

Wednesday 8 April 2020

## Queensland ATAR Update

Good afternoon

Over the last week there has been a lot of comments about Year 12 students and the ATAR.

Yesterday the Education Council met and the subject of ATAR release dates was discussed. The communique from the Council stated that “To ensure that students applying for university entry interstate are not disadvantaged, Education Council decided that Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) results will be released in a nationally consistent window of dates beginning in 2020.”

As a follow-up to the Education Council, the CEOs of the State and Territory Curriculum Authorities (ACACA) and Tertiary Admission Centres (TAC) CEOs met to ensure there would be a coordinated approach to the release of Year 12 results and the timing of each States ATAR release. This does not mean that all ATAR’s will be released on the same day.

Currently the only decision made for the 2020 cohort of Queensland Year 12’s was the QCAA’s move last week to reduce the number of internal assessments. The advice that I have received from our QTAC Statisticians is that this move will not have any impact on our ability to calculate a fair and reliable ATAR.

Consistent with previous planning, it is anticipated that QTAC will receive Queensland Year 12 results files from the QCAA in December and release the Queensland ATARs simultaneously with the QCE results on Saturday 19 December 2020. On this basis, offers can continue as planned with the pre-Christmas offer round continuing to provide a significant number of early offers to applicants eligible for their highest preference.

I am working with my interstate colleagues to ensure that interstate applicants are not disadvantaged if the release of their ATARs are delayed. As a point of interest, in the 2019 admissions year 10.8% of QTAC’s offers were made to interstate Year 12 applicants.

QTAC's first scheduled offer round for 2021 will be Thursday 14 January with the allocation of places being finalised on Tuesday 12 January. Provided all interstate ATARs are calculated and shared early in January, there would be no need for changes to the January offer round.

Should there be amendments to the above arrangements I will let you know.

Kind regards



Dr John Griffiths  
Chief Executive Officer