



If not you,

who?



A culture of life-long learning

By studying at ACU, you'll join a diverse community of students with a range of beliefs, backgrounds and ages. In fact, more than half of our current student cohort are non-school leavers, meaning they have not come to university straight out of high school.



WHAT IS A NON-SCHOOL LEAVER?

You are considered a non-school leaver if it has been more than three years since you completed Year 12, or you are over the age of 21.

Acknowledgement of Country

In recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' deep spiritual connection to Country, and in continuing the university's commitment to reconciliation, it is customary to acknowledge Country as we pass through it. We acknowledge and pay our respects to the First Peoples, the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waterways where Australian Catholic University campuses are located, and we thank them for their continued custodianship.



Applying to ACU

We know that applying for a uni course can seem a bit confusing at times. So, we've broken it down into three easy steps.



1.

Choose the course you'd like to study, and check the entry requirements

- Visit acu.edu.au/courses



2.

View our entry and pathway programs

- Visit acu.edu.au/pathways



3.

Apply for your chosen course through UAC, QTAC or VTAC – depending on your location

- UAC (NSW and ACT) at uac.edu.au
- QTAC (Qld) at qtac.edu.au
- VTAC (Vic) at vtac.edu.au
- For select courses, you can apply directly to ACU.

acu.edu.au/apply



Fees and financial assistance

Fees shouldn't be a barrier to achieving your dreams. We've worked hard to make our fees simple and transparent, with a range of financial assistance options. Visit acu.edu.au/fees

Embarking on a career change

There's a time in almost everyone's career when things don't seem quite right. Maybe you want to launch or advance your career by upskilling, or you feel the urge to pursue a path more aligned with your passion.

But how do you know if a career change is right for you? And what do you do next?

1 Is a career change an option?

Don't let fear of change make your decision for you. Career changes are more common than you may think. Job mobility makes a great deal of sense in today's world, where one graduate can expect to work in 18 jobs and go through six career changes in their lifetime.*

2 Is a career change for me?

Chieh Huang, an entrepreneur, identifies three things to consider while deciding if a career change is a good idea.

- 1. Are you still learning?** If you're not being given the opportunities to learn, or you simply don't have the care factor to get better at your job, it's time to consider moving on.
- 2. Trust your gut.** If you find yourself waking up in the morning with butterflies in your stomach at the thought of heading to work, there's a good chance your gut is trying to tell you something.
- 3. Pain shouldn't be a factor.** If the problem is short-term, like a boss or a colleague who you don't get along with, or a project that is causing you grief, that's probably not a good reason to change careers. All jobs have pain points.



*McCordle (2019), 'Gen Z and Gen Alpha Infographic Update'



3 Where do I want to go?

This is the big question. Once you've identified a career change is for you, you need to decide what career you want to change to.

Think about: What do you enjoy? What are you passionate about? What are you good at (or could learn to be good at)? And what do you want a career change to bring to your life?

There are a lot of reasons you may want a change. Maybe you want more money, more independence, more seniority, less stress, a better work/life balance or more purpose. There is no right or wrong choice, it all depends on where you want to go, and why you want to get there.

4 How do you get there?

There are a lot of paths you can take to a new career. You can apply for internships or mentorships, or just take a plunge and apply for jobs.

Most careers, however, require qualifications. Once you've identified your goal – look at what education paths are available to give you the skills and qualifications you need to succeed.

A university degree is an excellent way to learn new skills and gain qualifications vital to many roles.



University is for all

Everyone should have the opportunity to study at university. At ACU, we have initiatives to help students from a range of backgrounds and experiences gain access to uni and thrive during their studies.

Visit acu.edu.au/our-values to learn more.

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDENT SUCCESS

We support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' university journey through entry programs, culturally safe spaces, academic support, scholarships and Away from Base programs.

ACCESS AND DISABILITY SERVICE

Students with a temporary or ongoing mental health/medical condition or disability, as well as those who are neurodivergent or have significant carer responsibilities, are supported by access and disability advisors who will work with them to develop a plan to help manage their studies.

ACU ALLY NETWORK

The ACU Ally Network is a visible network of staff who support our pastoral commitment to providing a safe, inclusive and respectful university environment for people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, gender diverse, intersex, queer and asexual (LGBTIQ+).

The ACU Ally Network aims to:

- promote understanding and awareness of LGBTIQ+ issues that affect staff and students
- promote and advance our commitment to providing a safe, inclusive and respectful place of work, learning and support for staff and students who identify as LGBTIQ+.

WIDENING PARTICIPATION PROGRAMS

ACU is committed to increasing the participation of students from under-represented areas in higher education. As part of this mission, we offer widening participation initiatives that focus on students from regional, rural and remote locations, low socioeconomic backgrounds, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

CLEMENTE AUSTRALIA

The Clemente program aims to empower Australians experiencing challenging life circumstances, and to break the cycle of poverty, inequality and social injustice, by providing the opportunity to study a humanities subject at university.

STUDENT VETERAN SERVICES

Empowering veterans and their families to lead successful and rewarding lives after military service is a mission-aligned priority for ACU. We support the continuing education of current serving and ex-serving members of the Australian Defence Force by offering programs and services to help them achieve their educational and vocational ambitions.

We also work with industry partners and government to undertake research focused on improving outcomes for all veterans and their families. Through these activities, ACU has become recognised as the Australian university that is committed to serving those who have served.

ACU THRIVE

We are committed to your overall success and wellbeing from day one. So we've designed your first year at ACU specifically to smooth your transition to university, help you build confidence, and thrive academically, personally and socially.

With ACU Thrive, you'll be supported with both independent and collaborative learning, given the opportunity to prepare for classes in advance, and have real support from your teaching staff. It's a thoughtfully designed approach to university that focuses on helping you grow, not burning you out.

Among other things, you'll benefit from a mix of online and on-campus learning, ongoing 'check-ins' that allow you to assess your progress and seek support when you need it, and collaborative, interactive on-campus classes to ensure you meet other students and get the most out of your time spent on campus.

acu.edu.au/acu-thrive

A culture of support and excellence



IN AUSTRALIA

94%

GRADUATES EMPLOYED

Graduate Outcomes Survey - Longitudinal 2023, overall employment for domestic undergraduate students



No. 1

ENERGY EFFICIENT UNIVERSITY

Tertiary Education Facilities Management Association Annual Survey 2022



100%

POWERED BY RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY ON AUSTRALIAN CAMPUSES



5 stars

LEARNER ENGAGEMENT, SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND GRADUATE SALARY

Good Universities Guide 2023, for undergraduate students



IN THE WORLD

Top 2%

UNIVERSITIES

Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2024*



No. 2

GOOD HEALTH AND WELLBEING

SDG 3, Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2023



Top 10

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITIES

Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2023, ranked IFCU members



Top 50

YOUNG UNIVERSITIES

Times Higher Education Young University Rankings 2023



* Percentage calculated as ACU's world rank as a proportion of the total number of universities in the world: *International Handbook of Universities 2019*, Palgrave MacMillan.

Gaining entry to your course

There are many ways you can be assessed for entry to a course at ACU. While each applicant is unique, and your selection rank can be calculated from a variety of factors, below are some of our common admission pathways and entry programs.

ADMISSION PATHWAYS	
Year 12 results	<p>Even if you completed Year 12 many years ago, your results will still be valid and can be used to calculate your selection rank. In fact, Year 12 results are valid indefinitely.</p> <p>Whether this result is considered for an offer to a course will depend on whether you have additional qualifications (including other recognised qualifications completed while at school or after school).</p> <p>acu.edu.au/undergraduate-entry-requirements</p>
Vocational Education and Training (VET)	<p>VET qualifications can be used to gain entry to university. The minimum standalone VET qualification to enter an ACU bachelor's degree is a Certificate IV. You can enter our Foundation Studies program with a Certificate III.</p> <p>We have a number of formal partnership agreements with TAFE and VET providers to give their graduates guaranteed entry into a relevant ACU degree and/or credit for previous studies. To see if your VET provider is one of our partners, you can search our articulation database at acu.edu.au/articulation</p> <p>If your VET provider is not formally partnered with us, you will need to apply through a tertiary admissions centre (TAC) – either QTAC, UAC or VTAC, depending on which state you plan on studying in. As part of this application, your VET qualification will be assigned a selection rank.</p> <p>acu.edu.au/vocational-education-and-training-pathway</p>
Previous higher education	<p>If you have completed a minimum of two units at another recognised higher education provider, these studies can be used as part of your application to study with us.</p> <p>You will be assigned a selection rank based on this previous study level, duration and your grade point average (GPA). Your selection rank is applied during the admission process. You don't need to fill out any additional forms with us – you simply need to apply via a TAC or directly with ACU.</p> <p>acu.edu.au/undergraduate-entry-requirements</p>
Skills for Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT)	<p>If you are 21 years or older and have no formal education qualification, you should consider sitting the Skills for Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT).</p> <p>The STAT is an aptitude test that helps applicants demonstrate their potential for tertiary study. The test can be a multiple choice test or a written English test, but please note ACU accepts only the multiple choice test results.</p> <p>The test is widely accepted and used by many Australian institutions and a STAT result may improve your chances of selection for your course. Please note: the STAT is only run on specific dates. Please check the schedule to ensure you get your results in time to apply.</p> <p>acu.edu.au/stat</p>
Pathway certificates and diplomas	<p>By studying a pathway certificate or diploma, you can take advantage of lower entry requirements to begin studying what you love. We will then use any completed grades to help secure your spot in a bachelor-level course.</p> <p>acu.edu.au/pathway-certificates-and-diplomas</p>

<p>Work and life experience</p>	<p>Your work and life experience can help you gain entry to a university course. To be eligible for a selection rank based on your employment history, you must have been in paid employment for a minimum of six months full-time (or equivalent). This might be continuous employment with one employer, or periods of employment doing the same job with different employers.</p> <p>You will need to provide a statement of service from your employer about the role performed and the length of time you have been employed. If you were self-employed or had periods of self-employment, you must provide a statement from your accountant, solicitor or tax agent confirming the role performed and the duration you were self-employed in this role.</p> <p>acu.edu.au/work-and-life-experience-pathway</p>
<p>Foundation Studies Program (Melbourne, Blacktown and online)</p>	<p>If you haven't got an ATAR, or your selection rank is under 50, don't stress – our Foundation Studies program provides you with another path into university. Develop the skills and confidence to thrive at university and gain guaranteed entry into an ACU undergraduate degree if you achieve the required grade point average (GPA) for your chosen degree. This fee-free, eight-month program allows you to meet undergraduate prerequisites for English, maths and science. It will prepare you for study at ACU by immersing you in university life while introducing you to a range of foundation units. Please note, this course is currently offered at our Blacktown and Melbourne campuses and online.</p> <p>acu.edu.au/fs</p>
<p>ENTRY PROGRAMS</p>	
<p>Veteran Entry Program (VEP)</p>	<p>If you are a current or former member of the Australian Defence Force (ADF), or a family member of ADF personnel, you may be eligible for ACU's Veteran Entry Program (VEP). We'll assess your service in the military and convert it to a selection rank, so you can gain entry to an ACU program. You may also be eligible for credit towards your university degree through our recognition of prior learning program. Our veteran-focused Townsville Leadership Centre also offers diplomas in criminology and business, which can provide a pathway into a university degree. Spouse, partners and children of past and present ADF personnel can apply for the VEP family pathway in recognition of the sacrifices you have made to support your loved one's service.</p> <p>acu.edu.au/veterans</p>
<p>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Admission Process</p>	<p>As an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, you may be eligible to apply for entry to ACU through our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander admission process. This process considers factors other than your ATAR. Through the process, you will meet with a member of the Indigenous Higher Education Unit and a faculty representative. Your potential to study will be based on your previous studies, life experiences and achievements. Applications for most courses are made directly through the relevant state Tertiary Admissions Centre (UAC, QTAC or VTAC). For more information, you can contact the Indigenous Higher Education Units.</p> <p>acu.edu.au/atsi</p>
<p>Elite Athlete and Performer Program (EAPP)</p>	<p>As an elite athlete or performer, you're always reaching for the top. And we'll help you get there. The Elite Athlete and Performer Program (EAPP) is designed to help you balance elite sporting and performance commitments with your studies and university life. Program benefits include access to priority allocation status for preferential class selection, flexible study options, academic support, financial scholarships, representative subsidies and gym access on eligible campuses. EAPP eligible students also qualify for course entry assistance to study at ACU. Learn more about the EAPP and apply on our website.</p> <p>acu.edu.au/eapp</p>

WHAT IS A SELECTION RANK?

Your selection rank is essentially an entry score – it is calculated by TACs (QTAC, UAC or VTAC) and used to determine if you are eligible for entry to an undergraduate degree. For example, if you have an ATAR or OP from Year 12 studies, your selection rank will be your ATAR/OP combined with any adjustment factors you are eligible for. VET courses, work experience and STAT tests can also be used to calculate a selection rank. Most universities will assess you for entry to a course based on your selection rank. Please note, Year 12 students no longer graduate with OPs in Queensland, but with ATARs – so most documents now only list ATAR requirements.

If you have an OP, you can find OP to ATAR conversion tables on QTAC's website. If you need more help, contact AskACU.

acu.edu.au/askacu

Life at ACU

Find your place in a place that cares.

Your wellbeing is our biggest priority. And we know the support of a caring community will help you achieve your best. At ACU, you'll join a vibrant campus community, make friends for life, and have the support you need to thrive during, and after, your studies.

Be supported

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDENTS

You'll find Indigenous Higher Education Units (IHEUs) on each campus. Drop in to connect with other students and staff, make friends, ask questions and get answers.

acu.edu.au/indigenoussupport

ACADEMIC SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Build your academic skills and reach your potential with help from our academic skills development team. Take part in workshops, explore online resources or have a one-on-one consultation. We've also partnered with Studiosity, so you can benefit from free 24/7 online study support. Plus, first-year students can take part in PASS: free weekly peer-led study groups for units that students can find challenging.

acu.edu.au/academic-skills-development

CAREER ADVICE

Enhancing your employability is our job. Access career advice, application and interview assistance, workshops and professional development. We'll also help you engage with employers, seek a student job on campus or develop your entrepreneurial skills.

acu.edu.au/careersupport

DISABILITY AND CARER SUPPORT

If you are a student with disability or a temporary or ongoing mental health/medical condition, you are neurodivergent or you have significant carer responsibilities, our access and disability advisors will work with you to put together a plan to help you manage your studies.

acu.edu.au/disability-support



COUNSELLING

We offer free and confidential counselling to students experiencing personal, mental health or general wellbeing concerns that are affecting their life or studies. Our counsellors provide a safe and supportive environment so that you can discuss these concerns and develop the tools you need to build resilience and achieve your goals.

acu.edu.au/counselling-services

SAFETY

We want you to flourish on campus. That's why we're committed to making our university a place of safety and respect for all students and staff.

acu.edu.au/student-safety

MEDICAL SERVICES

ACU has medical centres on our Brisbane, Melbourne and North Sydney campuses. They offer comprehensive, high-quality healthcare services to students, staff and the local community. Bulk billing is available.

acu.edu.au/medical-centres

SCHOLARSHIPS

We know that balancing the cost of living and study can be tricky. So we offer more than 600 scholarship opportunities across a broad range of categories to help support current and future students from a range of backgrounds through uni. A range of government-funded initiatives are also available.

acu.edu.au/scholarships

STUDENT ADVOCACY

We offer an information, advice and referral service to help you understand and navigate the university's policies, procedures and academic regulations. This service is free and confidential.

acu.edu.au/student-advocacy

STUDENT VETERAN SUPPORT PROGRAM

If you're a current or former member of the Australian Defence Force, or you're in the reserves, we offer a range of support services and academic resources to help ease the transition into uni life.

acu.edu.au/svsp

Get involved

ORIENTATION

Before you start classes, make sure you head to your campus orientation. Get a feel for uni life, join your campus student association, take a campus tour, join some clubs, meet your peers, talk to your course coordinators, eat lots of free food, listen to bands, and generally get a feel for where you'll be enjoying the next few years.

acu.edu.au/orientation

GET AHEAD BY GIVING BACK

At ACU, we're all about making an impact. And you can start making a difference while you're studying. We offer a huge range of community engagement and volunteering opportunities: on campus, locally, nationally and overseas. Volunteering is a great way to meet like-minded people, learn transferable employability skills, and help to make the world a better place.

acu.edu.au/acuengagement

SPORT AND FITNESS

Enjoy the many opportunities available on your campus to get and stay active. Join a sport club or social sport program, represent ACU at UniSport and intervarsity events, take part in daily sport, health and wellbeing activities, or watch live sport on campus. At select campuses, visit us at The Track – a student space where you can hang out, relax and get involved in a variety of competitions. You can also join ACU Active, our facilitator of health, fitness and wellbeing programming. Access our gym, fitness classes and personal training services at on-campus gyms, partner gyms or online.

acusport.acu.edu.au

JOIN A CLUB

One of the best ways to make friends, learn skills and develop your leadership potential is by getting involved in clubs and societies. We have more than 60 clubs nationally for you to choose from: sport, culture, ethnicity, faith, social justice, faculty, professional, special interest and more. And if you can't find a club that suits your needs, you can start a new one.

aculife.acu.edu.au

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Our Campus Ministry teams work to bring the distinctive Catholic identity and mission of ACU to life. Offering a range of activities and services, our teams work to build an inclusive student community, care for your pastoral needs and spiritual wellbeing, and encourage you to see the world in new and different ways.

campusministry.acu.edu.au

STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Our student associations are run by students, for students, and provide services, activities and representation for you. Each campus has its own student association including First Peoples, postgraduate and international representatives. Involvement in student associations – whether as a member or as a member of the executives, councils and committees – provides great opportunities for leadership development, networking and friendships that will last a lifetime.

acu.edu.au/student-association

STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

Everything about our accommodation is designed to help you make the most of your university experience. Our Residential Life Program helps to create welcoming and enriching communities to ensure each resident feels included. Located near transport links, campuses and social centres, and providing 24/7 support, our residences allow students to find a healthy balance between their studies, fun and relaxation. We also offer a range of accommodation scholarships.

acu.edu.au/studentaccommodation

SPACE FOR ALL FAITHS

You don't need to be Catholic to study with us. Across our university, staff and students of all faiths – or none – find their place at ACU. Our chapels and multi-faith prayer rooms are for students and staff of all faiths and offer a welcoming and quiet space to pray and reflect.

acu.edu.au/all-faiths

Student mentoring



Starting university for the first time can be both exciting and overwhelming. First-year commencing students can now start the semester a step ahead with ACU's student mentoring program. Our program is social, informative and accessible for all students.

Student mentors engage with students at our Virtual Welcomes and Getting Started Days, as well as during your first semester of studies. You'll be able to explore common challenges students experience in their first year, find out tips for succeeding at uni, and connect with the ACU community.

We also offer one-on-one support and help you navigate university systems, answer your questions and direct you to further help if you need it.

acu.edu.au/connect2uni

One-on-one consultations

Book a one-on-one consultation with us for an opportunity to discuss your study options and find out how to reach your career goals.

acu.edu.au/one-on-one-consultations

Join us at Open Day

Every year we throw open our doors and invite you to join us on campus. If you've got questions, we'll be waiting with the answers at Open Day.

openday.acu.edu.au

Explore our campuses

Book a campus tour to see what sets us apart.

acu.edu.au/campus-tours

Join us at an event or information session

We run a range of other events throughout the year designed to help you with your study options. Depending on the event, you can join us online, on campus or via the phone.

acu.edu.au/future-students

Got a question or feeling social?

AskACU

Visit: acu.edu.au/askacu

Call: 1300 ASK ACU (1300 275 228)

If you've got a question, our AskACU team has you covered. You can search the FAQs, live chat or call one of our friendly AskACU staff – whatever works for you.

 facebook.com/Australian.Catholic.University  [@acuimages](https://instagram.com/acuimages)

 [@auscatholicuni](https://tiktok.com/@auscatholicuni)  [@ACUmedia](https://twitter.com/ACUmedia)  [ACUsocial](https://youtube.com/ACUsocial)

Send us your details and we will keep you in the loop about courses, events, information sessions and more.

acu.edu.au



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Australian Catholic University attempts to ensure the information contained in this publication is correct at the time of production (April 2024). However, sections may be amended without notice by the university in response to changing circumstances or for any other reason. Check the course browser on the ACU website for the most up-to-date information.