



Focus on Educational Access Schemes (EAS)

What is 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*

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 UAC website)

22 NOV 2021

EAS: Closing date for EAS applications for December Round 2

Apply and provide documents for EAS by midnight to:

- receive your eligibility letter prior to December Round 2
- have it considered in December Round 2 offers.

24 DEC 2021

EAS: Closing date for EAS applications for January Round 1

Apply and provide documents for EAS by midnight to have your application considered in January Round 1.

11 DEC 2021

EAS: Eligibility letters released for December Round 2

EAS eligibility letters released progressively to all applicants with finalised assessment for December Round 2.

04 FEB 2022

EAS: Closing date for EAS applications for semester 1, 2022

Apply and provide documents for EAS by midnight to have your application considered for semester 1, 2022 admissions.

How Do I Apply?

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, you need to see which category (or categories) of disadvantage you might be eligible for.

You can view information on each category at <https://www.uac.edu.au/future-applicants/scholarships-and-schemes/educational-access-schemes/disadvantages-and-documents>

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

You will be able to complete your EAS application AFTER you have completed your UAC application (applied for undergraduate admission). Select 'Apply for EAS' at the bottom of the undergraduate application confirmation page or log in to your completed undergraduate application and select 'EAS'.



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 nine 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
- Socio-economic indexes for areas (SEIFA)

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.
S01D	You have studied any Year 12 subjects through distance education or an access program as a result of circumstances beyond your control or choosing.

Financial Hardship:

Note: You can only claim one disadvantage under the financial hardship category.

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 means tested benefit 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.
F01K	Your parent/s or guardian/s received the Job Keeper allowance for a period of at least three months.
F01S	Your parent/s or guardian/s received the Job Seeker allowance for a period of at least three months from March 2020 onwards.

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 relationship breakdown & separation of your parents during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent OR <ul style="list-style-type: none">You (the applicant) experienced separation due to relationship breakdown.
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.
H04B	You are currently placed, or have previously been placed, with an Out of Home Care provider due to government agency intervention.
N01D	Your education has been negatively impacted during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent due to the impact of a natural disaster. Natural disasters in Australia can include, but are not limited to, heatwaves, bushfires, droughts, floods, severe storms and tropical cyclones, earthquakes, tsunamis and landslides.

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	You've had excessive work requirements during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent for at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">supporting yourself, while living independentlysupporting your familyresponsibility 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)	All of the following: <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)	All of the following: <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)	All of the following: <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 2017 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	If during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent you experienced: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a severe and long-term or a severe and recurrent medical/psychiatric condition or disability OR <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a learning, sensory, physical, psychological or other disability/disorder.

Refugee Status:

Disadvantage Code:	Eligibility Criteria:
R01A	You are, or have previously been, the holder of one of the following Australian refugee visas: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Global Special Humanitarian (subclass 202)• Protection visa (subclass 866)• Refugee visas (subclass 200, 201, 203 and 204)• Temporary Protection visa (subclass 785)• Safe Haven Enterprise visa (subclass 790)

School Environment:

S01C	<p>You attended an Australian rural school 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.
S01R (not S01C eligible)	<p>You attended an Australian rural or regional school during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent.</p> <p>Note: Eligibility is based on the postcode of your school, not your residential address.</p>

Socio-economic indexes for areas (SEIFA):

Disadvantage Code:	Eligibility Criteria:
AG01	<p>After you've applied for undergraduate admission through UAC, they will automatically generate an electronic EAS application for you (ie: you don't have to submit an application) if the residential address you entered in your UAC undergraduate application is identified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as being in the lowest 25% of socio-economic disadvantage in Australia.</p>

Final Tips:

Make sure you read all the information at www.uac.edu.au/eas and download the information sheets you will find there (towards the bottom of the page in the "Downloads" section).

Check all dates, timeframes and deadlines.

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