



**Southern
Cross
University**

A guide to uni for parents and caregivers

Transforming > Tomorrow

CRICOS - 01241G | TEQSA - PRV12043



Choosing a university can be a fun but challenging time. Exams, ATARs, entry ranks and course choices – there's a lot of information to digest.

As the parent or caregiver of a future university student, you might be wondering how it all works.

We've compiled some information about applying to university to make it a bit easier for you – and the future uni student in your life – to navigate your way through.





A guide to uni for parents and caregivers

Applying for university	4
Early Offer	7
How do ATARs and ranking work?.....	8
What if my child's ATAR is not enough?	9
The Southern Cross Model	11
Support at uni	11
Scholarships	12
Tuition fees	14
Course list.....	15
Key Dates	16

Applying for university

There are two main ways to apply for university.

1. School leavers can either apply through a Tertiary Admission Centre (TAC) or directly to the University.
2. Non-school leavers (someone who left school more than two years ago) apply directly to the University.



How Tertiary Admission Centres work

Tertiary Admission Centres (TACs) receive and process applications for university courses. The system is state-based with a different TAC for each state.

As we have campuses in two states, your child can either apply through UAC in New South Wales or QTAC in Queensland.

Applicants have the option to indicate preferences for different courses and universities through a TAC.

TACs release offers in rounds during the year. School leavers who are applying to start university the following year will generally find out just before Christmas (after ATARs are released) if they have been successful in their first choice. If they don't receive an offer for their first choice, they may receive an offer for their second or third choices.

The TACs don't make decisions about who gets into a course, rather they collate and advise applicants about their application.

There is a fee involved when applying through a TAC.

The process is simple and can be completed online. If the University requires additional information the TAC will contact the applicant directly. Your child can opt for you to act on their behalf through a TAC.

Visit

uac.edu.au

or

qtac.edu.au

for more information.

How to apply directly to Southern Cross University

Applying directly is simple and can be completed online. Once a preferred course has been identified, simply click on the How to Apply button on the course page. This will show a series of choices about where the course is offered and when it starts. Some courses offer two or three start dates a year, these are called 'intakes'.

Documents can be uploaded directly through the application portal, you'll be prompted at each relevant stage for these.

Application is free.

Pre-requisites and inherent requirements

Many courses at Southern Cross have a practical component, especially health and education degrees that require you to complete practical experience in clinical or educational environments. These degrees may require you to be vaccinated or complete a police check before working with children.

Some courses have what are called 'inherent requirements'. These are characteristics that enable you to successfully complete a course, for example, gross motor skills in a nursing degree.

Scan for details:



Early Offer

Early Offer is an opportunity for Year 12 students to secure a place in a Southern Cross University degree (except Midwifery), before their final results are even released. It's open for ATAR and non-ATAR eligible students and is based on senior high school results and the recommendation of the school principal rather than ATAR.

There is a simple online application that is made directly to the University. It's free and applicants are notified of the outcome from the end of November, before ATAR results are released.

For more details and to apply

visit:

scu.edu.au/early-offer



How do ATARs and ranking work?

A student's ATAR – Australian Tertiary Admission Rank – is based on a combination of assessments during Year 12 and exam results at the end of Year 12. The ATAR uses a scaled aggregate of a student's best two units of English and the best eight units from the remaining units.

Calculating an ATAR uses a complicated scaling algorithm to measure students against one another in any given cohort. Universities use the ATAR as a measure of academic performance in school leavers to make offers and determine cut-offs for a course. These change from year-to-year.



What if my child's ATAR is not enough?

Going straight from school to a degree is one way to start uni, but it's not the only way. If your child doesn't achieve the required ATAR to get into their course, the University may recommend they complete a pathway program first.

Southern Cross University has two excellent pathway programs suitable for school leavers. Both are fee-free and develop the academic skills and literacy that students will need at university to be successful. Undertaking a Diploma through SCU College is also an excellent way to commence university.

Transition to Uni

Six-week intensive program for school leavers starting in January. Successful completion of this program enables entry to a Southern Cross Bachelor degree (except Midwifery).

Preparing for Success Program

Three-month course offered on all campuses or online. Can be completed full-time in three months or part-time over one year. Successful completion of this program enables entry to a Southern Cross Bachelor degree (except Midwifery).

Please note some degrees have additional admission requirements, such as an interview or audition.

Diplomas

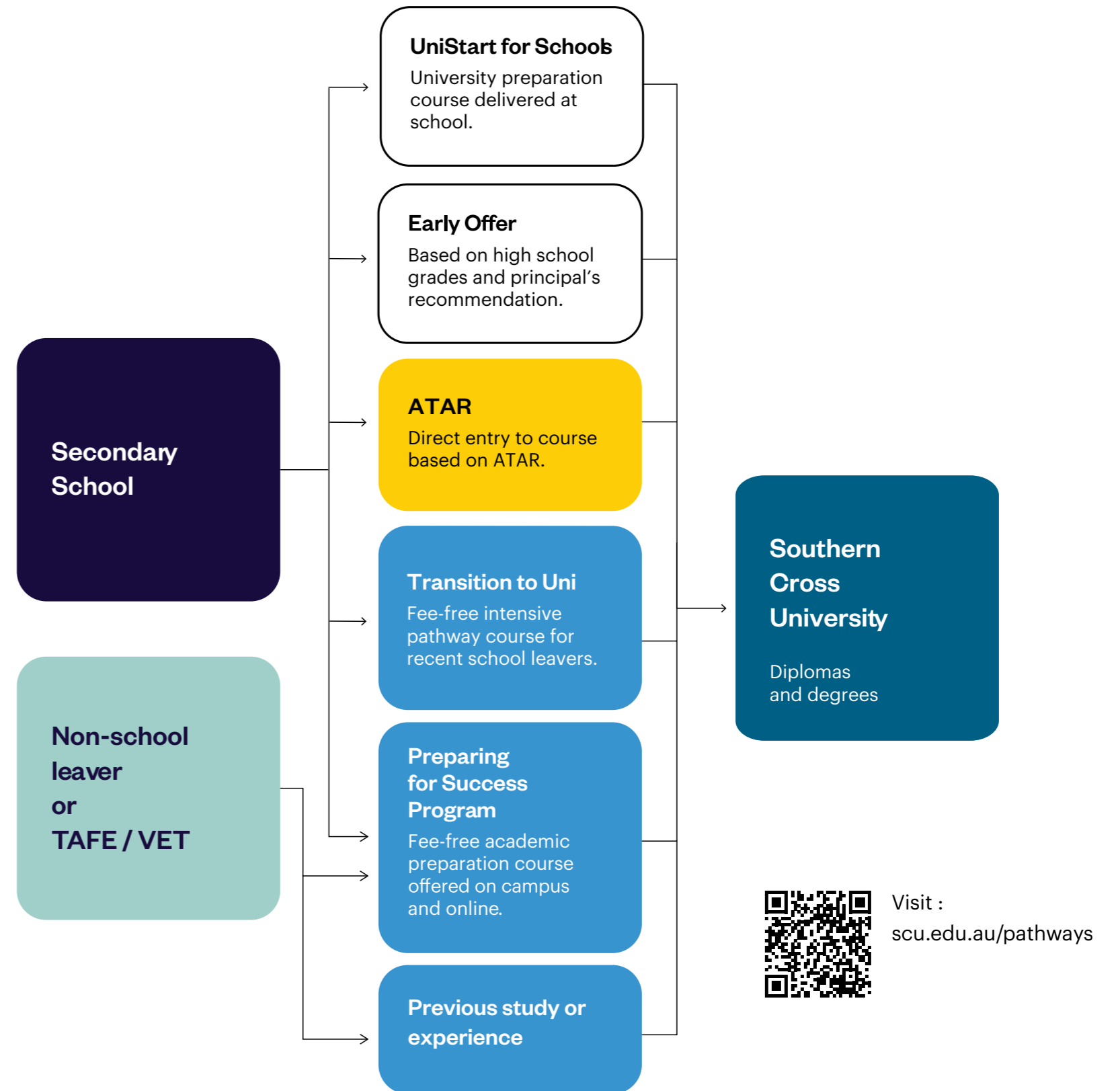
Diplomas do not require a high ATAR (45) and take one year to complete full-time. Successful completion of a Diploma enables entry with credit towards a linked Bachelor degree.

Students of SCU College pathway programs get extra support to develop their academic skills. The College also offers a range of six-month Undergraduate Certificates as pathways to a Diploma.

Visit:

scu.edu.au/pathways

*Please note some courses have additional entry requirements. See the web page for details.



More ways to a Bachelor degree



Diploma

1 year full-time study or equivalent



Bachelor

with up to 8 units of credit

Diploma of Business	> Bachelor of Business and Enterprise
Diploma of Education	> Bachelor of Education, Bachelor of Early Childhood Education
Diploma of Engineering	> Bachelor of Engineering Systems (Honours)
Diploma of Health	> Bachelor of Biomedical Science, Bachelor of Clinical Exercise Physiology, Bachelor of Clinical Sciences (Osteopathic Studies), Bachelor of Community Welfare, Bachelor of Exercise Science and Psychological Science, Bachelor of Health Science (Health and Lifestyle), Bachelor of Nursing, Bachelor of Occupational Therapy, Bachelor of Psychological Science, Bachelor of Social Work, Bachelor of Sport and Exercise Science
Diploma of Information Technology	> Bachelor of Information Technology
Diploma of Conveyancing (Law and Practice)	> Bachelor of Legal and Justice Studies
Diploma of Science	> Bachelor of Science
Diploma of Hotel Management	> Bachelor of Business in Hotel Management
Diploma of Regenerative Agriculture	> Bachelor of Science (Regenerative Agriculture)



The Southern Cross Model

All courses at Southern Cross University are delivered in the Southern Cross Model. This is a unique academic model focused on interactivity, problem-solving and real-world applications.

A focused six-week unit structure gives students a greater sense of momentum and motivation as they achieve milestones quickly. Students focus on one or two units per Term for an immersive study experience, developing understanding and skills through curated content, workshops and tutorials.

Since the Southern Cross Model was implemented, our students have achieved higher grades than ever before. The Southern Cross Model is a better, and more enjoyable way to learn.

Visit:

scu.edu.au/southern-cross-model

Support at uni

No student is an island, and it helps to know your child will have access to fantastic support when they are studying at Southern Cross University.

From careers advice and extra academic preparation to counselling sessions and even small student loans, we have systems in place to help if they need it.

We also offer a UniMentor program where continuing students are paired with new students, sharing their tips and knowledge. It's a free service for students by students, where they can meet face-to-face, communicate online via email, text or catch up on Facebook to chat all things university.

Support offered



Careers and employability service



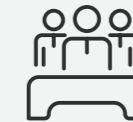
Student equity and inclusion



Mentor programs



Counselling services



Student advocacy



Indigenous student support



Wifi and tech services



Academic skills support

One easy application for a range of scholarships

Scholarships really make a difference. They make education even more attainable by reducing the financial burden of study – enabling students to focus on their studies and put their learning first.

There are scholarships for every stage of your journey at Southern Cross University. Applying is easy. With one application a student will be considered for a wide range of scholarships.

Scholarships range in value from \$600, which could help buy textbooks, to \$32,000 over 4 years, which could help pay living expenses and assist students to study full-time. Scholarships are available to undergraduate and postgraduate students for:

- Academic achievement
- Financial hardship
- Indigenous Australian students
- Leadership and community involvement.

There are also Australian Government scholarships available for students to study abroad as an international exchange student.

More details and how to apply at:

scu.edu.au/scholarships

For equity scholarships visit:

uac.edu.au/equity



2024 Scholarships

Scholarship Name	Value	Closing date
Undergraduate scholarships		
Father Lou Molloy (Marist) Woodlawn Scholarship	\$5,000	18 Feb 2024
Father Paul Pidcock Scholarship	\$2,500	18 Feb 2024
FSG Geotechnics and Foundations Scholarship	\$15,000	18 Feb 2024
Gilchrist Foundation Scholarship	\$5,000	18 Feb 2024
Mayor of Lismore Scholarships (High School Leaver)	\$5,000	18 Feb 2024
NRCF - SCU Bowen Education Fund Scholarship	\$2,500	18 Feb 2024
Rous County Council Scholarship	\$5,000	18 Feb 2024
Southern Cross University Rugby Gold Rats Scholarships	\$3,000	18 Feb 2024
The Lord's Taverners Northern NSW University Scholarship	\$15,000	18 Feb 2024
Twin Towns Services Community Foundation Scholarship	\$5,000	18 Feb 2024

Scholarship Name	Value	Closing date
Twin Towns Services Club	\$5,000	18 Feb 2024
Rolling Stone Scholarship	\$5,000	18 Feb 2024
Silver Rose Portrait Scholarship	\$5,000	18 Feb 2024
Summerland Credit Union Scholarship	\$7,500	18 Feb 2024
FNC	\$15,000	18 Feb 2024
VRM Biologik Undergraduate Scholarship	\$10,000	18 Feb 2024
Equity scholarships		
Southern Cross University Equity Scholarships	\$3,600	2 Feb 2024
Indigenous Australian student scholarships		
Commonwealth Indigenous Accommodation Scholarship	\$32,000	4 Mar 2024
Commonwealth Indigenous Education Costs Scholarship	\$16,000	4 Mar 2024
Mayor of Lismore Scholarships (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander)	\$5,000	18 Feb 2024
ANZ Indigenous Student Scholarship	\$15,000	18 Feb 2024
Gilchrist Charitable Foundation Goori Stars Scholarship	\$5,000	18 Feb 2024
Lord Taverners Seawind Catamaran Indigenous University Scholarship	\$15,000	18 Feb 2024

Tuition Fees

Commonwealth-Supported Places

Tuition fees for most undergraduate degrees are subsidised by the Government. This is called a **Commonwealth-Supported Place (CSP)**. A student pays part of the tuition and the Government pays the rest. Tuition fees are calculated per unit, not per course, and the fee structure for units is determined by the federal government. Eligible students can defer the payment of their part of the fees through the **HECS-HELP** scheme. This is a loan that a student repays only when their income reaches the repayment threshold. It's paid back a little at a time through the tax system.

For details visit: scu.edu.au/fees/sca

Student Services and Amenities Fee

Also known as SSAF, the Student Services and Amenities Fee is a compulsory fee used to provide important services and amenities to students both on and off campus. It's charged per unit, based on the unit's credit point value. The maximum SSAF amount in 2024 is \$351. Eligible students have the option of deferring this fee through the **SA-HELP loan scheme**.

For details visit: scu.edu.au/ssaf

Full Fee Paying Place

A fee-paying student includes any domestic student who is paying the full (unsubsidised) tuition fee for a unit of study. Eligible students can defer the payment of their tuition fees through the **FEE-HELP** scheme.

For details visit: studyassist.gov.au/help-loans/fee-help scu.edu.au/fees/domestic

Other study costs

Your costs could also include computer equipment and software, books, stationery, field trips, uniforms or other course-specific expenses such as art materials, musical equipment or travel for practicums, internships or industry experience.

Important:

All students will require a Unique Student Identifier (USI) number and those accessing a HELP Loan will also require a Tax File Number (TFN). Visit usi.gov.au/students for information on locating or applying for a USI and ato.gov.au to apply for a TFN. Note this can take up to 28 days – don't leave it until the last minute!



2024 Undergraduate course list

	ATAR	Location	Duration	Starts
Arts and Humanities				
Bachelor of Arts	60	GC, L, O	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul
Business				
Bachelor of Business and Enterprise	70	GC, O	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul, Oct
Bachelor of Business and Enterprise (Accounting)	70	GC, O	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul, Oct
Bachelor of Business and Enterprise (Financial Services)	70	GC, O	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul, Oct
Bachelor of Business and Enterprise, Bachelor of Arts	70	GC, O	4FT/8PT	Mar, Jun, Oct
Diploma of Business	45	GC, O	1FT/2PT	Mar, Jun, Oct
Double degrees in Business				
Bachelor of Engineering Systems (Honours), Bachelor of Business and Enterprise^^	70	GC,O	5FT/10PT	Mar
Bachelor of Information Technology, Bachelor of Business and Enterprise	70	GC,O	4FT/8PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Business and Enterprise	80	GC, O	4FT/8PT	Mar, Jul, Oct (online only)
Bachelor of Psychological Science, Bachelor of Business and Enterprise	70	GC, O	4FT/8PT	Mar
Education				
Bachelor of Early Childhood Education	60	GC, O	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Education (Primary)	70	GC, L, CH, O	4FT/8PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Education (Primary/Early Childhood)	70	GC, L, CH, O	4FT/8PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Education (Primary/Secondary)	70	GC, L, CH, O	4FT/8PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Education (Secondary)	70	GC, L, CH, O	4FT/8PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Education (Technology)	70	O	4FT/8PT	Mar, Jul
Diploma of Education	45	GC, L, CH, O	1FT/2PT	Mar, Jul
Engineering				
Bachelor of Engineering Systems (Honours) (Civil Engineering)	70	GC, L, O	4FT/8PT	Feb, Jun
Bachelor of Engineering Systems (Honours) (Mechanical Engineering)	70	GC, L, O	4FT/8PT	Feb, Jun
Associate Degree of Engineering	55	GC, L, O	2FT/3PT	Feb, Jun
Diploma of Engineering	45	GC, L, O	2PT	Feb, Jun, Oct
Health				
Bachelor of Biomedical Science	70	GC	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Clinical Exercise Physiology	70	GC, L	4FT/8PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Counselling	65	GC,L,CH,O	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Clinical Sciences (Osteopathic Studies)	65	GC, L	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Exercise Science and Psychological Science	70	GC, L, CH	4FT/8PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Health Science (Health and Lifestyle)	65	GC, L	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Midwifery	80-90	GC, CH	3FT/6PT	Mar
Bachelor of Nursing	70	GC, L, CH	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Nursing (for Enrolled Nurses)	n/a	GC, L, CH	2FT/4PT	Mar, Jul (GC only)
Bachelor of Occupational Therapy	70	GC, CH	4FT/8PT	Mar, Jul (PT)
Bachelor of Psychological Science	70	GC, CH, O	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Speech Pathology	75	GC, CH	4FT/8PT	Mar, Jul (PT)
Bachelor of Sport and Exercise Science	65	GC, L, CH	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul (PT)
Diploma of Health	45	GC, L, CH, O	1FT/2PT	Mar, Jul
Indigenous Knowledge				
Bachelor of Indigenous Knowledge	60	L, O	3FT/6PT	Mar

	ATAR	Location	Duration	Starts
Information Technology				
Bachelor of Information Technology	70	GC, C, O	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul, Oct
Bachelor of Information Technology, Bachelor of Business and Enterprise	70	GC, O	4FT/8PT	Mar, Jul
Diploma of Information Technology	45	GC, O	1FT/2PT	Mar, Jul, Oct
Law				
Bachelor of Laws	80	GC, O	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul, Oct
Bachelor of Legal and Justice Studies	60	GC, O	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul, Oct
Associate Degree in Law (Paralegal Studies)	55	GC, O	2FT/4PT	Mar, Jul, Oct
Diploma of Conveyancing (Law and Practice)	45	GC, O	1FT/2PT	Mar, Jul
Double degrees in Law				
Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Laws	80	GC, O	4FT/8PT	Mar, Jul, Oct
Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Business and Enterprise	80	GC, O	4FT/8PT	Mar, Jul, Oct
Bachelor of Psychological Science, Bachelor of Laws	80	GC, CH, O	5FT/10PT	Mar, Jul, Oct
Music and Creative Arts				
Bachelor of Art and Design	n/a	L	3FT/6PT	Mar
Bachelor of Contemporary Music	60	L, C	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Digital Media	60	L, C, O	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul
Associate Degree of Creative Writing	55	O	2FT/4PT	Mar
Science and Environment				
Bachelor of Science (Earth and Environmental Systems)	70	L, O	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Science (Forestry Systems)	70	L, O	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Science (Marine Systems)	70	NMSC, O	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Science (Regenerative Agriculture)	70	L, O	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Science (with other majors)	70	L, O	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul
Diploma of Regenerative Agriculture	45	L, O	1FT/2PT	Mar, Jul
Diploma of Science	45	L, O	1FT/2PT	Mar
Social Work and Community Welfare				
Bachelor of Community Welfare	60	GC, O	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Counselling	65	GC, L, CH, O	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul
Bachelor of Social Work	60	GC, O	4FT/8PT	Mar, Jul
Diploma of Health (Community Welfare)	45	GC, O	FT/2PT	Mar, Jul
Tourism				
Bachelor of Business and Enterprise, major in Tourism Management	70	GC, O	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul, Oct
Bachelor of Business in Hotel Management	n/a	The Hotel School Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane	3FT/6PT	Mar, Jul, Oct
Associate Degree of International Hotel and Tourism Management	n/a	The Hotel School Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane	2FT/4PT	Mar, Jul, Oct
Diploma of Hotel Management	n/a	The Hotel School Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane	1FT/2PT	Mar, Jul, Oct
Pathway programs				
Preparing for Success	n/a	GC, L, CH, O	3moFT	Mar, Jul, Oct
Transition to Uni	n/a	O	6weeksFT	Jan

^^ Pending University approval

GC - Gold Coast
L - Lismore
CH - Coffs Harbour
C - Coomera
NMSC - National Marine Science Centre Coffs Harbour
O - Online

Please note ATAR ranks are based on 2023 intake and are indicative only. Published by Southern Cross University August 2023. The information in this brochure was accurate at the time it was published and is to be used as a guide only. Southern Cross University reserves the right to alter, amend or delete details of course offerings and other information published in the brochure at any stage. To the extent permitted at law, the University excludes all liability (including all losses, damages, costs and expenses of whatever nature) arising from the use of, or reliance on, any of the information contained in this brochure. Information in this brochure refers to Australian domestic students only. International students should refer to the University website: scu.edu.au/international

For all course enquiries
1800 626 481
futurestudent@scu.edu.au

Gold Coast
Southern Cross Drive
Bilinga
QLD 4225 Australia

Northern Rivers
Military Road
Lismore
NSW 2480 Australia

Coffs Harbour
Hogbin Drive
Coffs Harbour
NSW 2450 Australia

Follow us on social media

 [southerncrossuniversity](#)

 [southerncrossuni](#)

 [scuonline](#)

 [uniscu](#)

 [southerncrossuniversity](#)

 [southerncrossuniversity](#)

2024 Key dates

March start

Orientation:
26 February - 1 March 2024
Start: 4 March 2024

July start

Orientation:
24 - 28 June 2024
Start: 1 July 2024

October start

Orientation:
21 - 15 October 2024
Start: 28 October 2024

Transforming > Tomorrow

