



ALTERNATIVE TERTIARY ENTRY PROGRAM (ATEP)

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS IT?

The Alternative Tertiary Entry Program (ATEP) is a collaboration between Swinburne University of Technology (SUT) and partnering schools. The aim of the program is to provide entry into a Higher Education or PAVE course without using the traditional ATAR route. It has been created to offer a more comprehensive measure and recognition of students' abilities and commitment to further education, rather than relying on the traditional ATAR model, which may not allow for the individual student to showcase their particular talents.

Students will be able to gain entry to a Swinburne degree course via **successful completion** of:

- the Curriculum Stream *plus*
- Units 3&4 VCE English OR International Baccalaureate (IB) English (any) *plus*
- the SUT tailored transition activity, developed to support successful transition to university.

WHAT'S THE PROCESS?

Decide

How does a student apply for ATEP?

Students with the school and their parents decide that the ATEP is the best option after reviewing the information provided by Swinburne.

Does the ATEP have prerequisites?

The ATEP does not have prerequisites, however some SUT courses do and these need to be satisfied during completion of the ATEP.

- Bachelor of Engineering and Bachelor of Design entry requirements may include prerequisite VCE subjects.
- Alternative Entry via UniLink or Associate Degrees is also available. This means that students can progress in to the usual Degree program via a different pathway.

What are the expected outcomes for students undertaking the ATEP?

- Develop the capacity to learn, and play an active role in their own learning
- Have the essential skills in literacy and numeracy and are creative and productive users of technology, especially ICT, as a foundation for success in all learning areas
- Are able to begin to think deeply and logically, and obtain and evaluate evidence in a disciplined way
- Are creative, innovative, and resourceful, and are able to solve problems in ways that draw upon a range of learning areas and disciplines
- Are able to plan activities independently, collaborate, work in teams and communicate ideas, and
- Are able to make sense of the world and think about how things have become the way they are.

What is the tailored transition program?

ATEP Students will undertake a package of activity and resources tailored for their cohort that will assist them with the transition to the higher education style of learning.

What does it cost?

Students participating in the Curriculum Stream will be required to pay a \$200 Unit Enrolment Fee (per unit), however this fee will then be credited to their Higher Education course fees should they successfully complete the ATEP and gain entry into a Swinburne degree course, once census date is passed.

What sort of equipment/books do students need?

Book and equipment lists for each SUT unit will be provided to students prior to commencement of the program.

What areas of study/outcomes of learning does ATEP cover?

Modules and Learning Outcomes for each SUT unit will be provided to students prior to commencement of the program.

On-campus or online?

Students will normally be required to attend campus if undertaking Curriculum units, unless they choose an on-line version of a unit. 12-15 hours per week will be spent at school undertaking the requirements of the unit.

Apply

At School...

- Students interested in the ATEP apply through their school.

If the school is not already partnered with SUT for the ATEP, schools can contact Swinburne via the following email: atep@swin.edu.au and we will provide information and the MoU required to formalise the partnership.

- Swinburne does not accept enrolments into the ATEP for students not also enrolled at a partner school

...and online

- Students apply for the ATEP course here:
swinburne.edu.au/study/course/Alternative-Tertiary-Entry-Program-NN-ATEP/local

The students apply online, and once they have been accepted, they are sent a letter of offer with instructions on how to enrol online into their units.

Students will also enrol into the required ATEP transition activity.

How can students prepare for ATEP?

Students are advised to treat the ATEP the same way that they would treat a traditional VCE Year 12 and complete coursework leading up to and during the program.

Enrol

Once you're accepted:

- Swinburne provides a list of recommended first year units that have no prerequisites

Tell us!

- Decide on preferred units (core units from the degree likely to be undertaken in the post-ATEP year should NOT be chosen)
- Decide on likely tertiary program in the post-ATEP year
- Schools advise dedicated SUT ATEP coordinator of units and likely post-ATEP degree course.

Attend

- Students complete the chosen units, with mentoring by University staff and School staff, as required
- Students undertake requirements of the transition activities.

Assessment:

- As per the unit outline. Undertaking the ATEP does NOT mean there are no assessments, so check the unit outline carefully for the unit requirements.

Completion requirements

- English – Demonstrated capacity to undertake a structured study program due to the prevalence of literacy-based assessments across Swinburne courses. The student must therefore attain:
 - a minimum score of 25 in Unit 3&4 VCE English, OR
 - minimum total of 4 points in IB English (any)
- 2 x 1st Year SUT units to be studied online or face-to-face
- Transition activity to support successful transition in to university setting.

Progress

What happens when the ATEP is over?

- Students must provide SUT with the results of their English 3&4 or IBL English examination,
- Apply for a Swinburne Degree Course in the usual way through VTAC.

If you have successfully passed all components of the ATEP, you will be given a first-round offer to your desired course.

What happens if the student does not pass the ATEP?

If the student does not pass the ATEP, then Swinburne will work with them to develop a suitable pathway into the university or PAVE sector.

For schools:

We happily provide schools with information and details about the program upon request. If you have a student that you think would benefit from being in the program, please call us for information and advice. We will provide the MoU agreement for signature which will trigger our approval for accepting the student's application.

Who do I contact in relation to ATEP?

Students concerned about their units should speak to their Schools representative and their lecturer or student mentor. Student HQ are the first point of contact for the ATEP for administrative matters. More particular questions can be answered by the program coordinator, who can be reached on 9214 5793.