



**Macquarie University**

# **PATHWAYS**

## **2009**

**AUSTRALIA'S INNOVATIVE UNIVERSITY**

# PATHWAYS

## to MACQUARIE ...

Attaining the required Universities Admission Index (UAI) rank in Year 12 is not the *only* pathway into a Macquarie bachelor degree. Forty per cent of students entering Macquarie University for the first time are aged from 20 up to 70-plus years. Some of these people have other post-secondary qualifications which are acceptable for admission, others need to explore alternative options which will lead to their desired goal. This booklet outlines the other options that exist for admission to Macquarie.

### Admission

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For the great majority of students, admission to undergraduate courses at Macquarie is made through the bi-annual Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) application process. For more information on this you should consult the current edition of the *UAC Guide* or visit the UAC website at [www.uac.edu.au](http://www.uac.edu.au).

'On-time' applications through UAC for entry in a given year, close on the last working day in **September** of the year *preceding* commencement of study (*note*: applications for Distance Education (External) courses offered through UAC **MUST** be lodged by the last working day in **September**). Selection through UAC for Macquarie courses is based on academic merit. Work experience is NOT normally considered for admission purposes via UAC.

Entry numbers to the University are regulated to ensure that the number of students accepted does not exceed the number for which adequate teaching facilities are available. This means that in order to gain admission as a candidate for a Bachelor degree it is necessary to have been selected for admission *in competition with other applicants in your category* (ie, those who are not recent school leavers).

Macquarie also has a reduced **Mid-year** intake through UAC for a limited number of undergraduate courses. Applications through UAC normally close in the first week of June, go to [www.uac.edu.au](http://www.uac.edu.au) for information.

### Competition for selection

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To compete for selection for admission to a degree course at Macquarie University you should have:

- reached a satisfactory level of performance at the current NSW Higher School Certificate examination (**UAI** rank - see box on page 4) or interstate equivalent examination,

**or**

→ qualified for matriculation to Macquarie University at a previous Australian Year 12 examination, or (prior to 1967) have qualified for matriculation to another university in New South Wales,

**or**

→ completed secondary school studies interstate or overseas which are deemed to satisfy Macquarie University admission requirements,

**or**

→ attained other examination qualifications at a level considered by the Coursework Studies Committee of the University to be equivalent. These may include:

- completion of **12** credit points at Macquarie University on a non-award basis. Applicants who achieve this whilst maintaining an overall grade point average (GPA) of **2.0** or better are automatically eligible for selection to the Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Bachelor of Science (BSc) or Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood Education) (BEd (ECE)). If a non-award student completes the 12 credit point requirement and attains a GPA of 2.5, he or she would also be eligible to be admitted into a BA – Psychology or BSc – Psychology. The non-award units you successfully complete will count toward the degree requirements of your award degree. Students **cannot** enter *any other* Macquarie undergraduate degrees through the Non-award program, *however* it is possible to transfer to other degree programs after the attainment of specific progress requirements (providing that the degree sought is covered under the University's internal transfer policy) (see also page 5 for more on non-award studies).
- studies in a degree program at an Australian university or former college of advanced education (CAE)
- completion of a Diploma from the Sydney Institute of Business and Technology (SIBT) (most degrees require passes in 8 subjects with a minimum GPA of 1.5 but some have a higher requirement for entry)
- completion of a Tertiary Preparation Course at a NSW TAFE College at an academic level which attains the selection cut-off for the desired degree

Note: Completion of a TAFE Associate Diploma, or an AQF-accredited Diploma or Advanced Diploma would be assessed in conjunction with other acceptable qualifications or studies. A completed AQF Certificate Level IV course (at a TAFE or private college) would be similarly considered but it is unlikely that this qualification would generate a rank high enough for selection.

For further information about other qualifications suitable for selection purposes or any enquiries concerning the qualifications listed above, contact the Undergraduate Studies Section ☎ (02) 9850 7314.

## Limited HSC

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Applicants not qualified for consideration for selection in any of the above categories and who are at least 20 years of age on 1 March of the year of sitting the examination may qualify for selection by undertaking a limited program of study at the NSW Higher School Certificate under the terms set out below.

**Applicants with a reduced load HSC program seeking admission** should note that:

- a) you must be at least 20 years of age on 1 March of the year in which you sit the reduced load HSC examination.
- b) you must attempt between five (5) and nine (9) units of UAI courses, including at least two (2) units that are English.
- c) you must attempt all the units in the same year (a Limited UAI cannot be accumulated).

For more information on the Limited UAI (LUAI)/Reduced HSC refer to the 2009 *UAC Guide*, page 41, or visit the website [www.uac.edu.au](http://www.uac.edu.au) for the online Guide.

Students wishing to undertake a HSC reduced program at a TAFE college should note that not all TAFE colleges offer the full range of subjects.

**Academic Advantage** – a new bonus scheme for 2009 entry for 2008 HSC and International Baccalaureate candidates. Academic Advantage is a scheme which recognises the achievements of HSC students in subjects that relate *specifically* to the Macquarie undergraduate degree programs. HSC and IB students applying through UAC, provided that they have attained a minimum rank of 70, will receive up to five bonus points added to their selection score.

For more information on the Scheme go to [www.mq.edu.au/academicadvantage](http://www.mq.edu.au/academicadvantage)

## Other Pathways

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Applicants who do not meet the necessary academic criteria for admission need to consider other pathways to gaining entry into their desired course. The range of options for the upcoming academic year include:

► The **Mature Age Jubilee Scheme** for students aged 21 or over as at 1 March in their first year at Macquarie - students who have not attempted previous tertiary studies previously and don't possess the necessary academic qualifications for admission may be eligible for admission to a limited number of Jubilee entry places. Please note that:

- i) enrolment is restricted to only five undergraduate courses, the BA, BA DipEd, BSc, BSc DipEd and BEd (Early Childhood Ed) degrees under this scheme\*,
- ii) not all units and courses are available

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\* For students who want to undertake undergraduate degrees at Macquarie other than the BA, BA DipEd, BSc, BSc DipEd or BEd (ECE), if they are first selected through the **Jubilee** Scheme, they may be able to internally transfer at a later time. This is dependent on a student achieving the academic requirements for the transfer sought. This detail on this is contained in the Macquarie University Course Transfer policy accessible online at [www.reg.mq.edu.au/undergrad/current/currentstudents/coursetransfer.htm](http://www.reg.mq.edu.au/undergrad/current/currentstudents/coursetransfer.htm)

**Applying for Jubilee admission:** Apply direct to Macquarie University (not through UAC). Application packages for a given year are available from August of the year *preceding* commencement (and must be lodged by the last working day of September).

For applications contact Coursework Studies Section on ☎(02) 9850 7314 or email [coursework@mq.edu.au](mailto:coursework@mq.edu.au)

More information and the application form for Jubilee entry is available from the web page [www.reg.mq.edu.au/undergrad](http://www.reg.mq.edu.au/undergrad)

**or**

► completing 12 credit points (4 units of study) of **non-award study+** at Macquarie with an overall grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.0 (for instance, four 'Ps' pass grades *with no fails*)\*. You have to pay for these units at the beginning of each half-year. The cost of undergraduate units vary but most fall within the range \$400 to \$500 per credit point (pcp) (2008 fee levels subject to alteration for 2009).

+ whilst there is no UAI required for non-award study, many departments have a UAI cut-off for their own units (cut-offs vary from 40 to around 60 UAI points).

\* Your grade point average is a calculated score (out of 4.0) which reflects the overall quality of your grades throughout your course (refer to the 2008 University *Handbook of Undergraduate Studies* for the formula to calculate GPAs).

If successful in gaining admission to a degree program through completion of the above non-award study requirements, you will be entitled to count your 12 credit points in Non-award units towards your new award program. Also note that the same internal transfer stipulations apply as for the Jubilee entry courses (above). Contact the **Centre for Open Education** ☎(02) 9850 7470 for details of Non-award study.

Students cannot enter any other Macquarie undergraduate degree through the non-award program. However, it is possible to transfer to other degree programs after the attainment of specific progress requirements.

## **uniTEST**

**uniTEST** is an equity initiative which recognises that the Universities Admissions Index (UAI) is not always the best indicator of aptitude or ability to undertake tertiary studies. Macquarie is trialling a new alternative entry process that considers a number of factors in the selection including the UAI rank, a tertiary study aptitude test – uniTEST, and an application.

Applicants need to register online at [www.mq.edu.au](http://www.mq.edu.au) to sit the test. The registration form is normally available from early September in the year *preceding* commencement of study. For 2009 admissions registration for the test will close in early November 2008 and testing will be held on site at the Macquarie campus (North Ryde) on **Monday 8 December 2008**. uniTEST demonstrates a participant's aptitude for university study. The results of this is then included in a selection process which

also considers a written application, information on the circumstances that impacted on previous school results, and a student's UAI ranking if that is available.

For further questions that you may have about uniTEST, go to the Macquarie website [www.mq.edu.au](http://www.mq.edu.au) or email the Coursework Studies Section at [coursework@mq.edu.au](mailto:coursework@mq.edu.au)

## **Access Engineering Macquarie**

For 2009 admissions Macquarie is introducing an Access Engineering Program which provides a possible pathway for students who not meet the minimum entry requirement for Macquarie's Bachelor of Engineering degrees (engineering single degrees only). The program will use the mechanism of uniTEST to assess the aptitude of applicants for the study of engineering. Go to [www.engineering.mq.edu.au/accessengineering.htm](http://www.engineering.mq.edu.au/accessengineering.htm) for more information and an **online application** which needs to be submitted by 19 September 2008.

Access Engineering applicants also must register for uniTEST (refer to uniTEST information on pages 5-6).

## **External study options**

▶ if you are specifically interested in studying **by distance education** at Macquarie, you should also consult the current *UAC Guide* for information on the degree programs offered externally (Arts, Sciences, Early Childhood Education, Law). Note that there is an early UAC application closing date for Distance courses (end of September).

▶ another option for off-campus study at Macquarie is to study subjects **online** through **Open Universities Australia (OUA)** (formerly called Open Learning Australia). Open Universities Australia, based in Melbourne, is a separate, higher education organisation coordinating the administrative aspects of this mode of study.

Prospective students must apply and **register through** OUA (**not** through Macquarie).

Students enrol in individual units, when they complete four OUA-sanctioned Macquarie units *with a credit average*, they are eligible to apply through UAC for admission to the award course - Bachelor of Arts. A total of 24 units must be completed to meet the course requirements. At the completion of the course qualified students will receive a degree from Macquarie University. OUA students who complete four units are also eligible to apply to Macquarie for a range of other undergraduate degrees (refer to the UAC Guide).

For more information on OUA study including fees and charges - visit the OUA website: [www.open.edu.au/](http://www.open.edu.au/)

## **Restrictions on enrolment**

Enrolments in some degree courses and some units of study have been limited by quota because of limitations on accommodation and teaching facilities.

Applicants need to apply for the appropriate course through the Universities Admissions Centre and gain a place in the quota for the restricted area of study or course. Students in other courses who gain the equivalent cut-off or higher for restricted courses or areas of study may be permitted to enrol in the following areas of study:

### **Accounting**

In general, places in first-year accounting units are available only to students whose entry qualification are at least equivalent to those being offered a place in the B Commerce – Accounting. Students in other courses such as B Commerce or B Arts will be admitted to first-year accounting units on completion of a least 12 credit points (equivalent of one semester of full-time study) with an overall grade point average of 2.0 (a clear pass average).

### **Actuarial Studies**

Only those students who have been admitted to the B Commerce - Actuarial Studies, a combined Actuarial Studies degree or B Commerce - Actuarial Studies/LLB will be guaranteed a place in the first-year actuarial units.

### **Economics**

Places in the main first-year economics units of study will be guaranteed to students who have been admitted to the B Economics or B Commerce or related courses and to students who have the equivalent of the UAI required for entry to the quota for BEc or BCom. Students in other courses may be admitted to first-year economics units if they complete at least 12 credit points and receive a grade point average of at least 2.0. Such students may need to enrol for four years to complete an economics major.

### **Law**

Only students who have been admitted to a law course (a LLB degree combined with another degree in an approved combination) are permitted to undertake units in law in their first year of enrolment. A small quota of places in the first-year law is available to later-year students who are not enrolled in a law program.

### **Media Studies**

Entry to media units is restricted. Only those students who have been admitted to the B Media degrees and B Media/LLB are guaranteed places in the first-year media units, and if successful, to all media units in subsequent years. Students may apply through UAC to transfer from the BA to the B Media or to the BA in Media & Cultural Studies and also through the Macquarie University internal transfer policy.

### **Psychology**

Places in first-year psychology units will be guaranteed to students in B Psych (Hons), BA - Psych or BSc - Psych and to students with a rank at least equivalent to that required for entry to the BA - Psych and BSc - Psych. Students in other courses may be admitted to first-year psychology units when they have completed at least 12 credit points and achieve a grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.5. Such students may need to enrol for four years to complete a major in psychology.

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## **How to apply for admission**

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The application process for courses starting in 1<sup>st</sup> Semester of each year commences from the beginning of August of the *preceding* year. UAC Guides become available from this time. To lodge an application ‘**on time**’ (ie, to avoid being required to pay a late application fee), applicants need to lodge their application **online** through the UAC **Apply-by-web** facility by the last working day in **September** of each year. **(Macquarie Distance Education courses MUST APPLY by this date to be considered for admission in the Distance Round of offers).**

**HOW TO APPLY:** All domestic<sup>+</sup> applicants need to go to the UAC website <http://www.uac.edu.au/>, click on Undergraduate and follow the prompts to apply via the web.

<sup>+</sup>Australian citizens, Australian permanent residents, New Zealand citizens, holders of an Australian permanent resident humanitarian visa

Any application to UAC made after the last working day in **September** of each year will incur a late application fee (see the inside front cover of the current Guide for details of charges).

### **Mature Age Jubilee Scheme\***

If you wish to apply through the Mature Age Jubilee Scheme you need to apply *direct* to the University by the last working day in **September** of each year. Note carefully that the Jubilee Scheme does not permit late applications beyond this date.

\* Application packages for the Jubilee Scheme program will be sent on request.

Phone (02) 9850 7314 or email the Coursework Studies Section at Macquarie University at [coursework@mq.edu.au](mailto:coursework@mq.edu.au)

The University may, from time to time, hold a Mid-year Jubilee entry Scheme (enquire with Macquarie Coursework Studies Section in late April of each year).

## **How to find out more about Macquarie University courses**

If you would like further information you are advised to consult the latest editions of the following publications:

**Study at Macquarie** (published by Macquarie University). An easy to read general prospectus, which should be used in conjunction with the *UAC Guide* and the **Handbook of Undergraduate Studies**. It is available free of charge from the Coursework Studies Section ☎ (02) 9850 7314

**Macquarie Your University** (published by Macquarie University). An easy to read, fold out sheet, stating the career options available to students for the various areas of study. It is available free of charge from the Coursework Studies Section.

**UAC Guide** (published each year by the Universities Admissions Centre). Distributed to secondary schools by the beginning of August each year. The Guide

can be purchased from most newsagents in NSW and the ACT (and from some interstate newsagents). The cost of the UAC Guide for 2009 admissions was \$19.50 including GST (additional charges apply for postage within Australia and overseas)

**Macquarie University *Handbook of Undergraduate Studies*** (published annually in December by Macquarie University). Copies of the 2008 Handbook are on sale from the cashier at the University for \$10 (or from the Chief Accountant's Office by mail order accompanied by a remittance of \$13 to post within Australia).

Course information booklets are also available on request from the Coursework Studies Section.

**Further enquiries may be made through:**

- The **Coursework Studies Section**, Macquarie University, Ph: **(02) 9850 7314** or email: [coursework@mq.edu.au](mailto:coursework@mq.edu.au)

**OR**

- by calling in person at the **Student Enquiry Service**, Lincoln Building (C8A), Level 1, Macquarie University, Balaclava Road, North Ryde, NSW.

The University's postal address for undergraduate admissions matters is:

Coursework Studies Section  
Macquarie University  
NSW 2109

Macquarie University holds an **Information Day** for prospective undergraduate students in the first week of January each year. In 2009, this will take place on **Monday 5 January** (9.30am to 4.00pm). Prospective students will receive advice from Macquarie staff on entry pathways, admission procedures and other aspects relating to their study at Macquarie. A full program will be available on the University website in December, [www.mq.edu.au](http://www.mq.edu.au)



## Useful websites for undergraduate students at Macquarie University

Macquarie University home page	<a href="http://www.mq.edu.au/">www.mq.edu.au/</a>
Admissions information for prospective Macquarie undergraduate students	<a href="http://www.reg.mq.edu.au/Undergrad/">www.reg.mq.edu.au/Undergrad/</a>
Macquarie University Centre for Open Education (Non-award & External study)	<a href="http://www.coe.mq.edu.au/">www.coe.mq.edu.au/</a>
Macquarie University Student Enquiry Service and FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)	<a href="http://www.student.mq.edu.au/ses/">www.student.mq.edu.au/ses/</a>
Macquarie University <i>Handbook of Undergraduate Studies</i> (Web version)	<a href="http://www.handbook.mq.edu.au/">www.handbook.mq.edu.au/</a>
Open Universities Australia	<a href="http://www.open.edu.au/">www.open.edu.au/</a>

# Notes

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