

Dear Student

Re: The Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) in NSW and the ACT

You may be aware that in June UAC announced that the Universities Admission Index (UAI) would be replaced by the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) for NSW and ACT students.

At the time of the announcement, UAC wrote to all HSC students and placed material on our website to provide information about the change.

UAC did not write specifically to IB students in NSW and the ACT at that time because the change from UAI to ATAR will have no bearing on IB students.

However, UAC has become aware that there may be some confusion among IB students about the effect of the change. I am therefore writing to confirm that the schedule used to determine university selection ranks for IB students across Australia will not change as a result of the change from UAI to ATAR.

The reason is that IB Diploma results are equated to university entrance ranks in most Australian states via the Interstate Transfer Index, or ITI, which is maintained by the Australasian Conference of Tertiary Admissions Centres (ACTAC). The changes introduced for NSW and ACT students were made to improve the alignment of those students' results with the ITI. As IB Diploma results already correctly align with the ITI, there is no reason to adjust the rankings received by IB students.

It is true that the ATAR received by some students completing the HSC will be slightly higher than the UAI they would have received in previous years, while the ranks that are derived for IB students will not rise similarly. This is not a penalty imposed on IB students. It is a correction being made for NSW and ACT students so that they align properly with other Australian States, as well as the IB.

Information about applying for university with an IB Diploma (including a table showing how IB scores convert to UAC ranks) is available on UAC's website at www.uac.edu.au/undergraduate/faq/ib.shtml.

We wish you well in your studies and in gaining university entrance next year.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Stanton
Managing Director