

## CIRCULAR 2 OF 2021

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#### **1 THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME AUSTRALIA JOINS TISC**

TISC and The University of Notre Dame Australia (UNDA) have commenced an exciting new partnership to allow prospective students to include UNDA courses in their TISC application.

The new functionality will be available through the TISC online application system from Monday 2 August. This will enable students to manage their applications to five universities in Western Australia in one portal, giving them added convenience and flexibility.

An important factor in the partnership has been continuing Notre Dame's consideration of personal qualities beyond academic performance. The University's admissions process will continue to consider applicants' interests, aspirations, out of school activities, work experience and community involvement - as well as academic achievement - in assessing them for entry to UNDA programs.

The new partnership with TISC provides streamlined administration and flexibility for applicants, while retaining the defining characteristics of the UNDA admissions process.

Further information will be available in the 2022 TISC Guide, to be distributed to schools shortly.

## **2 TISC GUIDE DESPATCH**

Copies of the 2022 TISC Guide will be distributed to WA schools from the second week of Term 3. If you need additional copies, please contact TISC.

Once again, due to the early opening of applications this year, personalised letters have not been included with the Guide despatch.

WACE students should already be aware of their WA Student Number, which is also used as their TISC application number.

Schools were provided with an information sheet to help students with their initial log in to the TISC system earlier in the year. A copy is also attached to this Circular.

## **3 SEMESTER ONE 2022 APPLICATIONS**

Earlier this year, the TISC Board decided to waive the TISC application processing fee and late fee for Semester 1, 2022 applications.

It is hoped that the absence of an application fee will encourage students to take advantage of the significant flexibility and choice provided by a TISC application, even for those students who have received an early offer through direct application to a university.

We understand that some students will only wish to take up their early offer and will not wish to be considered for any other courses. Those students are not obliged to apply through TISC. However, feedback we received last year indicated that many students with early offers still want to keep their options open through a TISC application.

Submitting a TISC application will not limit a student's choice to take up their early offer if they wish. It will, though, give them access to additional courses, and allow them to easily change their preferred courses right through until late January 2022.

This flexibility is particularly important once Year 12 results are released at the end of the year, as around one third of students change their course preferences after they receive their results.

We do recognise, however, that the waiving of the late application fee, in particular, removes the major incentive for students to submit their initial application by 30 September.

We would still encourage students to make their initial application by the end of September, as usual, before the leadup to exams and the various important end of Year 12 activities take priority. This will save any last-minute panic once results are released. Preferences can be changed as many times as a student wishes, throughout the application cycle.

Remember, also, that some courses have a firm 30 September closing date and applications will not be accepted for those courses after that date. Details will be listed in the TISC Guide and on the TISC website.

## 4 EDUCATIONAL ACCESS SCHEME (EAS)

Last year's introduction of a common Educational Access Scheme (EAS) application, as part of the TISC application process, was warmly received by schools, students and universities, and resulted in a significant increase in applications by eligible students.

The underlying principle of EAS is that, in some cases, a student's formal academic results may not necessarily reflect their capacity, due to the impact of circumstances they have faced.

A student's EAS application, attached to their TISC application, allows their individual circumstances to be considered by any of the universities whose courses appear on their preference list.

Applications are treated in the strictest confidence by TISC and the universities.

Further information, including an information sheet for students, is available on the EAS page of the TISC website: <https://www.tisc.edu.au/static/guide/eas.tisc>

## 5 EARLY OFFERS

While many students have benefited from the early offers introduced by universities in 2020, and continued this year, there are a number of questions TISC receives regularly about the process.

We encourage students to keep the following points in mind:

- There is no need to worry if they haven't applied for an early offer, or were unsuccessful in securing one. The standard TISC offer rounds will proceed as usual following the release of results, and there will still be sufficient places available in courses for students who meet the usual entry requirements. Courses will not be prematurely filled by early offers.
- Students should check the text of their early offer notification carefully, and note any requirements that will need to be met at the end of the year, for their early offer to be confirmed.
- Students with early offers may be tempted to reduce effort in their Year 12 studies. They should remember that poor performance from them in WACE exams could potentially affect the overall class average and drag down their friends' results also. Also, Year 12 is not just about securing easy entry to a particular course or university. It's a vital period of academic skill development and preparation for the increased freedom and academic expectations that come with degree-level study. Failure to take that preparation seriously could have significant implications for students' subsequent performance at university which, in turn, may result in a failure to make satisfactory academic progress in their degree.
- Even if a student has received and accepted an early offer at a university, they are not "locked in" to that course. The TISC system allows students to retain the freedom to change their mind during the admissions process, so they can enter a program that they are happy with.

## **6 TISC ACCOUNT REGISTRATION**

Students who are not submitting a TISC application should still complete the initial log-in steps on the TISC website, as they will need to use the website to access their ATARs and scaled scores at the end of the year.

## **7 COURSE SEEKER WEBSITE**

The Course Seeker website ([www.courseseecker.edu.au](http://www.courseseecker.edu.au)) allows students to search and compare courses across the country. This website can be particularly useful for students considering studying at interstate universities.

## **8 COURSE CHANGES**

Between the hard-copy TISC Guide going to print and the release of offers, there can be changes to the availability of some courses.

Changes to course availability – both new courses and cancelled courses – and any clarifications to course entry assessment criteria are listed on the TISC website. Just follow the link from the home page.

Any students affected by the cancellation of courses are notified by TISC and/or the institution concerned and provided with information on alternative programs for their consideration.

## **9 STAFF CHANGES AT TISC**

Wayne Betts will shortly conclude his time at TISC after six years as Executive Officer. Wayne wants to thank TISC staff and the dedicated school colleagues who work tirelessly – in very trying circumstances at times - to support, encourage, motivate and guide their students through a crucial period of life transition. He is also thankful for and greatly encouraged by the many hundreds of exceptional young people (and their families) he has had the privilege of meeting during his time as Executive Officer.

Throughout the second half of the year, and until the completion of the current admissions cycle, Mr Terry Bhatti (TISC's Manager, Information Technology) and Ms Georgina Ker (Manager, Application Services) will be Acting Executive Officer and Acting Deputy Executive Officer, respectively.

An announcement about ongoing leadership arrangements is expected in February/March 2022.

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### **TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS SERVICE CENTRE LTD**

Level 1, 100 Royal Street,  
East Perth Western Australia 6004  
Tel: (08) 9318 8000  
Web: [www.tisc.edu.au](http://www.tisc.edu.au)

2021 WA Year 12 students  
TISC application information

Dear WA Year 12 student

The following information will help you get started on the TISC system.

You can do this from the beginning of Term 2 or leave it until Term 3. It's completely up to you - there's no rush. The TISC Guide will be available in Term 3, which will help you understand the whole application process.

If you're interested in an early offer in 2021, please see the information on the TISC website ([www.tisc.edu.au](http://www.tisc.edu.au)).

### WACE students

- You've been pre-registered on the TISC website, based on data from the School Curriculum and Standards Authority (SCSA).
- Your **User ID** is your 8-digit 2021 SCSA Student Number. If unsure, seek help from your school.
- Your **initial/default password** is the first two characters of your family name (in lower case), followed by your full date of birth in the format ddmmyyyy.

For example:

Family name	Date of birth	initial/default password
Pratt	10 September 1996	pr10091996
A'Court	2 December 1992	a'02121992
MacBeth	28 April 2001	ma28042001
K Sivan	17 January 2000	k 17012000

- At first log in, you'll be prompted to change your initial/default password.
- Please check that your personal details on our system are correct.
- Visit [www.tisc.edu.au](http://www.tisc.edu.au) and click **Login** on the top right of the screen to begin.

### International Baccalaureate students

- Visit [www.tisc.edu.au](http://www.tisc.edu.au) and click **Register** at the top right of the screen to begin.
- Complete the **New User Registration** process.
- Fill out the fields, providing your requested details, and select a secure **password**.
- You'll then be issued with a 2021 TISC Number, which will be your **User ID** for subsequent logins.

### For everyone

- You'll get an email, confirming your successful registration/activation.
- Once you've successfully registered, you can go on to add course preferences and complete your application.
- Use the TISOnline Course Search to find the details of the course you're interested in.
- You can change your preferences online as many times as you like.
- Remember that a few courses have an early closing date. Make sure you're aware of these.
- There is no application fee.

All the best for the rest of your studies this year!