

# SCHOOL CIRCULAR September 2024

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#### 1 COURSES WITH EARLY CLOSING DATES

Potential applicants should be aware of course codes that have early closing dates:

#### CLOSED

- Bachelor of Science in Veterinary Biology/Doctor of Veterinary Medicine at Murdoch University (TISC course code MUSVB for school leavers and MUSVV for non-school leavers).
- Monday 30 September, 11.59pm AWST
  - Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery at Curtin University (TISC course code **CUMBS**)
  - Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Assured Pathway to Medicine) at The University of Notre Dame (TISC course code NDMBS)
  - Doctor of Medicine via Bachelor of Biomedicine (Specialised) at The University of Western Australia (TISC course code **UG056**)
  - Doctor of Dental Medicine via Bachelor of Biomedicine (Specialised) at The University of Western Australia (TISC course code **UD056**)
  - Doctor of Podiatric Medicine via Bachelor of Biomedicine (Specialised) at The University of Western Australia (TISC course code **UR056**)

An updated list of important dates and deadlines is available on the TISC website.

Once a course has closed, you may still re-arrange the order of your preferences, but if you accidentally remove one of the closed preferences, you will not be able to add it back.

#### 2 NEW AND WITHDRAWN COURSES

The universities may make changes to their available courses after publication of the TISC Guide. Check the TISC Course Search for the most up-to-date list of courses. Applicants affected by withdrawn course codes are notified by email.

#### 3 EARLY OFFERS

The first round of early offers to Year 12 students for 2025 admissions was released on **Monday 2 September 2024.** Further rounds of early offers will be made on **Tuesday 24 September**, **Monday 14 October**, **Monday 18 November and Monday 2 December**.

Early offers are only made to a student's first TISC preference, unlike the main and second round of offers where all preferences are considered. We recommend students pay for their application at least two weeks before an early offer date to ensure their application can be assessed.

Accepting an early offer will not "lock" a student's TISC application in the way that accepting a main round offer does – they are still able to change their preferences. However, in some cases, the university may specify a condition that the course preference remain the student's first preference for the early offer to remain valid; if in doubt, the student should contact the university that has made the offer.

TISC discourages students from trying to receive multiple early offers, as this can be distracting at a time when they should be concentrating on their final exam preparation, but individual circumstances vary and retaining the option to change preferences is a central tenet of the TISC system.

Students and schools should note that the predicted ATAR used to assess applications for early offers is not the same as a predicted ATAR calculated by schools or any non-TISC entity.

#### 4 APPLICATION OPENING DATE FOR 2026 ADMISSIONS

The TISC Board has endorsed an opening date of Tuesday 3 June 2025 for Semester 1 2026 Admissions.

#### 5 TISC GUIDE - REQUEST FOR FEEDBACK ON FORMAT

The 2025 TISC Guide has been despatched to schools. If you need additional copies, please contact TISC.

The full TISC Guide is available as a PDF download on the TISC website.

Western Australia (TISC) and Queensland (QTAC) are the only states that still distribute a hard copy Guide for applicants. TISC is seeking feedback on a potential move to a digital-only TISC Guide. Some of the benefits of going digital-only include:

- Sustainability reduction in paper usage
- Ability to deliver the product earlier and make updates if important information changes
- Cost reductions

Please take a moment to answer <u>a very brief survey</u> (four questions!) about the format of the TISC Guide. This link may also be circulated to students and parents.

#### 6 INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE SCHOOLS

The Admission Requirements brochure for International Baccalaureate (IB) students is currently being finalised; TISC apologises for the delay. Schools offering the IB will be aware that November session results are being released earlier this year.

Bearing in mind that Australian Tertiary Admissions Centres have the additional task of using the fine-grained data to calculate an IB Admissions Score (IBAS), TISC expects to advise students of their IBAS on **18 December**. TISC and the WA universities will make every effort to

include IB students in the main round of offers on 21 December, however this cannot be guaranteed.

To help this process run smoothly, please ensure that your IB students have authorised the release of their results to TISC and provided TISC with their **IB Personal Code** at the time of application.

#### 7 TISC PRESENTATIONS TO SCHOOLS IN 2025

For those who wish to plan ahead and book a TISC school visit for 2025, the <u>Microsoft Bookings</u> <u>link</u> is now live. School visits will commence from 5 February 2025. Please note that bookings may be changed for operational reasons, as staff availability is not yet fixed for 2025, but TISC would always contact you to arrange another suitable time.

TISC is happy to arrange visits to regional centres such as Albany, Bunbury/Busselton, Geraldton and Kalgoorlie but suggests that schools in these areas liaise with each other to identify a suitable week and then contact <a href="mailto:Sullivan.foster@tisc.edu.au">Sullivan.foster@tisc.edu.au</a> to make arrangements. Regional schools outside of these centres can book online visits via Microsoft Teams.

### 8 CHANGES/CLARIFICATION TO ELIGIBILITY FOR SCHOOL-BASED ADJUSTMENT FACTORS

As you may be aware, TISC's member universities offer a variety of adjustment factor schemes, where a student receives an upward adjustment after calculation of the ATAR, to give a Selection Rank. In many cases, these schemes (such as StepUp to Curtin, ECU Access, Murdoch RISE and Broadway UWA) are administered by TISC on behalf of the universities, so that students can see these adjusted selection ranks on their Universities Admission Advice Letter.

There has been some confusion over whether students repeating Year 12 subjects are eligible for these adjustment factor schemes, particularly if the school where they first completed Year 12 was not on the list of eligible schools, but the school where they are repeating one or more subjects is on the list of eligible schools. In the past, there has been no programming distinction between these students and any other Year 12 student, so the UAAL would reflect an adjusted Selection Rank if eligible. In some cases, the universities may not have used this adjusted Selection Rank internally when ranking applicants for particular high-demand courses. This was made clear in university documentation (such as Medicine Admission Brochures) but was not necessarily communicated clearly in more general information such as TISC brochures.

Curtin University and The University of Western Australia have advised that they intend to base eligibility for these adjustment factor schemes on **the school where a student first completed Year 12.** This will take effect from 2025 entry for UWA, and 2026 entry for Curtin.

#### 9 TISC REPORTS AVAILABLE TO SCHOOLS – NOTE CHANGES TO FEE STRUCTURE

TISC will produce two reports for schools concerning their 2024 Year 12 WACE students – the University Admissions Qualifications Register and the University Application Statistics Report. The cost for both these reports is **\$150**, if ordered by **30 September 2024** (a higher fee of **\$250** if ordered during peak period October – January). Both the register and report are dynamic and will be available for download from the secure TISC website from **Monday 16 December 2024**. The data provided enables schools to calculate their own school's ATAR-related statistics (eg mean, median, mode) – TISC does not calculate these. Once payment is processed, a login and password will be issued so you can access your school's reports once available.

To order your school's access, please download the form from <a href="https://www.tisc.edu.au/static/guide/forms.tisc">https://www.tisc.edu.au/static/guide/forms.tisc</a> - submit completed form to

<u>Sullivan.foster@tisc.edu.au</u> and make payment by 30 September 2024. For more information contact Sullivan on 9318 8031.

Please note that any information released by TISC to schools is made on a confidential basis for educational uses only. On no account can an individual's information be passed on for any purpose without the permission of the person involved.

#### 10 SUBSCRIBE TO TISC UPDATES

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