Admission pathways
A guide to entry to QUT
Explore your entry options

Regardless of your age or background, there are many ways to gain entry to QUT. This guide is designed to help you find the best pathway to your preferred course.

Current or recent secondary education
If you are a current school student, it’s a good idea to explore the range of admission pathways available and have a back-up plan in case you don’t receive the results required to gain entry to your preferred course. Use this guide to see how other university studies, a diploma or advanced diploma, or a TAFE/QUT dual award can help you gain entry.

If you have recently completed school you can use your school results or consider other study options if your results are not sufficient for entry.

Other applicants
You may have many pathways to entry. Past school results don’t go out of date so you can be allocated a selection rank based on your:
- secondary education
- vocational education and training (VET) study
- higher education study
- work and life experience.

You may have a different selection rank for each of these and QUT will generally use your best selection rank when assessing your application.

If your selection rank is not sufficient to gain entry to your chosen course, this guide provides options for gaining a new selection rank.

How are applicants selected?
For entry to QUT courses, you must have completed Australian Year 12 (or equivalent), or be aged 18 years or over and seeking entry on the basis of other study or work/life experience.

Entry is generally on the basis of ATAR or selection rank. When course offers are made, selection ranks and ATARs are treated equally—so you won’t be disadvantaged if you are not a current school leaver.

Some courses have additional entry requirements, and you may need to make an application to QUT as well as QTAC for these courses.

Glossary
Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) is a measure of a Year 12 student’s state-wide rank order in relation to other students. The ATAR is used for current Year 12 school leavers to assess eligibility for entry to undergraduate courses. The highest ATAR is 99.95. Your ATAR doesn’t go out of data. School results from previous years are converted to a selection rank.

Selection ranks can be calculated for your past school results, VET study, higher education study or work and life experience. They are used to assess eligibility for entry to undergraduate courses for all applicants other than current Year 12 students. Current Year 12 students may also have a selection rank if they have completed VET study at school. The highest selection rank is 99.35.

Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) calculates the ATAR and processes the applications for undergraduate courses for Queensland universities and many TAFE courses.

The Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) ensures all qualifications are consistent and recognisable throughout Australia. All references in this guide are for AQF qualifications.

If you are completing school this year or have senior results from the past two years with no further study or employment, you are applying on the basis of recent secondary education.

The minimum requirement for current or recent Year 12 students to enter QUT in 2023 is completion of Year 12 with an ATAR, or a completed International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma, or a vocational education and training (VET) qualification completed at school (certificate IV or above).

Failed or incomplete IB diplomas or incomplete VET qualifications are not considered for entry.

Students looking to enter QUT in 2023 or beyond are encouraged to undertake an ATAR pathway or complete an IB Diploma as entry may not be available based on a completed VET qualification alone.

If you completed Year 12 in 2019 or 2020 and were ATAR or OP ineligible but have a VET qualification, you can also take advantage of this relaxation for entry in 2022.

If you graduated prior to 2019 you are eligible to use your school VET qualification regardless of OP status as two years have passed since completion of Year 12.

As a guide, the minimum selection rank for a completed Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) certificate IV is 74.00, and for a diploma is 87.00.

If you have an ATAR and selection rank, or more than one selection rank, we will generally use the best of these when considering your application.

If you have past school results (such as an OP, interstate results or an IB Diploma), QTAC will allocate a selection rank based on your results.

The OP schedule (right) provides a guide to converting Year 12 OP results from 2019 to a selection rank.

Students with a completed IB Diploma can check their selection rank on the QTAC website at qtac.edu.au. As a guide, in 2020 a completed IB Diploma score of 45 was equivalent to a selection rank of 99.95; a score of 35 was a selection rank of 92.80 and 30 was a selection rank of 84.30.

If you are ATAR ineligible or have an incomplete IB Diploma you can undertake other study or work experience to gain a selection rank to be considered for entry.

QUT accepts non-standard Australian Year 12 qualifications including Accelerated Christian Education (ACE), some Rudolph Steiner Education schools and some home schooling. For non-standard Year 12 students, QTAC will convert your results into a selection rank. To maximise your opportunity to gain entry to your course, you are strongly encouraged to undertake an approved examination like the Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT) or American Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT).

For further information on how QUT will consider school results, including overseas results, visit qut.edu.au/apply/recent-secondary-education.

Entry based on secondary education

This schedule indicates how Queensland OPs from 2019 are converted to a selection rank.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OP</th>
<th>Selection rank</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>96.00</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>58.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>57.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exploration of your entry options continues overleaf.

David Ashby
Primary education graduate
Coming from a trade background, I needed to build confidence in my ability to study again. When I commenced at QUT I attended free learning seminars that gave me many academic skills. This support helped me thrive in my studies and even achieve an Academic Excellence Award. The range of extra learning opportunities offered at QUT supported me throughout my journey, and helped me secure my first teaching job before I graduated.

QUT acknowledges the Tumbal and Yugar, as the First Nations owners of the lands where QUT now stands. We pay respect to their Elders, tores, customs and creation spirits. We recognise that these lands have always been places of teaching, research and learning. QUT acknowledges the important role Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people play within the QUT community.
Entry based on vocational education and training (VET) study

You can use completed VET studies such as a certificate IV, diploma or advanced diploma from TAFE or private education providers for entry to QUT. QUT allocates higher selection ranks than QTAC for these AQF awards.

You can also consider a diploma through QUT College which offers a streamlined pathway to QUT degrees. We offer diplomas in business, engineering and e-sports. Visit qut.edu.au/study/qut-college

Your VET studies may be graded or ungraded (competency-based). If they are graded, you can achieve higher selection ranks with higher grades. If your qualification is ungraded a good result on the Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT) can increase your selection rank. For more information visit qut.edu.au/apply/vet-study

You may also be eligible for fast-track entry to some postgraduate courses if you have a completed diploma and work experience. Visit qut.edu.au/study/fast-track-to-postgraduate

Dual awards

In collaboration with TAFE Queensland—Greater Brisbane, QUT offers dual awards that lead to the award of a diploma from TAFE followed by a QUT bachelor degree. You will receive advanced standing (credit) for your TAFE study, allowing you to complete your degree studies sooner.

Examples

Kai completed a Diploma of Sport through TAFE a few years ago. He is now interested in science and applied to study a Bachelor of Science at QUT in 2021. His selection rank of 67.00 from the completed diploma was sufficient for him to gain entry to the degree which had a selection rank threshold of 70.00.

Simon wanted to study a QUT Bachelor of Information Technology but didn’t have the selection rank to gain entry. He enrolled in the dual award Diploma of Information Technology Networking/Bachelor of Information Technology and when he completed his diploma he gained automatic entry to the QUT degree. He received advanced standing for the diploma, and completed both courses in three years.

Adult Tertiary Preparation

You can complete the Certificate IV in Adult Tertiary Preparation (ATP) to provide a selection rank and gain the academic background required for successful tertiary study. You can choose from a wide variety of specialisations depending on your needs and the university courses you wish to pursue.

Specialisations in ATP can also be selected to meet prerequisites and assumed knowledge. For further information visit qut.edu.au/assumed-knowledge

To maximise your opportunities for entry into QUT you are encouraged to complete the whole ATP course. However, you can complete a minimum of three specialisations (including Language and Learning) and be considered for entry. Selection ranks are allocated on the basis of the grade point average achieved in a minimum of three ATP specialisations.

A good result on the ATP can increase the selection rank allocated. See page 8 for more information about STAT.

Certificate IV in Adult Tertiary Preparation

This schedule shows how selection ranks for the 10397NAT Certificate IV in Adult Tertiary Preparation can be improved by high grades and a strong result in the STAT.

Examples

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Alice Currie

Creative industries graduate

I completed a Diploma of Management to further my understanding of how to manage a team in an events management environment. The diploma gave me a selection rank for entry to QUT’s Bachelor of Creative Industries. Completing this degree provided me with real expectations of what a creative freelancer life would look like: I work across several different organisations on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander campaigns, health promotions and the development and management of their Reconciliation Action Plan.

* Only full specialisations comprising results in all required elective units are accepted. Specialisations may comprise two or three elective units of equal weighting. The specialisation Plan and Prepare for Study is not included for assessment on this schedule. Where the same elective unit(s) has been completed on more than one occasion, only the best attempt will be used. Specialisations can be completed as follows: 
  - H =6.5, J3 =6.5, JH =6.5, C =5, J2 =5, JC =5, P =4, J1 =4, JP =4, B =3.5, M1 =3.5, N =1.5 and M1 =0
  - H =6.5, J3 =6.5, JH =6.5, C =5, J2 =5, JC =5, P =4, J1 =4, JP =4, B =3.5, M1 =3.5, N =1.5 and M1 =0

* The Diploma in E-Sports is subject to final university approval.

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Entry based on higher education study

At QUT, we recognise that success in one higher education course is a reliable predictor of future success in other courses.

Can I use past degree studies to gain entry to QUT?

If you have completed a degree or partial degree studies, your grade point average (GPA) can be converted to a selection rank to be used for entry to another degree. If you have already completed a bachelor degree, you may be eligible for graduate entry to courses in education, podiatry, paramedic science, nursing, social work and law, or entry to QUT’s postgraduate courses. To check your eligibility see the course entry at qut.edu.au/study.

Can I study a degree to help me get into my preferred course?

If you don’t have the results needed for the degree you are interested in, you may choose a course with a lower entry threshold with the intent to upgrade to your ideal course. Studying for one year full time in a degree course is the most effective and reliable way to gain a more competitive selection rank.

How much study do I need to do?

You normally need to complete a minimum of one year full time (or equivalent) of degree-level study at a recognised Australian university or other accredited provider in order to improve your results. However, you can receive a selection rank if you have completed at least one-quarter of a year of full-time study or equivalent.

The prior degree study table (right) shows how to convert your GPA for one year of study to a selection rank. A full-time year is defined as the standard credit point load that applies to a year of study in a course at your institution. Units with incomplete results and any units for which you received exemption or advanced standing do not count toward your full-time year. For current QUT students a full-time year is 96 credit points (usually eight subjects).

Prior degree study

This schedule shows how to convert a degree GPA into a selection rank after one year* or more of full-time study.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GPA, 7-point scale</th>
<th>Selection rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>6.95</td>
<td>99.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>&lt; 2.00</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Refers to a full-time year or equivalent study at the level of bachelor degree, graduate certificate, graduate diploma, and incomplete coursework masters and doctoral-level studies.

This table is an extract of the full schedule. For all schedules visit qut.edu.au/apply/higher-education-study.

Example

Anna’s school results weren’t sufficient for her to gain entry to her chosen course—a Bachelor of Communication (Journalism) at QUT. She completed a year at the Bachelor of Creative Industries with a GPA of 5.50. This gave her a selection rank of 97.00 which was sufficient for her to gain entry to her preferred course in 2021.

What if I did better at school than in higher education study?

QUT will accept the highest selection rank from your school or higher education studies if you do not have a failing GPA in a like course. Like courses are courses in the same discipline, study area or faculty as your preferred course at QUT.

What if I am failing at higher education study?

If you have studied for one or more years full time (or equivalent) in a higher education course, QUT regards as ‘like’ the one for which you are applying and you achieved a failing GPA, the selection ranks associated with any like studies will be used ahead of all other selection ranks. Apart from this, no special rules apply and QUT will use your highest selection rank.

What if I have been suspended or excluded?

QUT will refuse admission if you are currently suspended from a higher education institution for reasons other than failure. Special rules apply if you have been excluded from a study program which is ‘like’ the QUT program sought.

Work and life experience

Entry based on work experience

You can be considered for a place at QUT based on skills and experience you have gained through work experience rather than on formal school results. This pathway is ideal if you have been working for a number of years and do not have any formal academic qualifications. You can use this pathway even if you haven’t completed Year 12.

The work experience pathway is available for all courses at QUT except those with additional entry requirements and graduate-entry courses.

The skills and experience you have gained through work can be translated by QUTAC into a selection rank, based on the skill level associated with your employment and the length of time you were employed in that role. The work does not necessarily have to be in an area related to your proposed field of study. A statement of service or signed reference must substantiate work experience and be included with your QTAC application.

At QUT, we don’t just rely on prior study to assess applications—we also recognise your work experience and aptitude.

In addition to the pathways to undergraduate study outlined below, you may also be eligible to fast-track your entry to postgraduate study based on your work experience.

Visit qut.edu.au/study/fast-track-to-postgraduate.

Entry based on work experience

You can be considered for a place at QUT based on skills and experience you have gained through work experience rather than on formal school results. This pathway is ideal if you have been working for a number of years and do not have any formal academic qualifications. You can use this pathway even if you haven’t completed Year 12.

The work experience pathway is available for all courses at QUT except those with additional entry requirements and graduate-entry courses.

The skills and experience you have gained through work can be translated by QUTAC into a selection rank, based on the skill level associated with your employment and the length of time you were employed in that role. The work does not necessarily have to be in an area related to your proposed field of study. A statement of service or signed reference must substantiate work experience and be included with your QTAC application.

Selection ranks for work experience range from 55.00 to 93.00 depending on the skill level involved and length of service.

Some types of vocational experience provide a selection rank sufficient for entry on their own, however you are encouraged to sit the STAT to help attain the highest selection rank possible. See page 8 for more information about the STAT.

QTAG may be able to provide an estimate of your selection rank, or you can apply for a formal assessment of your qualifications (QTAG charges apply). If you have already lodged a QTAG application, an assessment of your qualifications will be completed as part of the application. For more information visit qtag.edu.au.

While you can be allocated a selection rank based on a minimum of six months full-time work experience, you would need to have three years or more of work experience to gain a selection rank suitable for entry to QUT courses. If you don’t have this level of work experience, you might like to consider undertaking further study to improve your selection rank.

Past school results

Senior results do not have a use-by date. Secondary education results can be used to gain entry to university many years after they are awarded.

We recognise past Queensland, interstate or overseas Year 12 results, the IB Diploma, Senior External Examination results, and some non-standard Year 12 qualifications including Accelerated Christian Education, some Rudolph Steiner Education schools and some home schooling.

If you have a Tertiary Entrance (TE) score awarded between 1974 and 1991, you can calculate your selection rank by dividing the TE score by 10. For example, a TE score of 885 equals a selection rank of 88.50.

Visit qut.edu.au/apply/work-and-life-experience for more information and schedules.

Example

Angus has been an enrolled nurse for five years and would like to be a landscape architect. Based on his work experience, he has a selection rank of 83.00 which was sufficient for entry to the Bachelor of Design (Landscape Architecture).

Example

Emiri received a strong ATAR and studied pharmacy for a year. She didn’t feel the course was right for her and failed some subjects. After taking a year off, Emiri applied for QUT’s Bachelor of Nursing. She was surprised to find that because she had a failing GPA from her pharmacy course, and pharmacy was considered to be ‘like’ nursing, her selection rank from her GPA was used instead of her ATAR and she was unable to gain entry to the course. Emiri then completed a TAFE Diploma of Nursing and used her selection rank of 87.00 to gain entry to QUT’s Bachelor of Nursing, and received one year of advanced standing for her TAFE studies.

Darshana Munasinghe

Business and engineering student

It can be daunting trying to choose a course when you are in Year 12. I left school thinking a health sciences degree was for me but after a year of study realised it wasn’t the right fit. University is allowing my interests and passions, so I switched to a business and engineering double degree at QUT.
**Choosing an admission pathway**

If you need to do further study to improve your selection rank, choose a course you are interested in otherwise you may find it difficult to achieve the results needed to gain entry to your preferred course. The course you choose does not need to be directly related to your ideal course in order to improve your selection rank, however you may like to choose one that is similar to allow for maximum advanced standing. Consider also what you will do if you are unsuccessful in upgrading. Failing to finish the pathway course can mean a large investment of time and money for no qualification at the end.

**Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT)**

The STAT is a two-hour aptitude test that allows you to demonstrate your potential for higher education study. It is used by most tertiary institutions in Queensland and many others throughout Australia.

The version of the STAT used by QTAC comprises 70 multiple-choice questions which test verbal skills and quantitative skills. The STAT does not test your knowledge of particular subject areas. All of the information you need to arrive at a correct answer is included in the question.

You can download sample STAT questions from QTAC or attend a preparation workshop. For more information visit [qtac.edu.au](http://qtac.edu.au).

**Should I sit the STAT?**

The STAT may be useful if you wish to improve your selection rank for ungraded qualifications (certificate IV, diploma, advanced diploma or associate degree), or for the Certificate IV in Adult Tertiary Preparation. It is also highly recommended if you have no formal academic qualifications and are applying for entry based on work experience. Additional QTAC charges apply.

**Can I get into QUT on my STAT result alone?**

QUT only accepts STAT results in conjunction with other entry criteria such as work experience, completed ungraded AQF qualifications or with the Certificate IV in Adult Tertiary Preparation.

**What if my STAT result is low?**

QUT will only use your STAT result if it leads to a higher selection rank. You can re-sit the test, but you can only sit the STAT once per admissions period (i.e. mid-year and end of year). If you have sat the STAT more than once in separate admissions periods, you are assessed on your highest STAT score.

**Selection rank adjustments**

You may be eligible for a selection rank adjustment making you more competitive for course entry. The maximum possible adjustment is 10 selection ranks. Adjustments may not apply to all courses. For details about these programs visit [qut.edu.au/apply/adjustment-schemes](http://qut.edu.au/apply/adjustment-schemes).

**Equity adjustment—educational disadvantage**

If you have been disadvantaged in your education you can apply for the Educational Access Scheme (EAS) on your QTAC application. You can be considered for multiple categories including financial hardship, educational disruption, home environment, English language difficulty, or personal illness and disability.

If you apply in the financial hardship category, you are eligible for QUT’s Q-Step Scheme and enrol at QUT you will also receive a guaranteed Equity Scholarship ($3500 for Semester 1 entry, $1750 for Semester 2 entry). Other low-income students are also encouraged to apply for these scholarships. Visit [qut.edu.au/equity-scholarships](http://qut.edu.au/equity-scholarships).

**Elite Athlete Entry Program**

If you are an elite athlete you may be eligible for a selection rank adjustment as well as scholarships and support with your studies at QUT. Apply for the Elite Athlete Entry Program on your QTAC application. A separate application is required for the scholarship and support programs.

**Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people**

The Oodgeroo Unit’s Centralised Assessment and Selection Program assists Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants by recognising life experiences, any study undertaken, skills, commitment and potential.

Indigenous Australian students are also supported at QUT with a guaranteed scholarship or bursary, pre-orientation program and tutorial assistance. Visit [qut.edu.au/about/oodgeroo](http://qut.edu.au/about/oodgeroo).

**Applying**

Applications for QUT undergraduate courses, and the Master of Teaching and Master of Social Work—Qualifying, are made through QTAC’s online service. You may need to submit supporting documentation or sit the STAT. Make sure you consider back-up courses in case you don’t gain entry to your preferred course, and include these in your six QTAC preferences.

**Advanced standing (credit)**

You may be able to receive advanced standing for part of your course on the basis of prior studies or work experience. You can apply for advanced standing once you have accepted your QTAC offer. You can also check the Advanced Standing Precedent List to see credit precedents for your course. Visit [qut.edu.au/credit](http://qut.edu.au/credit).