Policy: Admissions

Purpose
To articulate the University’s standards for coursework student admissions, and support efficient and effective application processes.

Overview
This policy sets out principles and policies for student admissions.

Scope
This policy applies to the University’s coursework programs, including non-award studies. It does not apply to higher degrees by research.

Policy statement

Principles
1. The University has admission standards that:
   - build on a culture of academic excellence;
   - are clear, concise, equitable and transparent;
   - ensure that students have adequate prior knowledge and skills, including English language proficiency, to succeed in the program;
   - are consistent with the Australian Qualifications Framework, and take account of external benchmarking;
   - support the University in achieving strategic goals in provision of a world class student experience and diversity of student body.

Limit on places in programs
2. The Vice-Chancellor may, in writing, determine the maximum number of students that may be admitted in any period to a program offered by an ANU College for a coursework award.

Admissions standards accreditation
3. Academic Quality Assurance Committee (AQAC) endorses, and Academic Board approves coursework admissions standards for a maximum period of five years. Admissions standards include:
   a. minimum English language requirements;
   b. minimum academic qualification; and
   c. for domestic school leaver applicants, co-curricular requirements

4. The University's academic colleges may propose additional program-specific eligibility criteria and prerequisites, which are endorsed by Academic Quality Assurance Committee and approved by Academic Board.

5. Admissions standards for each of the University's coursework programs are reviewed at least every five years, although Academic Quality Assurance Committee or Academic Board may trigger a shorter review cycle on the basis of evidence relating to student outcomes, breaches, conflicts of interest or quality assurance.

6. Any breaches in admissions standards are reported to Academic Quality Assurance Committee, Academic Board and the Vice Chancellor.

Admission outcomes

7. Applicants who meet the eligibility requirements for admission into their proposed program of study may be offered a place in the program. Eligibility for admission does not guarantee an offer for a place in the program.

8. Where admissions standards include qualitative assessment of non-formal and informal learning, the assessment is consistent with Policy: Recognition of Prior and External Learning.

9. Entry into all ANU awards is on a competitive basis in line with the University’s strategic plan.

10. All applicants will receive a formal notification of outcome, which can be:
   - a full offer; or
   - a conditional offer; or
   - a letter indicating an unsuccessful outcome

11. Any communication other than a formal notification of outcome cannot be accepted or taken as formal advice on an application.

12. Review of admissions decisions and appeals are undertaken in accordance with ANU Coursework Awards Rule.