

Focus on Educational Access Schemes (EAS):

Educational Access Schemes (EAS) aim to help students whose educational performance has been seriously affected during Year 11 and/or Year 12 or equivalent receive an offer to university.

Institutions acknowledge that your Year 11 and/or Year 12 studies may have been adversely affected by difficult circumstances and as a result, your ATAR may not reflect your true academic potential. EAS can help you gain admission to university if your ATAR is below a course cut-off.

This guide is meant to be a summary of EAS only, for full details you should check the UAC website at www.uac.edu.au/eas.

What benefit does EAS give?

Institutions use EAS to make offers of admission in one of two ways:

- *To allocate Adjustment Factors (previously called bonus points)*

Adjustment Factors are not added to your ATAR. Instead, they change your selection rank for a particular course. As the *Adjustment Factor* schemes for each institution, and often for each course at the same institution, are different, your selection rank can be different for each course you list in your course preferences.

- *To set aside a certain number of places for EAS applicants*

Some institutions set aside a limited number of places in their courses for EAS-eligible applicants with a selection rank no more than a certain number of points below the published Main Round cut-off. Eligible EAS applicants then compete for EAS places on the basis of academic merit.

Key Dates: (from the EAS Booklet)

2018	
Wednesday 1 August	Opening date for EAS applications
Friday 28 September	Closing date for early bird applications for undergraduate admission*
Tuesday 13 November	Starting date for progressive release of EAS eligibility letters
Friday 23 November	Closing date for EAS applications for December Round 2 eligibility letters^
Friday 30 November	Closing date for EAS applications for December Round 2
2019	
Tuesday 1 January	Closing date for EAS applications for January Round 1
Friday 8 February	Final closing date for EAS applications for semester 1, 2019 admissions

* If you apply for undergraduate admission through UAC after midnight (Sydney time) on Friday 28 September, your undergraduate processing charge will increase. You are strongly encouraged to apply for undergraduate admission before Friday 28 September and submit your EAS application at the same time.

^ Apply for EAS by this date to guarantee receipt of your eligibility letter in time to change your preferences for December Round 2



Firstly, you need to complete a UAC application and enter your course preferences.
You will then be given a UAC application number which you will use on your EAS application.

Next, read the EAS booklet to see which category (or categories) of disadvantage you might be eligible for.

You can download a copy of this booklet at www.uac.edu.au/assets/documents/eas/educational-access-schemes-2018-19.pdf

(These categories are briefly summarised for you below so you can get a quick indication of what you might be eligible for).

There will be a link to complete this in your UAC student account (to be completed AFTER your UAC application/preferences. You can also download a copy of this form from:

EAS Application Form: <https://www.uac.edu.au/assets/documents/eas/eas-application-form-2018-19.pdf>

Big Tip:

You should allow as much time as possible to complete your EAS application. It can involve collecting a range of documents, possibly Doctor's appointments and statements to be written by other people. This can all take quite a bit of time and you need to allow for this.

What are the Categories of Disadvantage?

There are eight broad categories of long-term educational disadvantage:

- disrupted schooling
- financial hardship
- severe family disruption
- excessive family responsibilities
- English language difficulty
- personal illness/disability
- refugee status
- school environment

Each of these categories has a number of sub categories as outlined in the tables on the following pages:



Disrupted Schooling:

Disadvantage Code:	Eligibility Criteria:
D01A	You attended three or more different secondary schools in Australia during Years 10, 11 and 12 or equivalent.
D01B	You have English as your first language and started school in Australia during Year 11 and/or Year 12 or equivalent.
D01C	You moved interstate during Year 11 and/or Year 12 or equivalent.
D01D	You have missed long periods of schooling in Year 11 and/or Year 12 or equivalent for reasons other than a medical condition/s.
S01D	You have studied any of your courses through a secondary distance education centre or Access Program.

Financial Hardship:

Disadvantage Code:	Eligibility Criteria:
F01A	You received Youth Allowance, Austudy or ABSTUDY during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent.
F01B	You received another Centrelink income and asset-tested entitlement such as the Disability Support Pension.
F01C	You experienced exceptional financial hardship during Year 11 and/or Year 12 or equivalent.
F01D	Your parent/s or guardian/s received Family Tax Benefit Part A during Year 11 and/or Year 12 or equivalent.

Severe Family Disruption:

Disadvantage Code:	Eligibility Criteria:
H01A	Your home environment was severely disrupted due to the death of an immediate family member or close friend during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent.
H01B	Your home environment was severely disrupted due to the severe or life-threatening illness/disability of an immediate family member or close friend during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent.
H01C	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Your home environment was severely disrupted due to the divorce or separation of your parents during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent OR <ul style="list-style-type: none">You (the applicant) experienced separation.
H01D	Your home environment was severely disrupted due to criminal/legal matters during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent.
H04A	You, or your parents, or any of your siblings have experienced severe abuse for a period of at least six months during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent.

Excessive Family Responsibilities:

Disadvantage Code:	Eligibility Criteria:
H03A	You've had excessive responsibility for care of children and/or other family members during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent.
H03B	<p>You've had excessive work requirements during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent for at least one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting yourself, while living independently • supporting your family • responsibility to work in the family business.
H03C	You've had excessive responsibility for the care of yourself, while living independently, with no family or partner support, during Year 11 and/or Year 12 or equivalent.

English Language Difficulty:

Disadvantage Code:	Eligibility Criteria:
L01A (For current Australian Year 12 applicants only)	<p>All of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • you are a current Australian Year 12 applicant • you experience difficulty with the English language • you came directly to Australia from a non-English speaking country • you began your education in an Australian school in Year 11 and/or Year 12 or equivalent.
L01B (For current Australian Year 12 applicants only)	<p>All of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • you are a current Australian Year 12 applicant • you experience difficulty with the English language • you came directly to Australia from a non-English speaking country • you began your education in an Australian school during Years 7–10.
L01C (For non-Year 12 applicants only)	<p>All of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • you are a non-Year 12 applicant • you experience difficulty with the English language • you came directly to Australia from a non-English speaking country in 2012 or after • before your arrival you didn't undertake any formal education at an institution where the language of instruction was English.

Personal Illness/Disability:

Disadvantage Code:	Eligibility Criteria:
P01A	<p>If during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent you experienced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a severe and long-term or a severe and recurrent medical/psychiatric condition or disability <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a learning, sensory, physical, psychological or other disability/disorder.

Refugee Status:

Disadvantage Code:	Eligibility Criteria:
R01A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You entered Australia as a refugee, or on a Global Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 202), or were granted a refugee, or were granted a Global Special Humanitarian visa (subclass 202) after your arrival.

School Environment:

Disadvantage Code:	Eligibility Criteria:
S01C	<p>You attended an Australian rural school (not in S01E) during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent.</p> <p>A rural school is defined as being located in a town with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a population of less than 10,000 people and a distance of at least 100km from the nearest centre with a population of 10,000 <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a population of less than 5,000 people and a distance between 50km and 99km from the nearest centre with a population of 10,000.
S01E	<p>You attended a school during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• has been identified by the NSW Department of Education as among the most socio-economically disadvantaged in the NSW Government sector, or• has been identified by the NSW Department as geographically isolated or participating in the Connected Communities program, or• Has been identified as comparable to schools in the above categories by the Catholic education Commission of NSW.
S01R	<p>You attended an Australian rural or regional school during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent.</p>

NOTES ON THIS CATEGORY:

- If you are a 2018 Year 12 student who attended a school included in any of the categories listed above in 2018 and only intend to claim S01C, S01E or S01R, you don't have to submit an EAS application as UAC will automatically generate an 'electronic' application for you.
- If you intend to claim additional disadvantages, you must submit an EAS application, but you don't need to include details of your attendance in 2018 at a school included in any of the categories listed above, as UAC will automatically add these to your application.
- If you attended a school included in any of the categories listed above before 2018, but during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent, you must submit an EAS application and claim the relevant disadvantage code.

Final Notes and Tips:

The category descriptions in the tables above are a general overview only. There may be specifications about times and supporting documentation required. You should download the EAS booklet via the link on page 2 to check these things.

Make sure you read all the information at www.uac.edu.au/eas and download the EAS booklet

Allow yourself plenty of time to complete your application (to collect the necessary documentation and have relevant people complete their statements for you).

