR. However, if universities allocate bonus points to you, then **your selection rank for a preference = your ATAR + bonus points**.

If I'm eligible to get bonus points, does my ATAR change?

No. Bonus points don't change your ATAR; bonus points change your selection rank for a particular course you have listed as a preference. If you are allocated bonus points, then you may receive an offer to a course even though your ATAR is below the published cut-off.

Do the cut-offs include bonus points?

Yes. The cut-off is the lowest rank (including any bonus points) required for entry into a particular course.

For example, Course A has six applicants and only three places available. The six applicants have the following selection ranks:

1. 99 (ATAR of 99)
2. 98 (ATAR of 97 plus 1 bonus point)
3. 97 (ATAR of 95 plus 2 bonus points)

4. 96 (ATAR of 96)
5. 95 (ATAR of 93 plus 2 bonus points)
6. 94 (ATAR of 94)

Offers will be made to applicants 1, 2 and 3. Applicant 4 will not receive an offer even though that applicant has an ATAR higher than applicant 3. The cut-off for Course A will be 97.

Do universities give any consideration to students with long term educational disadvantage?

All universities have Educational Access Schemes (EAS) for students who have experienced long-term educational disadvantage. These schemes make provision for students whose studies have been disrupted by a variety of factors, such as illness of a family member or excessive carer responsibilities, or who are statistically under-represented in higher education.

Most universities allocate bonus points to eligible EAS applicants, which may allow those students entry into a course even though they have an ATAR below the published cut-off.

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(The above information has been compiled from information available on the Universities Admissions Centre www.uac.edu.au)

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