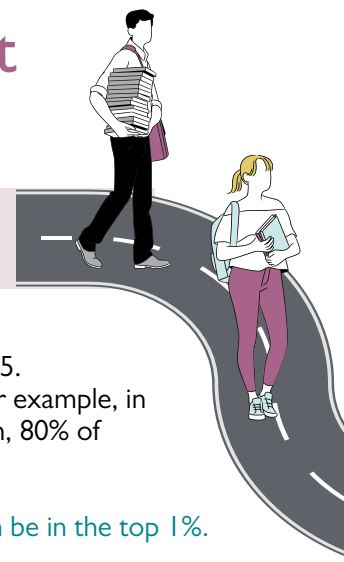


Understanding the ATAR: Student Factsheet

The Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) shows a university how your overall academic achievement in senior secondary education compares with other students in the same year group.

Whatever you want to do in life, there is a pathway to take you there. Speak with your school, the university of your choice or other further education providers about the options available to you.



What is an ATAR?

ATAR (short for Australian Tertiary Admission Rank) is a number ranging from zero to 99.95. An ATAR compares your academic achievement with other eligible Tasmanian students. For example, in Tasmania an ATAR of 80.00 indicates that you have an overall rating equal to, or better than, 80% of other ATAR recipients in Tasmania.

It's important to remember that the ATAR is a ranking, not a mark. Only 1% of students can be in the top 1%. This means that only 1% of students can achieve an ATAR of 99.00 or above.

Universities may use an ATAR to assess who can enrol in a particular course. For example, a university course may require an ATAR of 80.00 or above for entrance. Keep in mind that universities take into account a range of factors when deciding who they will offer places to.

How do I achieve an ATAR?

To be eligible to receive an ATAR in Tasmania you must complete at least two years of post-Year 10 study (or equivalent). During this period, you must:

1. meet the standards to achieve the Tasmanian Certificate of Education (TCE), and
2. achieve at least a Satisfactory Achievement or better in at least four TASC Level 3 or 4 courses or equivalent (including [HAP](#) and/or [UCP](#) courses). At least three of these courses must be in your final year.

How is my ATAR calculated?

Your ATAR is based on your Tertiary Entrance (TE) score.

The TE score is calculated by combining the scores of your best three Level 3 or Level 4 courses from your **final year** of study, with the best score(s) of up to two other Level 3 or Level 4 courses **in that same year or one other year**.

For most students, their TE Score will be a combination of their best three or four results from Year 12 and the best one or two results from Year 11. In some exceptional circumstances a student's ATAR may include courses studied in Year 10 or Year 13.



A maximum of **two** calendar years are used to calculate your TE score. These years don't have to be consecutive. If you study the **same course** multiple times, only one of your scores for this course can contribute to your TE score. The combination of results that gives your highest possible TE score is automatically selected at the end of your senior secondary studies.

TE Score Calculation Example:

This student completed their final year of senior secondary study in Year 12. They completed TASC-accredited (or recognised) courses in Year 10, 11 and 12. They met the requirements of the TCE and are eligible for an ATAR.

Year 10	Year 11	Year 12
Mathematics Methods - Foundation: 18.9	Biology: 19.8	Health Studies: 21.2
	Sport Science: 12.2	Psychology: 11.1
	Ancient History: 15.9	Food and Nutrition: 10.3
		Studies of Religion: 12.0

The student's TE score is calculated by taking the best three (3) course scores from their final year (Year 12) and then the two best scores from one other year (Year 11) to achieve the highest possible TE score. This student's ATAR will be based on a TE score of 80.00.

Overview

An ATAR isn't the only way to access further education or training. It's one factor that universities currently use to identify who they will offer a course place to.

You must achieve the Tasmanian Certificate of Education (TCE) to be issued with an ATAR.

An ATAR is based on your Tertiary Entrance (TE) score. Your TE score is calculated by combining the scores of your best three Level 3 or Level 4 courses from your final year of study, together with the best score(s) of up to two other Level 3 or Level 4 courses in that same year or one other year.

For most students, their TE score will be calculated from their results achieved in eligible Year 11 and Year 12 courses.

There are many roads to your career or study goals. Keep an open mind and ask questions to find out how you can best reach your intended destination.



Want to know more?

Speak with your school about pathway options, including how to access information on course requirements at your choice of university or other post-senior secondary institution.

Read [Understanding the ATAR](#) if you want an in-depth understanding of: course awards and course scores, your Tertiary Entrance score, the ATAR, and/or planning your senior secondary study.

Reach out to the university or other institution of your choice to discuss options available to you.



Your questions answered

How do I achieve the Tasmanian Certificate of Education (TCE)?

The TCE is a qualification issued if you meet the TCE Participation and Achievement Standard and the Everyday Adult Standards. Check out [Tasmanian Certificate of Education \(TCE\)](#).

How are my course scores calculated?

A course score is a numerical representation of your overall course award, (EA, HA, CA or SA). A course score is calculated using a process called scaling. Check out [Understanding the ATAR](#) (page 18).

I studied TASC courses in Year 10. Will these courses be used to calculate my TE score and ATAR?

In some unique circumstances an ATAR may include course score/s from TASC accredited courses studied in Year 10.

At least three of the course scores used to calculate your ATAR must be in your final year of study (Year 12 or 13). The other one or two course scores will come from your final year of study or one other year (Year 10 or 11).

A course score achieved in Year 10 will only be used if it meets the eligibility requirements and provides the most beneficial outcome when compared to your Year 11 scores. Check out [Understanding the ATAR](#) (page 10).

Will my Year 13 results count towards my ATAR?

Yes, but this means that Year 13 will be your final year of study and at least three of your eligible courses studied in Year 13 will be used to calculate your TE score and therefore your ATAR. You can only count results from two calendar years. See [Understanding the ATAR](#) (page 10).

Will my HAP or UCP results contribute to my ATAR?

Yes, it's possible for [HAP](#) or [UCP](#) results to be used in the calculation of your TE score and resulting ATAR.

It's important that you seek further information on the HAP or UCP unit you are studying to understand how it may contribute to your ATAR. Check out [Understanding the ATAR](#) (page 12) or the [UTAS](#) website.