How it works

Students applying to be considered under the Tertiary Options Project need to consult with their Year 12 Coordinator, school psychologist, or another upper school coordinator. The applicant must demonstrate disruption to their preparation for the WACE course by writing a personal statement outlining the disruption, complete a TOP application form and include any relevant documentation from eg. doctor, school psychologist, social worker, Centrelink officer, minister of religion etc.

A Transferable Skills Form that has been completed by school staff must accompany this application. This form provides the TOP committee with information on the student’s ability to work at an academic level.

Should a student’s ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank) fall below the University’s entrance level, discussion is held between the Equity staff and the Admissions Officer. A final decision is based on the student’s problems, the supporting evidence and the course into which the student hopes to be enrolled.

Selection and notification for this program occurs after the release of the Tertiary Entrance results for that year.

Acceptance into the Tertiary Options Project does not guarantee entrance to Murdoch University.

The closing date for this program is the last Friday in October.

Contacts for Equity, Access and Diversity staff

For all enquiries concerning applications please contact:
Telephone: (08) 9360 6084
Facsimile: (08) 9360 6502
Email: equity@murdoch.edu.au
Tertiary Options Project (TOP)

A Murdoch University Alternative Entry Program for Year 12 WACE Students

Murdoch University has a commitment to increasing access to tertiary study for a diversity of people. The Tertiary Options Project (TOP) is part of the University’s response to that commitment.

This program is aimed at Year 12 WACE students and requires completion by the student of a TOP application form and must include a Transferable Skills Form completed by a member of the teaching staff or the school’s psychologist.

To be considered under TOP applicants must have nominated a Murdoch course as at least their first preference on their TISC form.

All applicants must be Australian Citizens or have Permanent Residency Status because they have a Humanitarian Visa (refugee).

Who may apply?

A student who is enrolled in WACE subjects, wishing to commence study at Murdoch University in the next year and who has experienced disruption to preparation for the exams due to one or more of the following:

- A student who has a serious acute or chronic illness or disability (including psychiatric illness).
- A student whose family is encountering social/financial problems:
  - parents’ separation during Year 12
  - chronic low income of parent/s or loss of the household’s main income
  - disruption/violence in the family, student forced to leave home etc.
- A student who has been forced to live independently due to difficult family circumstances.
- A student who has experienced multiple school changes during upper school.
- A student who is an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person.
- A student who has arrived recently under Australia’s Humanitarian Program (refugee).
- A student living in a rural or remote area and studying for Year 12 WACE within that region.
- A student who has become pregnant during Year 12 preparation.

TOP Program – overview

The Tertiary Options Project is one of the longest running Equity entry programs at Murdoch University. Initially, it was targeted only at those schools within the Southwest catchment of Murdoch University but now extends intake across the state for those students who can demonstrate a high level of disruption to their final Year 12 WACE Exams.

Students applying to this program need to demonstrate that they have continued their preparation for the final WACE Exams and have achieved the best Australian Tertiary Entrance Admissions Rank (ATAR) that they could under the given circumstances.

Those students who have special reasons for sitting less than the required subjects to achieve an ATAR should contact the Equity, Access and Diversity office.

Application forms may be downloaded from: www.murdoch.edu.au/Future-students/Domestic-students/Applying-to-Murdoch/Alternate-admission-pathways/School-leavers/