

2018 UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA HIGH ACHIEVER PROGRAM (HAP) AND UNIVERSITY CONNECTIONS PROGRAM (UCP) SCALING REPORT

BACKGROUND

- A collaboration between the [University of Tasmania](#) and the Office of Tasmanian Assessment, Standards and Certification (TASC) allows results from the University of Tasmania's [High Achiever Program \(HAP\) units](#) and some [University Connections Program \(UCP\)](#) units to be counted towards the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) in Tasmania.
- The University Connections Program was previously named the University College Program prior to 2017.
- The approved list of University of Tasmania HAP and UCP courses that contribute towards the Tasmanian Certificate of Education are published on the TASC website:
 - [High Achiever Program \(HAP\)](#)
 - [University Connections Program \(UCP\)](#)
- The [University of Tasmania website](#) provides further information about the UCP units, including information about which units contribute towards the ATAR.
- Scaling has been applied to all relevant University of Tasmania HAP and UCP units studied since 2016.
- The scaling process is determined by TASC and is applied to all TASC accredited senior secondary courses at Level 3 or Level 4 and to approved University of Tasmania HAP and UCP units.
- This report provides information about the established scaling process for TASC accredited Level 3 and Level 4 courses and demonstrates how the same process is applied to course scaling for HAP and UCP units.
- The [scaling outcomes for recent years](#) are published on the TASC website.
- The report [Scaling for ATAR calculations - Tasmania: 2005-2013](#) identifies the fundamental assumptions of scaling and the extent to which the data support these assumptions.

TASC SCALING COMMITTEE

- The TASC Scaling Committee met on 13 December 2018 to review the scaling process and outcomes.
- The core principles of the Scaling Committee are to ensure equitable outcomes for students.
- The Scaling Committee includes representatives from the University of Tasmania, TASC and each school sector, with expertise in curriculum, assessment, and educational measurement.

HAP AND UCP SCALING OVERVIEW

- Scaling aligns results from different units/courses into a common scale, applying rigorous statistical techniques when performing calculations.
- TASC accredited Level 3 and Level 4 courses are scaled using information for these courses for all TASC students.
- HAP and UCP units are scaled using information for these units, concurrently with TASC courses, for all TASC students and university students. This method allows for more reliable course score values for each HAP and UCP unit than would be possible if based solely on information from TASC students only.
- Scaling values for each HAP and UCP unit are not published to protect privacy due to small number of TASC students that may be undertaking particular units.
- This process has been externally reviewed and validated.

OVERVIEW OF OUTCOMES

An overview of outcomes of scaling of HAP and UCP results for TASC students in 2018 is shown in Figure 1. The dots represent assessment results.

- The Scaling Committee was aware of modelling work undertaken for data from 2013 – 2017. It was agreed that the resulting values obtained showed strong comparability with previous course scores, ensuring reasonably year to year consistency.
- University of Tasmania marks in the range 90 – 100 were scaled to TASC course scores from 18.0 – 26.0. These course scores are similar to the range of scaled values assigned for TASC courses for Exceptional Achievement (EA) awards.

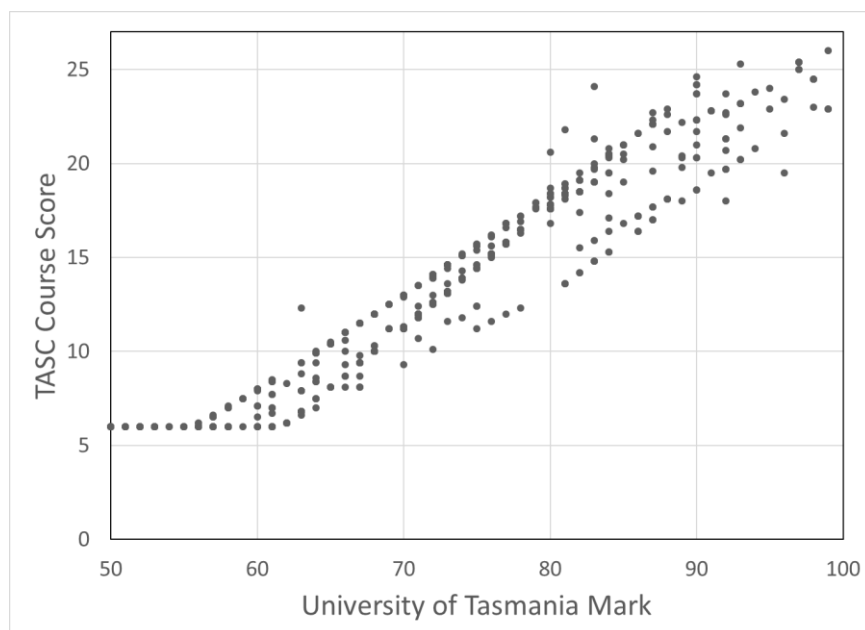


Figure 1. Distribution of TASC course scores by University of Tasmania mark, TASC students 2018.

- A summary of the ranges of course scores is also presented in Table 1.

	PASS	CREDIT	DISTINCTION	HIGH DISTINCTION
Minimum	6.0	6.0	9.3	13.6
Maximum	7.5	12.5	17.9	26.0
Mean	6.2	9.1	13.8	19.8

Table 1. TASC course scores for each University of Tasmania result category.

SCALING SCORE FOR DIFFERENT COURSES

- Scaling aligns results from different units/studies/courses into a common scale, applying rigorous statistical techniques when performing calculations.
- Any given University of Tasmania mark may attract a different TASC course score as a result of scaling.
 - A University of Tasmania mark of 70 resulted in a TASC course score ranging from 9.3 – 13.0.
 - A University of Tasmania mark of 80 resulted in a TASC course score ranging from 16.8 – 20.6
- The Scaling Committee noted the scaling outcomes demonstrated for outcomes that were consistent with those scaling outcomes for TASC.

STUDENT TERTIARY ENTRANCE SCORE CALCULATION

- A student's Tertiary Entrance (TE) score is calculated by adding their best course scores. The TE score is then used to calculate an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).
- The best course scores are, in most cases, the best five courses (worth 15 credit points each) totalling 75 credit points of study. At least three of these courses must be completed in the final year of senior secondary study. Other rules may apply when calculating student TE scores. For example, the same course cannot be counted twice, and some approved university units are weighted according to the credit point weight of that unit.
- Vocational education and training courses do not contribute to a student's TE score.
- In the case of HAP or UCP units that contribute to the ATAR, a 12.5% university unit is worth 8 credit points. These university units are weighted according to their credit point value when they are included in the TE score (that is, a single 12.5% unit is only 8/15 the size of a TASC accredited Level 3 or Level 4 course), and as such only 8/15 of the course score achieved will be considered in the TE score calculation.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- [TASC information on scaling](#)
- University of Tasmania information on [University Connections Program](#)
- University of Tasmania information on [High Achiever Program](#)