

# REFUGEES

## SPECIAL ADMISSION INFORMATION GUIDE

These guidelines are for the Special Admission Scheme – Refugees, for **undergraduate and postgraduate applicants** whose education has been affected by disadvantageous circumstances or who are unable to provide documentary evidence of previous studies because of their refugee experience. The eligibility criteria below will assist you in determining whether you should apply.

### UAC APPLICATION

All Special Admission Scheme - Refugees applicants will also need to submit a **UAC application** for university admission by 30 September 2008. You can apply on-line at [www.uac.edu.au](http://www.uac.edu.au). You may also be required to fulfil other requirements such as completing a personal statement. Please check the UAC website for any requirements related to the courses you are applying for.

### Current School leavers

If you are a current school leaver and a permanent resident and you are completing a recognised Australian year 12 qualification in 2008 you should apply through the UTS Educational Access Scheme in UTS. Educational Access Schemes (EAS) booklets and forms are available from UAC and UTS and are due on 30 September 2008.

### ELIGIBILITY

**You are eligible to apply for Special Admission – Refugees if:**

> you are a holder of an Australian permanent resident humanitarian visa.

A permanent resident humanitarian visa is

- a subclass 200 to 217, or 803, 807, 809, 810, 817 or 866 visa  
OR

- a Group 1.3 or Group 1.5 permanent resident (refugee and humanitarian) visa or entry permit within the meaning of the Migration (1993) Regulations

If you believe you hold a permanent resident humanitarian visa which is not listed above, contact the UTS Equity and Diversity Unit on 9514 1084 to discuss this.

### AND

> you are a non-current school leaver (ie. you will not be completing a recognised Australian Year 12 or overseas equivalent in 2008.)

### Temporary Protection Visa and Bridging Visa Holders

If you are a refugee who is a holder of a Temporary Protection Visa or a Bridging Visa you may be able to apply for the Special Admissions Scheme - Refugees. Contact the Equity and Diversity Unit on 9514 1084 to find out if the visa you hold allows you to apply for the scheme.

### HOW DOES THE SPECIAL ADMISSION SCHEME WORK?

If you have been assessed as eligible you will receive a concession on the academic entry requirements of your course.

The concession will apply in relation to the qualification that was affected by disadvantageous circumstances. This may assist you if this qualification is used as the basis for entry into the courses you are applying for.

### HSC

Applicants who are using a HSC result as the basis for entry into UTS, will be provided with a 10 point UAI concession on the standard UAI cutoff for your course.

### Post-secondary qualification

Applicants who have commenced or completed post-secondary study may have their application considered on the basis of recent (rather than HSC) study, relevant work experience, or motivation to study. In these cases, you will receive a concession if your circumstances impacted on the qualification which is accepted by the faculty you are applying for as a basis for entry into their courses. You can look up these qualifications by viewing faculty admissions requirements relevant to your course at [www.uts.edu.au/study/admission.html](http://www.uts.edu.au/study/admission.html)

**Please note:** Eligibility under the Special Admission Scheme does not automatically lead to an offer of a place at UTS. You are still required to compete for a place on the basis of academic merit.

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE APPLICATION FORM

#### Q.1 APPLICATION DETAILS

UTS will use your answer to verify your UAC application details.

#### Q.2 COURSE PREFERENCES

Indicate your UAC undergraduate or postgraduate course preferences at the time of completing this form.

#### Q.5 REFUGEE AND RESIDENTIAL STATUS

You must provide a verified copy of your permanent humanitarian visa.

#### Q.6 ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Please refer to the UAC 2009 Guide Table 5 - English Language Proficiency to check whether you have met English language proficiency requirements for admission to UTS. If you have completed your studies in an overseas country you may have to provide proof of English language proficiency.

#### Q.7 EDUCATION DETAILS

You should have provided documentation of your secondary or tertiary studies with your UAC or postgraduate application form.

You may be unable to provide documentation of these studies because of the circumstances relating to your refugee status. If this is the case you should call the UTS Equity and Diversity Unit on 9514 1084 to get information about how you can demonstrate your potential for tertiary studies at UTS. For example, you may be able to meet matriculation requirements by sitting the STAT (Special Tertiary Admissions Test), or by completing an alternative UTS assessment.

## Q.8 PERSONAL STATEMENT

If you are a non-current school leaver applying for a UTS course you may be required to complete a Personal Statement or Questionnaire in addition to lodging your UAC application. Please check the UAC website for more information.

## Q.9 TYPE OF DISADVANTAGE (IF APPLICABLE)

The disadvantage must have been experienced during Year 11 and/or 12 or equivalent, and/or during the completion of another qualification relevant to your application. Please indicate which type of disadvantage/s you have experienced, during which qualification, and for how long.

Below is a brief description of the types of disadvantage you may have experienced and the documents you need to include to support your application.

### (a) Personal Illness/Disability

You may have experienced a serious illness or disability which has affected your educational performance during your previous studies.

**Documents:** Supporting documents such as medical reports/certificates or letters from your doctor or other health-professional.

### (b) Financial Hardship

You may have been receiving an income support payment such as Youth Allowance, Austudy or Disability Support Pension while you've been studying or you have experienced other financial disadvantage.

**Documents:** A Centrelink Income Statement or a Notice of Assessment, or other documents which demonstrate your financial disadvantage.

### (c) Family and Home Disruption and Responsibilities

- > death of an immediate family member or close friend
- > severe illness/disability of an immediate family member or close friend
- > divorce/separation of your parents
- > criminal proceedings\*
- > abuse to you or your family
- > excessive family responsibilities including care of children and/or family members
- > work requirements to support family or working in a family business.

\* You cannot list criminal proceedings for offences for which you have been convicted, or traffic/parking infringements.

**Documents:** The confidential statement of support should be completed by a responsible person who can clearly state how these circumstances have affected your educational performance. Verified copies of documents such as death certificates or divorce papers must also be included.

In the case of an immediate family member who has a severe illness or disability, please provide a medical certificate or report giving details of the illness.

You should indicate how many hours per week you work or take care of family members and you should provide a statement from your employer which states how many hours you work per week.

### (d) English language difficulty

**For undergraduate applicants:** you have come from a non-English speaking country and you arrived in Australia on or after twelve years of age.

**For postgraduate applicants:** you completed your undergraduate degree in a non-English speaking country.

**Documents:** a verified copy of your initial immigration visa and/or an Intensive English Centre exit report.

## Q.10 PERSONAL STATEMENT – EDUCATIONAL DISADVANTAGE (if answering Q.9)

Please provide a detailed description of each type of disadvantage including the way in which the disadvantage impacted on your educational performance.

## Q.11 STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT – EDUCATIONAL DISADVANTAGE (if answering Q.9)

### (a) General statement

This should be completed by a responsible person who is aware of how the disadvantage has affected your educational performance and can support your case. It is preferable that this person be someone at the educational institution where you have completed your qualification such as your school principal, teacher, or TAFE teacher. The responsible person could also be a social worker, doctor or religious or community leader.

If you have listed a personal illness or disability, a statement or document from your doctor or other health professional should also be included.

If the statement of support needs to be more detailed you may provide additional statements. These statements must be signed by the responsible person who is supporting your case. You may also provide additional medical reports if these support your case.

### (b) Personal Illness/Disability

If you have claimed personal illness/disability you will need to ask your medical practitioner to complete 11(b). This should not be the same person who completed section 11(a).

## CLOSING DATE:

**Tuesday 30th September 2008.**

**Deliver to:** Student Info and Admin Centre  
Foyer Level, UTS, 1 Broadway, Broadway.

**Post to:** Student Info and Admin Centre  
UTS, PO Box 123, Broadway 2007.

## VERIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS

You must supply the documents which are requested in the 'Instructions for completing the application form'. If you provide copies of original documents the copies should be verified.

### Who can verify documents?

An authorised officer must verify your documents.

Authorised officers include employees of:

- > the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC)
- > the Student Enquiries Office or Admissions Office at any UAC participating university, including the UTS Student Info & Admin offices at the City and Kuring-gai campuses
- > the Administration Office at any TAFE college
- > the official records department of the institution that originally issued the document(s)

Some institutions may charge for verified copies.

Alternatively, documents may be verified by a Justice of the Peace with a registration number.

NB: copies verified by a Justice of the Peace without registration number will NOT be accepted.