

# Widening Participation: Equity Schemes and Monash Guarantee

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# Acknowledgement of Country

# Hello!

## Access Inclusion and Success

Programs to help all students, but especially under-represented succeed.

- Access Monash Mentoring
- Schools Outreach
- Peer Mentoring
- Peer Assisted Study Programs
- Entry Schemes
- Widening Participation Projects

## Disability Support Services

Dedicated tailored support service for students with a disability, medical or mental health condition, or caring responsibilities that impacts their participation in university life.

# Monash Entry Schemes 2026

**10,948**

Total Equity Schemes and Monash Guarantee offers made in 2026 (up from 8,692 in 2025).



**65.4%**

Of all domestic Monash VTAC applicants received a Monash Guarantee or Equity Schemes offer.



**4,661** (27.8%  
of domestic offers)

Students would not have received an offer without using a Monash entry scheme.



# Monash Entry Schemes

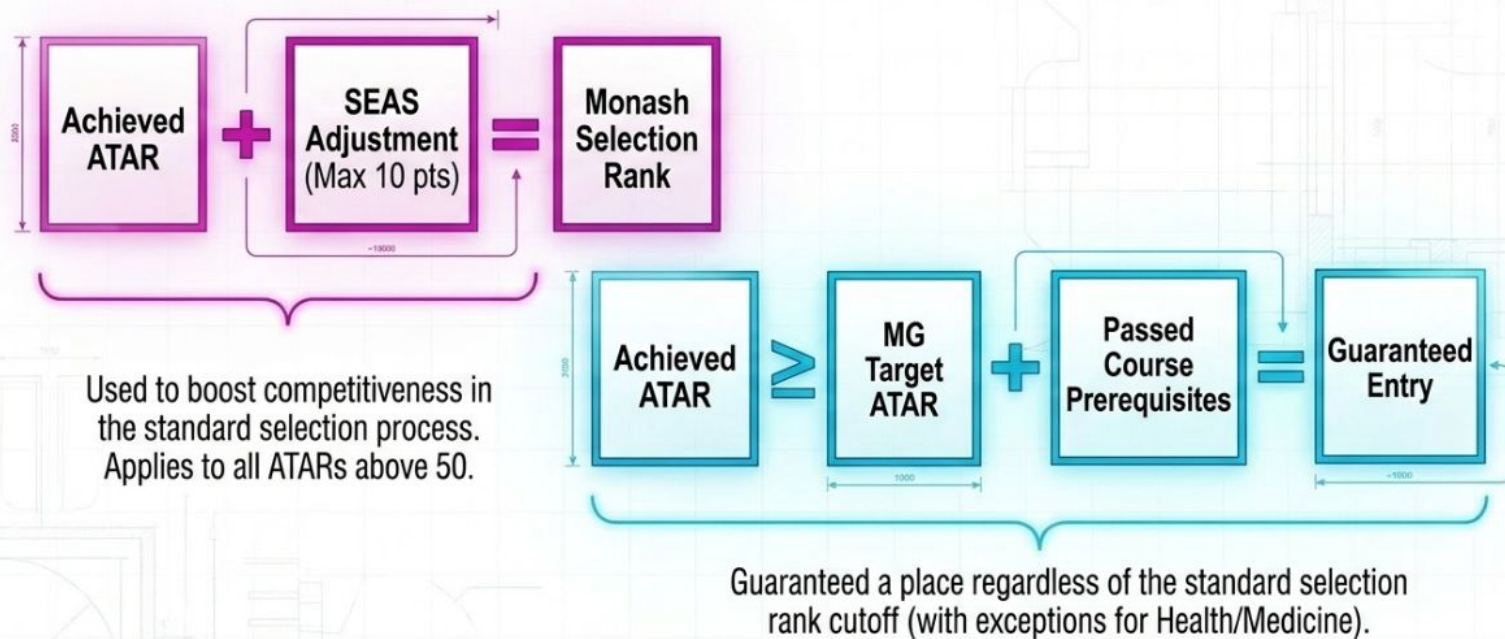
## The Monash Guarantee (MG)

- **Mechanism:** Guaranteed entry at a lowered, fixed ATAR threshold.
- **Scope:** Specific to Monash.
- **Eligibility Requirement:** Must identify with 1 or more of 5 priority groups.

## Equity Schemes (SEAS)

- **Mechanism:** Adjusts the selection rank (boosts the achieved ATAR up to 10 points).
- **Scope:** VTAC-wide (applies to most Victorian universities).
- **Eligibility Requirement:** Must satisfy 1 or more of 4 VTAC categories.

# Understanding the mechanics



# Equity Schemes and Monash Guarantee - Eligibility

## YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR ES IF YOU ARE:

- An Australian or New Zealand citizenship, or
- Permanent Resident or
- On a Permanent Humanitarian visa, or
- On Temporary Protection visa, or
- On Safe Haven Enterprise visa, or
- On Bridging visa A or E
- You must also satisfy the requirements of at least one ES category.

## YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR MG IF YOU:

- have completed an Australian Year 12 or International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma within the previous five years (2022 onwards), and have not started any tertiary studies
- Are an Australian or New Zealand citizen, a holder of Australian permanent residency or permanent humanitarian visa
- Satisfy all course-specific prerequisites and requirements, such as a portfolio, interview or audition.
- Meet the Monash Guarantee ATAR for your preferred course
- Have experienced financial disadvantage, attend a Monash-listed under-represented school, live or attend school in a regional or remote area, are an Indigenous Australian or live in a low socio-economic area.

# Understanding the mechanics

## The Clinical Placement Exception (Nursing/Health)

Health courses may have restrictions due to clinical placements. We have reserved some places for Monash Guarantee students who would not otherwise have been offered a place, and have the strongest results across the range of criteria.



## No Guarantees in Medicine or pathway courses

The Monash Guarantee does not apply to select Scholars programs, the Bachelor of Medical Science and Doctor of Medicine, the Diploma of Higher Education, the Diploma of Tertiary Studies or Indigenous entry courses.

## Elite Athletes and Performers Scheme

Handled entirely separately from VTAC. Applications are submitted directly to Monash University.

# Monash Guarantee Quota Courses

- Nursing
- Nursing/Midwifery (Honours)
- Occupational Therapy (Honours)
- Paramedicine
- Physiotherapy (Honours)
- Radiography and Medical Imaging (Honours)
- Speech Pathology (Honours)
- Teaching Courses

**In 2025**, no eligible MG student was denied a place in a quota course due to enrolment caps.

**Precision Calibration:** MG ATARs are reviewed annually against capacity data to eliminate the need for enforcing quotas.

**Ranked Priority:** If capacity is reached, we rank the MG-eligible pool to provide pathways for those who would not have received an offer through the standard selection process

# Equity Schemes (SEAS)

- SEAS adjusts student's lowest selection rank in recognition of circumstances that may have **impacted student's education**.
- SEAS adjustments will depend on their **personal circumstances**.
- Adjustments are added to their combined study scores and **their ATAR is recalculated**.
- Students who are eligible for SEAS must still **meet all course prerequisites and other requirements**, such as UCAT, audition or interview.

# First in Family

*You are first in your family if your immediate family (i.e. parents and grandparents) did not attend university, and you and/or your siblings are the first to do so.*

# Behind the scenes

## 2026 Recapped



### The 5-Year MG Window

The Monash Guarantee now includes all students who completed Year 12 (with an ATAR) within the past five years (2020 onwards), provided they haven't commenced tertiary study.



### SEIFA Alignment

Low-income address criteria now officially harmonised with the Australian Government definition (bottom quartile of the SEIFA Index for Education and Occupation).

### ICSEA Threshold



The Under-represented Schools (URS) list will now include all schools with an ICSEA score of 1000 or below.

Entry scheme approval process:

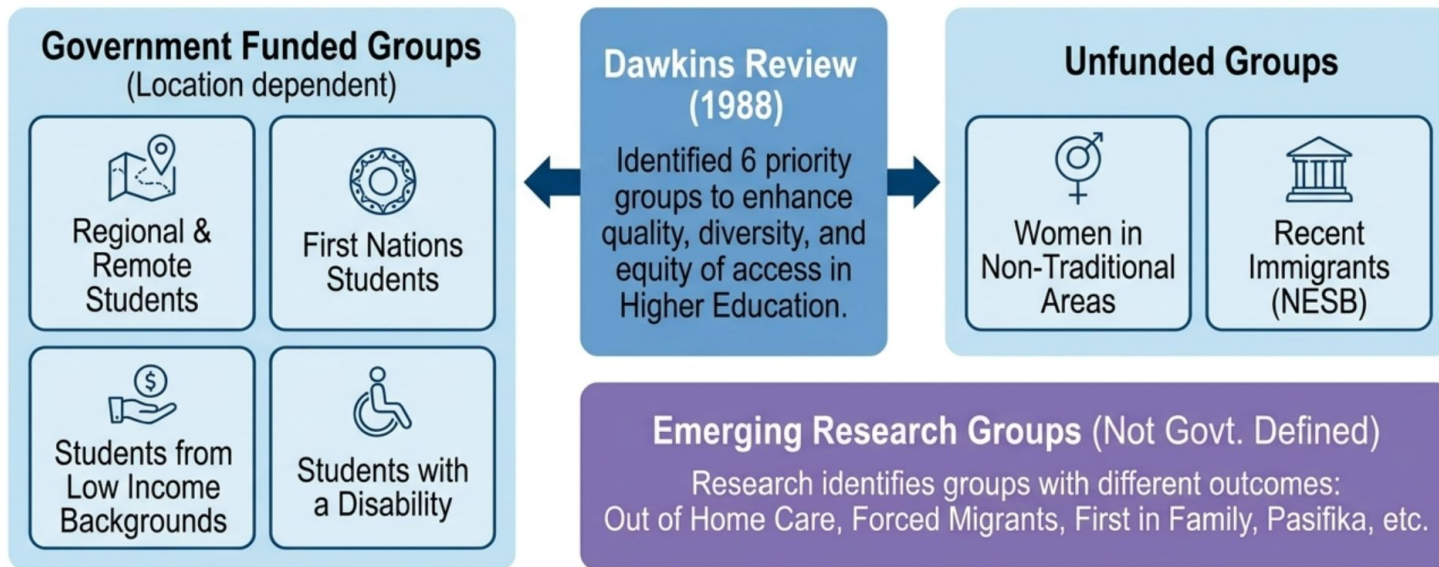
Position Paper

Endorsed by the University  
Education Committee

Approved by Academic Board

## Who is considered an equity/priority group?

# Equity Groups & The Evolving Landscape



Government definitions have not kept pace with research, leading to a landscape where equity looks different at each university.

# Who is considered an equity/priority group?

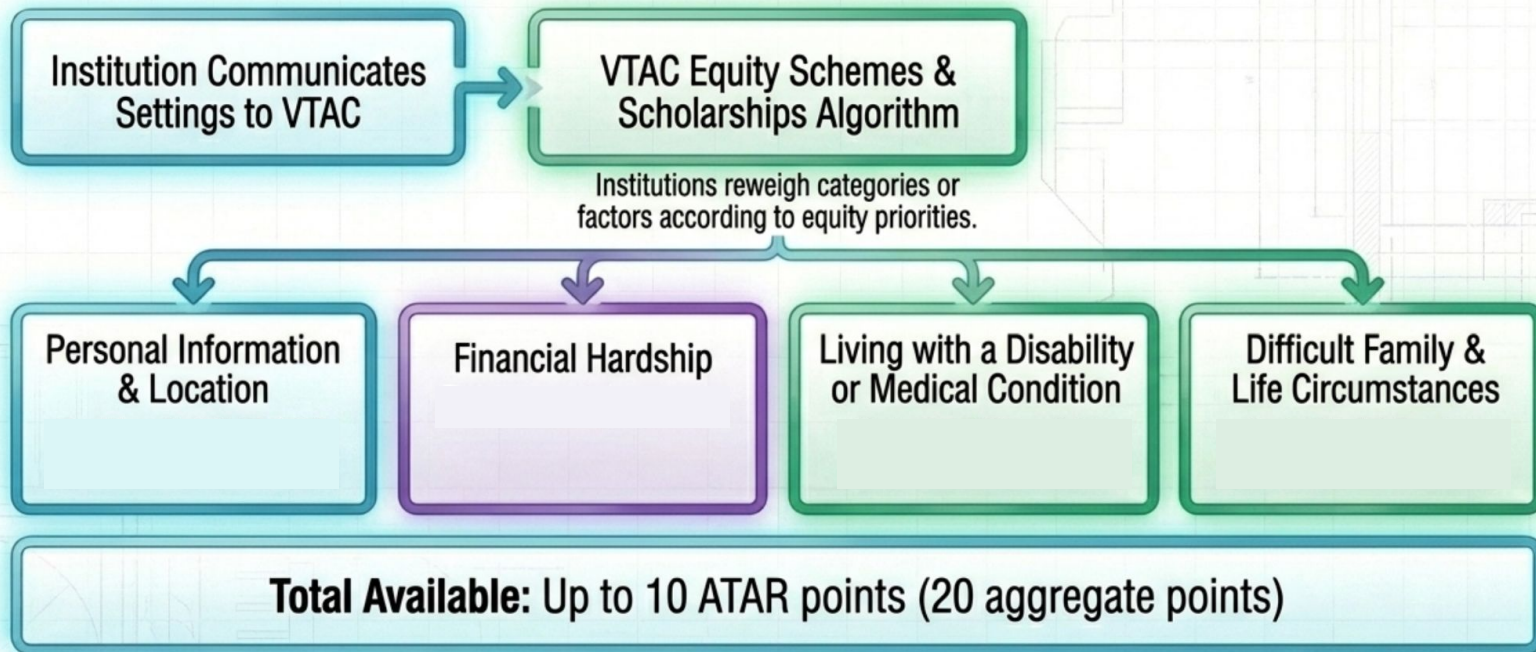
## Summary table



Institution name	Category 1: Personal information and location							Category 2: Disadvantaged financial background	Category 3: Disability or medical condition	Category 4: Difficult circumstances
	Age	Gender	Living or school location	Recognition as an Indigenous Australian	Under represented schools	Non-English speaking background	First in family to attend university			
Academy of Interactive Entertainment	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
Academy of Interactive Technology	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
ACAP University College	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Australian Catholic University	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Box Hill Institute	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓

[Source](#)

# VTAC Equity Schemes Process



# Monash Guarantee ATARs Process

**Apply approved  
formula**

**Check success  
and retention**

**Faculty Input**  
New courses, quotas

**Approval**  
Chief Coursework Officer  
Deputy Vice-Chancellor  
(Student Experience)

# Behind the Scenes: The Data Mapping Low Socioeconomic

## 1. The Government Framework

- **Federal Mandates:** The Australian government defines the baseline criteria for low-SES, regional, and remote/other equity groups across all universities.

## 2. The Data (Why Suburbs Aren't Enough)

- **Hyper-Local Mapping:** Eligibility is calculated using Census **Statistical Area 1 (SA1)** data, which looks at small blocks of roughly 200 houses.
- **The Neighbour Discrepancy:** Because data maps specific education and occupation metrics at the SA1 block level, two students living around the corner from each other can have completely different eligibility statuses.

## 3. Institutional Application

- **University Discretion:** Universities can vary definitions low for entry schemes and scholarships.

## Behind the Scenes: Monash Under-represented Schools List

Monash has identified more than 1000 schools across Australia as being under-represented at university. If your school is on this list your students may be eligible for the [Monash Guarantee](#).  
Monash's list;

- **URS List uses equity criteria** - the size or age of your school does not influence your eligibility
- Is updated in July each year
- Uses a **combination of three factors** to determine inclusion
  - Australian Bureau of Statistics data (SEIFA, IEO and ASGS)
  - [Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage \(ICSEA\)](#)

The data sets we use look at the socio-economic status of the school catchment area as well as whether the school is located in a regional or rural area.

If you have a question about your school's status please contact our Access, Inclusion and Success team on [accessinclusionsuccess@monash.edu](mailto:accessinclusionsuccess@monash.edu).

# 2027: What to Expect

# Equity Schemes Calculator

## ATAR & SEAS CALCULATOR

ATAR CALCULATOR

SEAS CALCULATOR

WHAT IS SEAS?

WHAT IS THE MONASH  
GUARANTEE?

INDIGENOUS PATHWAYS

FAQS

CHOOSE MONASH

### SEAS CALCULATOR

#### IF YOU KNOW YOUR ESTIMATED ATAR

Update below and then jump straight to the SEAS calculator.

#### ESTIMATED ATAR:

MATURE AGE On January 1 2022, I will be:

- Younger than 21 years of age  
 21 years of age or older

INDIGENOUS  I am of Australian Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent

Not applicable

NON-ENGLISH  
SPEAKING  
BACKGROUND  I was born outside Australia in a non English speaking country  
and arrived in Australia in the last 6 years (after 1 January 2016)

Not applicable

HOME  
ADDRESS

Please enter your address eg.  
*Unit 5, 11 Example Street, Melbourne VIC*

As you start typing your address, we'll suggest a complete,  
verified postal address for you to select.

ATAR ESTIMATED:

70.00

SELECTION RANK  
ESTIMATED:

80.00

EXPLORE COURSES

My Monash Guarantee  
courses

Please encourage students to check their eligibility using the equity schemes calculator.

It will show both equity schemes adjustments and eligibility for the Monash Guarantee.

**The calculator mimics the exact equity scheme parameters Monash provides to VTAC.**

# Late Equity Schemes

- Late equity schemes is Monash specific and will open 10 October through to early December.
- There is only one round for semester 1 2027.
- Late SEAS folks are considered for equity scholarships.



To be considered for late SEAS, the application must meet the following criteria:

- Be **unexpected, beyond your control** and have had a negative impact on your education outcomes, and
- Have occurred on or after VTAC's Equity schemes closing date (Friday, 9 October 2026), and
- Have not received consideration through the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA), or
- Identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and did not submit a VTAC SEAS application.

[See website](#)

# Key Dates



## Mid June

- Monash Guarantee ATARs published
- Changes to Monash Guarantee and Equity Schemes published



## Pre Open Day

- Equity Schemes Calculator updated
- New Equity Scheme brochure released
- Under-represented schools list released

# Key Dates



~7-9 Dec

Monash Guarantee and Scholarship eligibility emails sent to:

- Student eligible for the Monash Kickstart Scholarship
- Students eligible for the Monash Guarantee
- Messaging is segmented to provide regional students with information about accommodation and support



Change of Preference

Access Monash will have a stall at Change of Preference expo

Escalation point for enquiries -> [accessinclusionsuccess@monash.edu](mailto:accessinclusionsuccess@monash.edu)

# Take Aways

- **Monash Guarantee:** Lowers the baseline entry ATAR.
- **SEAS/Equity Schemes:** Increases the student's selection rank via adjustments.
- **First in Family:** Take note of Monash's **newly updated** definition for this cohort.
- **VTAC vs. Institutional Rules:** One central application (VTAC), but every university applies its own equity settings.
- **School Lists Aren't Universal:** Every institution sets its own Under-represented Schools criteria—Monash's list is strictly equity-driven.



MONASH  
University

# Questions?

Email: [accessinclusionsuccess@monash.edu](mailto:accessinclusionsuccess@monash.edu)