

About Edith Cowan University

ECU has more than 30,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students, including international students from 100 countries.

Our eight schools collectively deliver a diverse range of courses across arts and humanities, business and law, education, engineering, medical and health sciences, nursing and midwifery, science and the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts.

Courses are offered on our four campuses – ECU Joondalup and ECU City in metropolitan Perth, ECU South West in Bunbury, 200km from Perth, and ECU Sri Lanka in Colombo. ECU also offers a comprehensive suite of online study options.

ECU incorporates the oldest and most popular School of Education in Western Australia, the largest Nursing program in the State, Kurongkurl Katitjin, our Centre for Australian Indigenous Education and Research, and the world-renowned Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts.

Edith Cowan University (ECU) is where creative thinkers are made.

Located in Western Australia, our dedication to providing industry-relevant teaching and research, supportive student experiences and award-winning facilities enable ECU students to think outside of the box, to use creativity to tackle challenges and seize opportunities.

Since 1991, ECU has reshaped the way higher education is delivered.

Our courses are developed in consultation with industry and our teaching staff bring extensive knowledge and networks to engage and inspire students. Work integrated learning placements, fieldwork, practicums, and networking events are just a few of the opportunities students can expect as part of their ECU journey.

ECU's higher education delivery approach has been rewarded with five-star ratings for undergraduate teaching quality for the past 18 consecutive years, with top ratings for overall experience, learning resources, skills development, and student support, in the Good Universities Guide, Australia's largest course comparison website.

World-class research

ECU's world-class research delivers meaningful real-world impact and solutions to some of our greatest global challenges. ECU works closely with local communities and industry partners to provide our students with the best opportunities to gain the sought-after skills that will enable them to flourish beyond study.

Honour her name

The University is immensely proud to be named in honour of Edith Dircksey Cowan OBE. A university named in her honour is a fitting tribute to an inspirational woman with a pioneering spirit who dedicated her life to the belief that education was the key to growth, change and improvement in society.

While Edith Cowan is most famously known as the first woman to be elected to an Australian parliament, making her one of the first women to be elected to a British parliament in the world, this was only one of many outstanding contributions she made to our state.

The University has embraced Edith's values of inclusion and equity which are honoured in many ways throughout the fabric of the University. ECU is now 'home' to Edith's former family home, which has been reconstructed, refurbished and sits proudly overlooking the lake on the Joondalup Campus

ECU leads by Edith Cowan's example, as we pride ourselves in producing capable graduates who can think creatively, ask the right questions, and develop solutions to improve the communities in which they live and work.

University study is conducted over two semesters per year, starting in February and July. Students can start most courses in either semester. Key [university dates](#) include orientation weeks for new students, mid-semester breaks and closing dates for course applications.

Enquiries about studying at ECU can be made via telephoning the Future Students team on 134 328, or via an email to futurestudy@ecu.edu.au. Answers to common questions can also be found at askus.ecu.edu.au.

Admission criteria

ECU's academic and English Standards are defined in the [Admissions Policy](#).

Applicants with higher education study

If you have completed units at another higher education institution in Australia, this may meet the academic entry requirements for ECU. You may also be eligible for advanced standing (credit). Credit can be gained through any of:

- formal learning, e.g. completion of a recognised diploma
- non-formal learning, e.g. in-house professional development
- informal learning, e.g. a hobby or work experience.

Applicants with vocational education and training (VET) study

If you have completed a Certificate IV, Diploma or Advanced Diploma from TAFE or another Registered Training Organisation you may meet the academic entry requirements for ECU. If you have completed a Diploma or Advanced Diploma from TAFE or another Registered Training Organisation you may also be eligible for advanced standing (credit). Credit can be gained through any of:

- formal learning, e.g. completion of a recognised diploma
- non-formal learning, e.g. in-house professional development
- informal learning, e.g. a hobby or work experience.

Recent Secondary Education (within the past two years)

Australian Year 12 students

ECU uses your ATAR to determine whether you meet the minimum Selection Rank for your chosen course. If you achieve the minimum Selection Rank and also achieve WACE (or equivalent), English standards and any other prerequisites for the course, you may receive an offer. Some courses have additional entry requirements e.g. auditions or interviews. Some courses may have intake quotas and applicants will be ranked on merit based on ATAR or performance at audition.

If you completed an International Baccalaureate (IB) ATAR equivalence is calculated using the IB SCORE/ATAR EQUIVALENCIES table as published in the Information for students sitting the Diploma of the International Baccalaureate on the TISC website.

See the individual course information sets on our Future Students [web site](#) for information about specific courses.

Selection rank adjustments

Eligible students from identified Western Australian schools will receive an automated ATAR adjustment of up to 10 selection ranks to support the entry of students from areas with educational disadvantage:

- Eligible students with an ATAR of 60 to 69.95 will receive a selection rank adjustment to 70; and
- Eligible students with an ATAR of 70 and above will receive a selection rank adjustment of 5 to a maximum ATAR of 90.

Criteria that may apply in addition to ATAR

Some of ECU's courses require applicants to complete an interview and/or audition, or submit a folio of work, as part of the selection process. This will be specified in the admission requirement information for the course.

If your application meets the course admission requirements and English standards, we will contact you to arrange an [interview/audition/folio submission](#). We will notify you of the outcome of your interview/audition/folio submission component in the selection process. ECU publish specific information about audition requirements can be found on the [Interviews, auditions and folios web page](#).

Other admission options

The ECU Admissions Policy defines other admission options available to applicants.

In the case of applicants who have experienced exceptional circumstances such as personal health issues, financial or family difficulties, or other circumstances which have adversely affected prior study, the Director, Student Administration may admit a student by giving consideration to the applicant's relative disadvantage and previous performance in other relevant studies.

Interstate Year 12

Applicants who completed Year 12 in another state or territory who achieve the minimum ATAR/Selection Rank and also achieve WACE (or equivalent), English standards and any other prerequisites for the course may be offered a place in a course.

Applicants with work and life experience

(including those who left secondary education more than 2 years ago)

You can be considered for entry to some undergraduate courses through an assessment of your ability to succeed in higher education that is based on a portfolio of evidence. School leavers can use the experience-based entry pathway if you are currently in Year 12 and do not achieve the required

selection rank for your chosen course or you don't have an ATAR and you've completed WACE, you meet the English standards and you satisfy any prerequisites for the course you want to apply for.

If you're not currently in Year 12 your previous qualifications and education will be assessed as part of your application. For example previous ATAR results, results for the multiple choice component of the Special Tertiary Admissions Test, qualifications from TAFE, private colleges or accredited training courses and relevant work experience

Your experience-based entry application should include

- Introductory letter – explaining why you want to attend university and the reasons why you've chosen a course, plus your future career goals. It should communicate your commitment, preparation to study and motivation to be successful.
- Resume – outlining your work experience to date, including details of paid work and any voluntary positions you've filled.
- Academic records – outlining your education to date, including secondary schooling and things like leadership programs, sports coaching, umpiring accreditation, TAFE or Registered Training Organisation qualifications, industry training/accreditation, or workplace training.
- Referees – include a minimum of two written references, with at least one being a professional/work/school reference.

Finished secondary education more than two years ago

You can be considered for entry to some undergraduate courses through an assessment of your ability to succeed in higher education that's based on a portfolio of evidence as described above.

If you completed secondary education more than two years ago your previous qualifications and education will be assessed as part of your application. For example previous ATAR, TEE, TER or TAE results, results for the multiple choice component of the Special Tertiary Admissions Test, qualifications from TAFE, private colleges or accredited training courses and relevant work experience

Completed bridging or enabling course

If you have completed an enabling course at a higher education provider in Australia, you may meet the academic entry requirements for ECU. Your application will be assessed on a case-by-case basis to determine whether your enabling course meets ECU's academic entry requirements and English standards.

If you successfully completed UniPrep at ECU you are eligible to enter many undergraduate courses at ECU from information see the [UniPrep web site](#).

Additional information

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are detailed on the Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander [web site](#).

Domestic applicants with overseas qualifications

The Future Students [web site](#) provides details of the required levels of achievement for applicants who completed secondary school overseas.

English Standards

The minimum requirements for proficiency in English that must be met for admission to undergraduate courses at ECU are detailed below. Some courses have higher requirements.

You must demonstrate that you meet ECU English standards to enter any of our courses. The table below describes the most common ways of demonstrating that you meet English standards.

ECU Course type	Minimum requirement
University Preparation course	Minimum C grade in General English or the equivalent
Undergraduate course	<p>Meet the minimum score for STAT Written English or successfully completed ATAR English, ATAR Literature, ATAR EALD or equivalent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ATAR students require a minimum of 'C' grade in ATAR English, English Literature or English ALD• Non-ATAR students applying with a Certificate IV via the Experienced Based Entry Scheme pathway require an 'A' in General English and Experienced Based Entry Scheme documents.• Non-ATAR students with ATAR English, English Literature or English ALD require a minimum 'C' grade. <p>If you've successfully completed units at an Australian, Canadian, American or UK university provider, you may meet English competency standards. Submit your academic transcript for assessment.</p>

How to apply

Applicants with an ATAR

- If you are currently in year 12 and want to start a course in Semester 1, you can apply through the Tertiary Institutions Service Centre or,
- You can apply direct to ECU.

Applicants with a VET qualification

- If you are currently in year 12 and want to start a course in Semester 1, you can apply through the Tertiary Institutions Service Centre or,
- You can apply direct to ECU.

All other applicants

- You can apply direct to ECU. Before you start your application, make sure you've made scanned copies of school or other study results and the components of your portfolio of evidence if you're using our experience-based entry pathway.

Enrolment

You may respond to your offer using ECU's My Uni Start. Using My Uni Start you can accept your offer, activate your student account, find information on your course and how to enrol in your units and activities.

If you have completed study at another higher education provider in Australia or completed an AQF Diploma or Advanced Diploma, you may be eligible for advanced standing. For further information see the Credit and Recognition of Prior Learning web site and database.

Most courses allow you to defer your offer for up to one year if you are unable to commence your course immediately. If the option to defer is available, you will be able to make this election on the My Uni Start web site. ECU cannot guarantee that all courses will be available for you to commence in the future semester.

Details about fees and charges can be found on our [Future Students Web Site](#).

Student profile

The table below gives an indication of the likely peer cohort for new students at ECU. It 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	Semester One 2026	
	Number of students	Percentage of all students
(A) Past higher education study (includes a bridging or enabling course)	1075	22.2%
(B) Past vocational education and training (VET) study	585	12.1%
(C) Recent secondary education:		
• Admitted solely on the basis of ATAR (regardless of whether this includes the impact of adjustment factors such as equity or subject adjustments)	797	16.4%
• Admitted where both ATAR and additional criteria were considered (e.g. experience based entry, audition, extra test, early offer conditional on minimum ATAR)	0	0%
• Admitted on the basis of other criteria only and ATAR was not a factor (e.g. special consideration, audition alone, schools recommendation scheme with no minimum ATAR requirement)	1235	25.4%
(D) Work and life experience (Admitted on the basis of previous achievement not in the other three categories)	362	7.5%
International students	799	16.5
All students	4853	100.0%

Notes: Notes: "<5" – 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.

Where to get further information

- For further information see [ECU Future Students](#)
- School leavers must submit applications for semester 1 entry to the [Tertiary Institution Service Centre \(TISC\)](#)
- The [Australian Qualifications Framework \(AQF\)](#) is the national policy for regulated qualifications in Australian education and training.
- The Australian Government's [Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching \(QILT\)](#) website helps prospective students compare universities around Australia.
- TEQSA [National Register of higher education providers](#)
- If you have concerns about the assessment of your application email admissions@ecu.edu.au. The University welcomes feedback (including any concerns or complaints) as an avenue for continuous improvement and to assist us in creating and maintaining a safe, positive and harmonious learning and work environment for our students and staff. We place a high value on integrity and have a vision for ECU students, graduates and staff to be highly regarded as ethical contributors to society. We have commitment to creating an environment that

promotes ethical conduct by embracing standards of quality, reliability and lawfulness. For further information, see the University Student [Complaints web site](#).