This is the first circular for secondary schools this year – **February 2015**

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**Check out the TISC web site [www.tisc.edu.au].**

- Scaled score and ATAR statistics 2014 Year 12
- 2015 cut-off ranks for main round offers
- Statistics on applications, offers, enrolments for 2014/2015
- Power Point presentation for 2015 Year 12 students
- FAQs – WACE Courses at stage 1, 2 and 3

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**STEVE HOATH**

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
1 STAGE 2 NON-EXAMINATION CANDIDATES

In 2015 sitting the School Curriculum and Standards Authority stage 2 WACE examinations will again be optional.

Teachers and students are reminded that if a course is to be considered in a students’ best four for the calculation of an ATAR, a scaled score is required. That is the WACE examination must be sat.

Stage 2 English, Literature or EALD

Students studying stage 2 English, Literature or EALD and wishing to qualify for university entry must sit the stage 2 examination to meet the universities’ competence in English requirement. Competence in English for university admission is based on achieving a scaled score of at least 50 or, if the scaled score is less than 50, appropriate standardised examination or standardised moderated school assessment marks. For Edith Cowan University only, students may achieve competence in English on the basis of unit grades.

2 ADVICE OF UNIVERSITY ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

TISC prepares and publishes admission requirements (available for downloading from TISC’s website www.tisc.edu.au) on behalf of the universities each year. TISC’s policy is not to endorse any of the summaries which may be prepared by schools or others. This avoids the possibility of unnoticed ambiguities or inaccuracies misleading prospective students.

The four universities have asked TISC to inform schools that the ONLY official notification of changes to admission requirements are those made direct from the university(ies) concerned, or through TISC’s website on behalf of the universities.

TISC notifies subscribers to TISCUpdates (see item 2) when the site is updated.

3 REMINDER – DEFINITION OF SCHOOL LEAVER

For the purpose of university admission, a Year 12 student is a ‘School Leaver’ if the student is under 20 years of age on the last day of February in the year of admission.

Note: If a student turns 20 years of age on 1 March in the year of admission he/she is a ‘School Leaver’. For example, a student born on 1 March 1996 is a school leaver for the purpose of admission to university in 2016, and hence is not eligible for a two-course mature age ATAR.
4 TEA TO ATAR CALCULATOR

The TEA to ATAR calculator for 2015 admission (2014 Year 12) is accessible from the tag at the top of TISC’s home page. This calculator should not be used to predict future ATARs.

5 2016 UNIVERSITY ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS (2015 YEAR 12)

5.1 Power Point Presentation

There is a Power Point presentation, with notes, for 2015 Year 12 students and interested staff, on university admission requirements, application process etc at www.tisc.edu.au, in the Downloads area.

5.2 School Leavers

School Leavers (including Repeaters) have to meet the following four requirements for courses at Curtin University, Edith Cowan University, Murdoch University and the University of Western Australia.

a) Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE)

Achievement of WACE is a mandatory requirement for all universities. If any of your Year 12 students completed Year 11 overseas or interstate then your school will need to seek credit from the School Curriculum and Standards Authority to ensure these studies count towards achieving WACE.

b) Competence in English

Competence in English is usually achieved by a scaled score of at least 50 in English, English as an Additional Language Dialect (EALD) for eligible students, or Literature, in stage 2 or stage 3.

The universities will also concede competence in English on the basis of standardised exam or standardised moderated school assessments.

c) Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)

The TEA is calculated by adding a student's best four scaled scores + 10% of the best LOTE scaled score, if any. These may be in any combination of courses at stage 2 and stage 3, subject to unacceptable combinations. No course can be counted more than once. Stage 2 and stage 3 of the same WACE course cannot both count. Students can accumulate scaled scores from past courses from 2011 for the ‘best four’, subject to unacceptable combinations, and for the LOTE bonus. The maximum TEA is 410.

d) Prerequisites

As in past years, for some university courses it is also necessary to meet prerequisite requirements. Generally, a scaled score of 50 or more in stage 3 of a course is required for prerequisite purposes, however mathematics prerequisites differ across university courses.
5.3 Mature Age Students

For Mature Age students, the TEA will be the sum of a student’s best two scaled scores, multiplied by two + 10% of the best LOTE scaled score, if any. All courses must be sat in the same year. Maximum TEA is 410.

Further Information

For detailed 2016 University Admission Requirements for School Leavers and for Mature Age students, go to www.tisc.edu.au and click on ‘Admission Requirements’ on the right hand menu to find the appropriate admission requirements.

6 2017 UNIVERSITY ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS (2016 YEAR 12)

The admission requirements for 2016 Year 12 students were published in 2014 and are on TISC’s website under ‘Admission Requirements’ on the right hand menu.

Schools are reminded that students wishing to qualify for university entry must study sufficient ATAR courses to allow an ATAR to be calculated, taking into account unacceptable combinations.

6.1 Competence in English

Schools should take particular note that students undertaking English General, Literature General or English as an Additional Language or Dialect General courses will not satisfy the universities’ competence in English requirement.

7 2018 UNIVERSITY ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS (2017 YEAR 12)

TISC will publish the 2018 University Admission Requirements for School Leavers on the website before the end of Term 2. TISC will email TISCUpdate subscribers when this occurs. (See item 12 about subscribing to TISCUpdates.)

8 2014 SCALING

Detailed statistics and information concerning scaling of 2014 Year 12 results are available at www.tisc.edu.au. These include:

- Explanation of the Marks Adjustment Process
- Scaled score histograms of stage 2 and stage 3
- ATAR distribution

9 2015 UNIVERSITY OFFERS

The following table summarises applications and offers for 2014 WACE students (excludes international students). Note: 2014 was the ‘half year’ cohort of WACE students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2014 (2015 admission)</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>% Offered University Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WACE students* (inc. Mature Age)</td>
<td>16,837</td>
<td>44.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WACE students who applied through TISC</td>
<td>8,088</td>
<td>92.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WACE students offered a university place</td>
<td>7,471</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mature age WACE students*</td>
<td>289</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mature age WACE students who applied through TISC</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>76.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mature age WACE students offered a university place</td>
<td>52</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*SCSA figures

Cut-off and indicative ATARs, as well as application and offer statistics by course, are on the TISC web site – www.tisc.edu.au under Publications, Reports and Statistics.

10 VISITS TO SCHOOLS

TISC has staff available to visit schools to explain procedural matters relating to university admission, including how to apply, calculation of the ATAR, preference system, etc.

If you would like a TISC staff member to visit to speak to your Year 12 students/parents/staff, please contact Robyn (9318 8038). If a country school requests a visit, TISC will also take the initiative and contact other schools in the area to see if they can fit in with planned visit dates.

11 TISC PUBLICATIONS AND DESPATCHES TO SCHOOLS

11.1 Online publications

- School Circulars
- Admission Requirements for School Leavers
- Admission Requirements for Mature Age Students
- University Admission – Information for International Baccalaureate (IB) students
- FAQs – WACE Courses at stage 1, 2 and 3

TISC emails TISCUpdates subscribers when this information is published or updated. As this is the only notification that will be sent, please ensure that at least one person from your school is a subscriber (see item 12 below for details about how to subscribe).

11.2 Despatches to schools

- University prospectuses
- 2016 TISC Guide

These publications are distributed to schools. Despatches to schools are always addressed to the Principal, but are intended for distribution to Year 12 students.
11.3 Publication/despatch schedule:

- **February, August and October and other times as appropriate**
  School Circulars published *(online only)*. Email notification of publication sent to TISCUpdates subscribers (see item 12 of this Circular).

- **May**
  University prospectuses for 2016 entry despatched, for distribution to 2015 Year 12 students.

- **June**
  2018 Admission Requirements for School Leavers brochure, for 2015 Year 10 students, published *(online only)*.

- **Early August**
  2016 TISC Guide for 2015 Year 12 students published and despatched to schools. All Guide information is also published on TISC’s website.

- **November**
  2017 Admission Requirements for Mature Age Students brochure, for 2016 mature age students, published *(online only)*.

12 **TISC REPORTS AVAILABLE TO SCHOOLS**

TISC’s three reports to schools:
- University Admissions Qualification Register
- University Application Statistics Report
- Offers by Field of Education

for 2014 Year 12 students have been available since early January. These reports are dynamic, with enrolment/deferral information added as it is obtained from the universities. TISC expects the reports to contain final data around 10 March.

Access to the reports is available to one authorised user from each school. TISC invited schools to apply for this access to 2014 students’ results and pay the required fee in TISC School Circular number 3 in October 2014. If you have any queries about your school’s access to the reports, contact Robyn, 9318 8038.

13 **EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

TISC is calling for expressions of interest from teachers experienced in setting Stage 3 WACE examinations to be an examination setter or checker for the Western Australian Universities Foundation Program (WAUFP) in the following subjects:

- Accounting and Finance
- Business Management and Enterprise
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Earth and Environmental Science
- Economics
- Human Biological Sciences
- Mathematics Specialist 3CD
- Mathematics 2CD
- Mathematics 3AB
- Mathematics 3CD
- Physics
- Psychology
WAUFP is a one year program offered to international students at Canning College, Tuart College and St George’s Anglican Grammar School. The students must have completed school in their home country and be seeking entry into a Western Australian University. The Program offers 14 subjects of which the above 13 follow the WACE syllabus. The WAUFP subject examinations are separate from the WACE examination but are run concurrently.

• Examination Setter

This involves setting an original examination paper to be used in the WAUFP final examinations. The paper would need to be the same level of difficulty as WACE subject examination and in most cases follow the same format as the WACE examination. Attention would need to be paid to the language used in the paper because English is usually the student’s second language. The setter must provide a copy of the solutions to TISC. A draft of the paper, ready for checking must be completed and returned to TISC by Friday 5 June 2015. The fee paid for setting a subject examination paper is $2000.

• Checking of a Subject Examination Paper

The checker would be required to work the paper to ensure that the material examined in the subject examination paper is contained within the syllabus, that marks are allocated appropriately, the correctness of grammar and spelling, the lack of ambiguity of the questions and the overall formatting of the paper. The checker would need to liaise with the setter to produce the final paper. The fee paid for checking a subject examination paper is $550.

Applicants must have teaching qualifications and recent experience in the preparation of subject examination papers at a year 12 level. Experience with teaching international students may also be of advantage.

Expressions of interest stating experience should be forwarded to the following address by Monday 9 March 2015.

Sulli Foster
WAUFP Coordinator
TISC
Level 1, 100 Royal Street
EAST PERTH WA 6004

or email to sullivanw@tisc.edu.au

14 SUBSCRIBE TO TISCUpdates

The Subscribe to TISCUpdates facility is a free subscription service enabling subscribers to be advised when TISC’s website is updated. TISC emails subscribers when school circulars or new information about university admission are published on TISC’s website. No other notification is sent. To subscribe, click the tag at the home page of www.tisc.edu.au.