



ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

BACHELOR OF MUSIC

ASSOCIATE DEGREE OF MUSIC

Educational and Other Requirements for Admission

As well as completing application forms, applicants for admission to the Bachelor of Music or its embedded Associate Degree of Music must fulfil both educational and artistic requirements.

A. EDUCATIONAL PREREQUISITES:

- a. Attainment of a satisfactory standard in the NSW Higher School Certificate or its interstate or overseas equivalent, or
- b. Attainment of a tertiary qualification, or satisfactory completion of at least one year's full-time load in a tertiary course.

B. ARTISTIC AND ACADEMIC SKILL ASSESSMENT:

- a. Applicants are required to complete an audition and interview, and provide evidence of having attained a level of musical knowledge that will enable them to successfully undertake the first year of the course. Auditions and interviews are conducted by at least two (2) faculty members.
- b. Audition – applicants should be prepared to present three (3) pieces demonstrating their skill on their major instrument (including voice). These pieces should be of contrasting style, period and composer, and may include an improvisation or original composition. As a guide, repertoire presented should be at an AMEB Grade 6 standard for instrumentalists and Grade 4 for singers, or HSC Music 2 level. These standards are given to guide the choice of audition repertoire, and AMEB examinations or HSC Music 2 are not pre-requisites for entry. The audition program should not exceed 20 minutes. The audition panel may request a demonstration of technical work.
- c. Interview – conducted concurrently with the audition. Applicants will discuss their previous musical experience, personal motivation and aspirations. The panel will also inform the student of Institute and course expectations.
- d. Musical Knowledge – it is assumed that commencing students will possess musical knowledge equivalent to the outcomes of HSC Music 2 or AMEB Grade 5 Musicianship. Where academic records, other educational experience or the interview panel are unable to verify a satisfactory level of musical knowledge, applicants will be offered the opportunity to complete a musicianship test set at AMEB Grade 5 standard. Those who are not able to demonstrate the required level of musical knowledge by one of the above means may be offered a place in the course, conditional on the satisfactory completion of the bridging unit *Harmonic Practices* before commencement.

Applicants residing overseas or interstate may satisfy these requirements through submitting an unedited recording, program notes, and a portfolio of previous performance experience. Such submission will be followed up with a telephone interview.

- #### C. Applicants who have not completed an educational qualification in English have to provide proof of proficiency in English through internationally recognised tests such as IELTS or TOEFL, or through satisfactory completion of an approved course at one of the College's partner language colleges. The English language requirement for admission to the Bachelor of Music or its embedded Associate Degree of Music is an overall minimum score of 6.0 in the IELTS Academic Test, or equivalent. Comparative scores for some popular tests are included below.

IELTS SCORE Band	6.0	6.5	7.0	7.5	8.0
Test of English as a Foreign Language internet based Test (TOEFL iBT)	60	79	94	102	110
PTE Academic	50	58	65	73	79
Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE) from Cambridge ESOL test scores	52	58	67	74	80

Overseas students applying for admission to Excelsia College courses must have reached the age of 18 years by the commencement of their studies. Overseas students wishing to transfer to Excelsia College from another registered provider prior to completing six months' study in their principal course need to include an appropriate letter of release with their application.

Mature Age

An applicant of 21 years or over who does not hold qualifications sufficient for admission, but has satisfied the artistic entry requirements, may be admitted with provisional status if the Academic Board determines that such applicant has attained a standard of education and experience adequate for entry to the course and has the aptitude required for undertaking the course.

- a. Selection is based on Recognition of Prior Learning together with written application, audition and interview. The Admissions Committee looks for demonstrated capacity through paid or voluntary employment in a field relevant to the course, evidence of motivation to succeed in the course, and awareness of the demands of tertiary study. Provisional status for adult entrants will normally be converted to full candidature on successful completion of one semester of full-time studies or the equivalent workload taken part-time over a two-semester period.
- b. Where academic records, other educational experience or the interview panel are unable to verify a satisfactory level of musical knowledge, applicants will be offered the opportunity to complete a musicianship test set at AMEB Grade 5 standard. Those who are not able to demonstrate the required level of musical knowledge by one of the above means will need to complete the bridging unit *Harmonic Practices*, offered prior to course commencement.
- c. Applicants evidencing difficulty in reaching tertiary academic standards in written tasks may be required to complete a bridging unit providing foundational skills for academic success.

Special Entry

The Admissions Committee will not normally admit a student who does not meet the specified entry criteria for the course in question. However, the College recognises that:

- d. a student not meeting the entry criteria may have gained through employment, and/or formal or informal education, experience and/or qualifications equivalent to the entry criteria for a given course; and
- e. students from certain backgrounds, who may be able to successfully complete a given course, may not have had reasonable prior opportunity to develop experience and qualifications sufficient to satisfy the entry criteria for that course. Such students may include:
 - Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islanders,
 - students with a disability,
 - students from socially or economically disadvantaged backgrounds,
 - students from non-English speaking backgrounds, including migrants and refugees, and
 - students from rural or remote locations.

In both cases (a and b), the Admissions Committee may determine that a student can be admitted

to a course of study despite not meeting the entry criteria. In such circumstances, the Committee will normally admit the student Provisionally such that the student has to successfully (i.e., without failure) complete their first Semester of study in order to be allowed to continue in the course. Certain conditions (e.g., successful completion of an Academic Study Skills unit) may also be applied to the admission. All students are informed that eligibility for Special Entry does not constitute a guarantee of a place in a course and, further, any student admitted by Special Entry must satisfy all course requirements in order to be eligible to graduate.