

Senior External Examinations

Information Sheet

The following information is provided to assist domestic students who have completed or are undertaking the Senior External Examination studies and intend to seek admission to undergraduate study at The University of Queensland (UQ).

WHAT IS THE SENIOR EXTERNAL EXAMINATION?

The Senior External Examination is a set of subject examinations provided by the Queensland Studies Authority (QSA), which enable students to obtain Queensland Year 12 level qualifications without attending high school on an internal basis.

Assessment of achievement in a subject is based solely on demonstrated achievement in the examination. Each subject examination is held only once annually, with year-long preparation studies offered by approved institutions, such as Centres for Continuing Secondary Education (CCSEs) and Secondary Colleges.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For entry to all undergraduate programs at The University of Queensland (UQ) applicants must meet two basic entry requirements:

1. Eligibility (i.e. satisfy the subject prerequisites and other requirements)
2. Merit (i.e. possess an entry rank high enough for a place in the program[†])

[†] Entry ranks range from 1 to 99 (maximum). As admission is competitive the entry rank cut-offs for programs can fluctuate from year to year.

For detailed program information, including prerequisite requirements and entry rank cut-offs from previous admission periods, please refer to the University's *Undergraduate Prospectus for Australian Students* or website: www.uq.edu.au/study.

SATISFYING SUBJECT PREREQUISITES

Successful completion (i.e. Sound Achievement or better) of the following Senior External Examination subjects will satisfy the corresponding subject prerequisites for admission to all UQ undergraduate programs:

- English
- Mathematics A
- Mathematics B
- Biological Science
- Chemistry
- Physics

GAINING AN ENTRY RANK

The number of Senior External Examination subjects required to gain entry to UQ depends on the competitiveness of the desired program, as well as the age of the applicant. Please note

that if an applicant has completed the equivalent of one full-time year or more of bachelor or higher level study the entry rank will be determined from those studies alone.

To obtain an entry rank as high as 99 with Senior External Examinations, students must complete five subjects if under the age of 18, or four subjects if 18 years of age or older in the year after the last relevant result is obtained (ie. 18 by 1 February for Semester 1 and 1 July for Semester 2). *Please note, if an applicant has completed 5 subjects, the University will derive an entry rank on the basis of the 5 subjects, regardless of applicant's age.*

For applicants who complete 4 or 5 Senior External Examination subjects, entry ranks are assigned to the aggregate scores calculated for Senior External Examination results. This aggregate is derived by converting results to numerical values where Very High Achievement (VHA) = 6.5; High Achievement (HA) = 5; Sound Achievement (SA) = 4; Limited Achievement (LA) = 2; Very Limited Achievement (VLA) = 1.

Senior External Examinations 5 Subjects (<18 years)^{1,2}	
Senior External Examination (5 best subjects)^{3,4,5}	Rank
32.50	99
31.00	98
30.00	97
29.00	96
28.00	95
27.00	94
26.50	93
26.00	92
25.50	91
25.00	90
24.50	89
23.50	88
23.00	87
22.50	86
22.00	85
21.50	84
21.00	83
20.50	82
19.50	81
19.00	80
18.50	79
18.00	78
17.50	77
17.00	75
16.00	72
15.00	69
14.00	65
13.00	60

Senior External Examinations 4 Subjects (≥ 18 years)^{1,2}	
Senior External Examination (4 best subjects)^{3,4,5}	Rank
26.00	99
24.00	98
23.00	97
22.50	96
22.00	95
21.50	94
21.00	93
20.50	92
19.50	91
18.50	90
17.50	89
16.50	88
16.00	87
15.50	86
15.00	85
14.50	83
14.00	82
13.50	80
13.00	79
12.50	77
12.00	75
11.50	72
11.00	69
10.00	65
9.00	60

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¹ This schedule applies to Senior External Examinations completed since 1987.

² Applicants are required to be 18 years or older in the year after the last relevant result is obtained (i.e. 18 by 1 February for Semester 1 and 1 July for Semester 2).

³ Based on: VHA = 6.5; HA = 5; SA = 4; LA = 2; VLA = 1. The subject *A Short Course in the Australian Constitution* cannot be used with these schedules.

⁴ Where the same or an incompatible Senior External Examination subject has been completed on more than one occasion, only one attempt will be considered in the calculation of a rank and this shall be the best result achieved. *Maths in Society* and *Mathematics A* are treated as two different subjects with respect to this policy.

⁵ If an applicant has completed 5 subjects, the 5 subject schedule will be used, regardless of the applicant's age.

The University will also accept the completion of one, two or three subjects if the applicant is 18 years of age or older in year after the last relevant result is achieved (i.e. 18 by 1 February for Semester 1 and 1 July for Semester 2). An entry rank may be assigned to the completion of one, two or three subjects alone or in combination with a result from the Special Tertiary Admissions Test.

Senior External Examinations 1, 2 or 3 Subjects ¹						
Special Tertiary Admissions Test Score (1992 MARCH 2010)	Special Tertiary Admissions Test Score (Since APRIL 2010)	Rank ^{2,3}				
		Aggregate score in 1, 2 or 3 Senior External Examination subjects				
		4	5-9	10-15	15.5-17	18-19.5
166 and over	167 and over		91	93	94	98
164	165	89	90	92	93	97
162	162	88	89	91	92	96
160	160	87	88	90	91	95
159	157	82	88	89	90	94
158	155	77	87	88	90	93
157	154	73	86	88	89	92
155	151	70	86	87	88	91
154	149	68	83	85	88	90
153	147	67	79	83	86	89
152	145	66	74	79	84	87
Below 152 or Did not sit	Below 145 Or Did not sit	65	70	75	81	86

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¹ Applicants are required to be 18 years or older in the year after the last relevant result is obtained (i.e. 18 by 1 February for Semester 1 and 1 July for Semester 2).

² Based on VHA = 6.5, HA = 5, SA = 4. Results of LA or VLA cannot be used in the aggregate score. For the Senior External Examination subject: A Short Course in the Australian Constitution: VH = 3.25, H = 2.5, S = 2.

³ Where the same or an incompatible Senior External Examination subject has been completed on more than one occasion, only one attempt will be considered in the calculation of a rank. This shall be the best result achieved. Maths in Society and Mathematics A are treated as two different subjects with respect to this policy.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS WITH PRIOR SENIOR

Applicants who have previously completed an Australian senior qualification and achieved an entry rank or OP (or interstate equivalent) may be able to combine those studies with fewer than five Senior External Examination subjects to obtain an entry rank. Generally speaking, the closer an applicant is to a cut-off with their existing qualifications the fewer Senior External Examination subjects they will need to complete to improve their entry rank. For further information on this entry option please contact UQ Admissions.

HOW DO I FIND OUT MORE?

Senior External Examinations are administered by the Queensland Studies Authority (QSA). For further information, including details on approved institutions offering preparation studies, please contact:

QSA: Senior External Examination
 Phone: (07) 3864 0211
 Email: externalexams@qsa.qld.edu.au
 Website: www.qsa.qld.edu.au/588.html

For further information:
 UQ Admissions
 Phone: (07) 3365 2203; Fax: (07) 3365 2061
 Email: AdmissionsEnquiries@admin.uq.edu.au
 Website: www.uq.edu.au/study/admissions

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