Admissions Policy

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1.0 Purpose
This policy provides a framework for prospective students seeking to undertake undergraduate or postgraduate higher education courses at EIT.

The intent of this policy is to ensure that admissions decisions are conducted in a fair, equitable and transparent manner.

2.0 Scope
This policy applies to all members of EIT’s higher education community that are involved in undergraduate and postgraduate higher education admission decisions.

3.0 Objectives
EIT is committed to the following principles that underpin this policy.

- To ensure that students admitted to an undergraduate or postgraduate course have the academic preparation and proficiency in English needed to participate in their intended study, and no known limitations that would be expected to impede their progression and completion.
- To attract and retain students with the potential to achieve high quality outcomes
- To ensure that admissions decisions are applied fairly and consistently and are equitable, transparent, based on merit, and made in a timely manner
4.0 Implementation

EIT will provide entry opportunities to students by ensuring that:

- Entry requirements are documented and that selection criteria are readily available to prospective students
- Pathways are available for students who do not initially meet entry requirements
- Learning supports are available to facilitate success
- Student progress is monitored and utilized to review admissions requirements.

4.1 Entry Requirements

4.1.1 Specific

For each undergraduate or postgraduate course, the entry criteria will be specified as part of the course curriculum documentation, as approved by the Academic Board and the external accreditation authority.

The specific entry requirements for an undergraduate or postgraduate course may specify whether:

- an award must meet a minimum GPA or level of achievement or have particular areas of study
- articulated entry is available and the general circumstances where credit may be offered
- other qualifications are acceptable if the applicant does not have a degree
- work experience or other professional experience is required, or may be substituted for a formal qualification
- membership of a professional body is required
- English language proficiency level required.

4.1.2 English Language Proficiency

The methods of satisfying English language proficiency are through:

- An Australian Senior Certificate of Education or equivalent.
- A specified level of achievement in a recognised English language test, such as IELTS (or equivalent, refer to table in Appendix A) Satisfactory completion of another course offered by EIT in English, or by another tertiary institution
- Work history in an organisation where English is the language of communication
- All CRICOS applicants from non-English speaking countries and/or whose first language is not English are required to provide results from a recognised language test such as IELTS, TOEFL or equivalent (refer to table in Appendix A).

Students who satisfy the entry requirements are not automatically guaranteed a position.

4.2 Admission Application

Students applying for admission into higher education courses must do so on the approved form demonstrating achievement of the entry requirements, and may provide evidence in the following ways:
Certified copies of testamurs and academic records for previously completed courses of study at other institutions

Resumes, references and other details as evidence of work experience including the scope and levels of responsibility, employer's name and contact details and length of time in each position.

Evidence submitted in a language other than English must be accompanied by a certified official translation into English.

Certified copy of an English language test, where relevant.

Participation in an interview conducted by an EIT representative, designed to ascertain levels of ability.

Students may be required to provide the names of up to three referees who can testify to the accuracy of the qualifications and work experience claims, as well as the ability of the student to complete the course.

Prospective students should refer to the applicable Refund Policy and the Student Handbook before signing an acceptance of offer.

**4.2.1 CRICOS Student Information**

CRICOS students should bear in mind that visa applications can take up to six months to be granted depending on their country of residence.

Applications for admission from CRICOS students should be in English. Students should ensure that academic transcripts and all other supporting documentation have been certified as true copies and translated into English by a certified official translator. CRICOS students may need to pay an application fee (payable at the time of application) and/or an administration fee (payable prior to issuance of a Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE)).

EIT undertakes assessments of all prospective CRICOS student applications in accordance with the Department of Home Affairs (DoHA) Genuine Student (GS) and Genuine Temporary Entrant (GTE) requirements. A Letter of Offer will not be issued until applicants have cleared EIT’s academic, GS and GTE assessment.

The following documentation is required to undertake assessment of a CRICOS student's admission application:

- A completed Application Form including GTE statement (or Statement of Purpose)
- Evidence of English Language proficiency as outlined in section 4.1.2 of this policy
- Certified copies of all academic transcripts and certificates
- A CV/Resume
- A certified copy of the student’s passport bio data page

EIT may require additional information in some circumstances and will communicate any additional requirements to the student and/or agent before completing the assessment.

Students should submit a complete application with all necessary supporting documentation, otherwise EIT may reject an application or may only be able to provide a conditional letter of offer. Upon receipt of a complete application, it will be assessed by the EIT Admissions Team, and if successful, the student will be sent a
Letter of Offer and Acceptance. Student’s will also need to complete a Student Financial Declaration form to show how they will fund their tuition and living expenses whilst in Australia for themselves and any family members who will be accompanying them.

Where required, EIT will check the Country Education Profiles (CEP) website for international qualification equivalence. CEP provides official information and advice on the comparability of international qualifications with Australian qualifications, information on educational systems and guidance on assessing qualifications from other countries.

4.2.1.1 Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC)

CRICOS Students must obtain Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) for the duration of their studies. This fee is not included in the course tuition fees. OSHC fees vary depending on the duration and type of cover. Students can obtain a quote from a number of health providers or EIT can arrange this on behalf of the student.

4.2.1.2 National Code Requirements

The National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018 (the National Code) requires that prior to accepting a CRICOS student or intending CRICOS student for enrolment in a course, EIT must make comprehensive, current and plain English information available to CRICOS students or intending CRICOS students on:

- the requirements for acceptance into a course, including the minimum level of English language proficiency, educational qualifications or work experience required and course credit, if applicable
- the CRICOS course code, course content, modes of study for the course including compulsory online and/or work-based training, placements, other community-based learning and collaborative research training arrangements, and assessment methods
- course duration and holiday breaks
- the course qualification and award of other outcomes
- campus locations and facilities, equipment, and learning resources available to students
- the details of any arrangements with another provider, person or business who will provide the course or part of the course
- indicative tuition and non-tuition fees including advice on the potential for changes to fees over the duration of a course and EIT’s cancellation and refund policies
- the grounds on which the CRICOS student’s enrolment may be deferred, suspended or cancelled.
- the ESOS framework, including official Australian Government material or links to this material online
- accommodation options and indicative costs of living in Australia.
4.3 Assessment of Admission Application

4.3.1 Selection Methodology
The Dean may appoint Admissions Officers to make selection decisions on their behalf. Admission Officers will identify applicants who meet the course entry requirements, including minimum academic requirements, English language requirements, and the Genuine Student (GS) and Genuine Temporary Entrant (GTE) requirements for CRICOS Students.

Course entry requirements and selection methodology will be applied consistently to all applicants for a course in all modes of delivery, wherever it is taught.

The applicant's entire application will be considered. The Admissions Officer may give greater weight to the applicant’s most recent and/or relevant previous qualification, study, or experience.

As far as possible, applications will not be pooled (held for competitive selection at a later time). If a course wishes to pool applicants for competitive selection, the impact upon selection of CRICOS applicants must be considered. Pooling CRICOS applicants for competitive selection may result in a limited pool.

If courses select competitively, applicants who are eligible for admission will be ranked in comparison to one another and offers will be made in order of highest rank. Ranking must occur in accordance with documented ranking methodology for the course. Ranking methodology is documented as part of selection methodology for courses employing ranking.

In order to be considered for a place, applicants must submit their application on time, in the correct manner, and complete with all required documentation.

EIT reserves the right to request additional information from an applicant relevant to their application. Failure to supply the information requested may adversely affect the success of the application.

EIT reserves the right to request an applicant to authorise EIT to obtain further information about the applicant from relevant external bodies. Failure to supply such authority may adversely affect the success of the application.

4.3.2 Integrity of selection decisions
If any staff member involved in a selection decision has, may have, or may be perceived to have a conflict of interest, they must disclose this conflict to their manager.

If any staff member involved in a selection decision becomes aware of any attempt to breach the Admission Policy, he/she must immediately notify the Dean. If the Dean is unavailable or in any way compromised in their ability to make a decision regarding the conflict, the staff member must notify the Deputy Dean.

If Admissions Officers are unsure about whether an applicant is suitable for admission, they can refer an application to the Admissions Committee which will be comprised of personnel with appropriate qualifications and/or experience to assess entry into the
relevant course. The committee must take into account the entry requirements for the course when assessing applications.

The committee may request additional information and will:

- ensure the application is assessed against the evidence provided
- check the equivalence of international qualifications, where relevant
- make a recommendation on whether the applicant should be admitted to the course.
- make a recommendation for alternative pathways where a student’s application is refused

4.3.3 English Language Proficiency Assessment

Admissions Officers and/or the Admissions Committee will check that a student’s English Language Proficiency (ELP) meets the entry requirements. Staff assessing IELTS (or equivalent) results must verify test results with the issuing body and check the recency of the test results.

Students who do not meet the ELP requirements are to be advised of English Language programs that are offered by other providers, and that the student is responsible for the associated fees.

4.4 Admissions Decisions

4.4.1 Notification of Decision Process

Letters of Offer, approval of deferments of offer and refusal letters will be issued by Admissions Officers (as an appointed delegate of the Dean).

Admission and other contractual arrangements with students, or where legally required, with their parent or guardian, are made in writing and include any particular conditions of enrolment and participation for undertaking particular courses of study that may not apply to other courses more generally, such as health requirements, requirements for security checks, particular language requirements and particular requirements of work placements.

If an applicant has met the requirements and been accepted into a course, the applicant will receive a Letter of Offer.

Students will be notified of the decision for admission within 7 days of the decision being made. The notification will include:

- admission outcomes (acceptance or refusal)
- reasons for refusal, if relevant
- further documentation or information required for successful applicants informing students of their rights and obligations, including:
  - A Letter of Offer, if relevant, which includes (but is not limited to):
    - course details (start date, duration, location etc.)
    - any prerequisites necessary to enter the course, including English language requirements
    - any conditions imposed on the student’s enrolment
    - details of all tuition payable by the student for the course, the periods to which those tuition fees relate and payment options
(including, if permitted under the ESOS Act, that the student may choose to pay more than 50 per cent of their tuition fees before their course commences)

- details of any non-tuition fees the student may incur, including as a result of having their study outcomes reassessed, deferral of study, fees for late payment of tuition fees, or other circumstances in which additional fees may apply
- the circumstances in which personal information about the student may be disclosed by EIT, the Commonwealth including the TPS, or state or territory agencies, in accordance with the Privacy Act 1988
- EIT’s internal and external complaints and appeals processes
- details in relation to refund of tuition fees and non-tuition fees in the case of student default and EIT default

- an ‘Acceptance of Offer’ form and instructions to the student for accepting the offer
- options available for unsuccessful applicants such as alternative pathways and/or courses.

4.4.2 Admission Acceptance

To accept an offer, applicants must complete and sign the ‘Acceptance of Offer’ form, and return no later than the response deadline which is indicated in the Letter of Offer.

If the Letter of Offer is conditional then all conditions must be met before the student can be enrolled in their chosen course. If the conditions are not met before the course start date then the offer will be withdrawn and the student may need to reapply.

If a student accepts an offer after the response deadline the offer may be withdrawn and the student may need to reapply.

4.4.3 Admission Refusal

If students have been unsuccessful, they will be advised of alternative pathways for entry into the course selected, if applicable.

EIT reserves the right to withdraw an offer of admission, if it finds that incomplete or inaccurate information was provided by the applicant, or if circumstances change significantly such that the applicant no longer meets the entry requirements of the offer has expired.

EIT may refuse admission, even if the applicant has met the entry requirements, if it is discovered that the applicant has:

- an unsatisfactory academic history that has not been resolved
- an outstanding debt owing to EIT
- been excluded from another educational institute
- displayed conduct (including criminal activity or ethical misconduct) that would provide reasonable grounds to exclude the applicant from studying at EIT.

Applicants who have met the entry requirements, but have been excluded from any other educational institution, will need to demonstrate that circumstances have changed such that they are likely to succeed in the program.
In these circumstances an applicant will receive a letter from the Deputy Dean advising the grounds for refusal of admission to EIT, and be advised of alternative pathway options.

4.5 Re-admission

Applicants whose enrolment has lapsed, may re-apply under the same entry requirements as all other applicants.

Applicants who have met entry requirements, but have been excluded from any other educational institution, will need to demonstrate that circumstances have changed such that they are likely to succeed in the course.

4.6 Appeals

Applicants may appeal admission decisions by writing to the Admissions Committee within 10 days of receiving the decision notice, if they believe that the decision has not considered all the facts or was unfairly made. Refer to the Student Complaints, Grievances and Appeals Policy.

4.7 Deferments

Deferment of an offer prior to commencing a course, or deferment of study once a student has commenced study, may be permitted for up to one year. Applicants who wish to apply for a longer deferment must withdraw and reapply for admission in the same manner as the original application for admission, should they wish to commence or continue study at a later date.

Applicants who seek deferment to fulfil military or national service obligations may apply for a longer deferment. Such requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Fees may apply.

Deferment will not be permitted to allow commencement of another tertiary course.

If a student needs to defer studies once studies have commenced, but intends to continue the course in the future, then at the time of deferral the student must complete a Course Deferral Form. The student can re-enrol at the next teaching period in the next relevant unit permitted under the usual course progression rules. Fees may apply.

If a student formally defers their course by submitting a course deferral form before the census date they will not incur any academic or financial penalty for that unit(s). The course deferral form must be received and acknowledged in writing back to the student by the Learning Support Officer on or before the census date.

If a student submits a course deferral form on or before the census date of the teaching period they are currently enrolled in they will not incur any academic or financial penalty for the current unit(s) they are studying.

If a student submits a course deferral form after the census date of the teaching period they are currently enrolled in, they will have a ‘Failed Withdrawn’ (FW) grade recorded against the unit(s) they are enrolled in. A ‘Failed Withdrawn’ grade signifies that a student has discontinued the unit(s), has failed the unit(s) due to late deferral/withdrawal, and will incur the full tuition fee for that unit(s).

Students should also refer to the relevant EIT refund policy.
Students should note that if the course they transfer to has higher fees associated with enrolment, their remaining payments will be raised in order to meet the fees of the unit/course they have transferred to.

Students should also be aware that courses are under continual review. If they apply to defer, their course may be revised, discontinued or cease to be accredited during the student's deferral period. If this happens, EIT will make every attempt to provide the original course. If this isn't possible, EIT reserve the right to offer the student a place in an equivalent or near-equivalent course.

4.7.1 CRICOS Students

CRICOS students may apply to defer their studies if they are unable to commence their program on the course start date or suspend their studies for a specified period of time, due to compassionate or compelling circumstances.

Compassionate or compelling circumstances are generally those beyond the control of the student and which have an impact upon the student's course progress or wellbeing. These could include, but are not limited to:

- Serious illness or injury, where a medical certificate states that the student is unfit to attend classes;
- Bereavement of close family members such as parents or grandparents (in such circumstance, a death certificate should be provided where possible);
- Major political upheaval or natural disaster occurring in the student's home country requiring emergency travel and this has impacted on the student's studies;
- A traumatic experience which could include:
  - involvement in, or witnessing of a serious accident; or
  - Witnessing or being the victim of a serious crime, and this has impacted on the student (these cases should be supported by police or psychologists' reports)
- Where EIT is unable to offer a prerequisite unit, or the student has failed a prerequisite unit and therefore faces a shortage of relevant units for which they are eligible to enrol; or
- Inability to begin studying on the course commencement date due to delay in receiving a student visa

CRICOS students must apply for deferment or suspension in writing and provide evidence of a genuine reason for their inability to study. The following will apply:

- All applications for deferment or suspension must be accompanied by documentary evidence to support the student's claims and copies of these documents will be kept in the student's file
- CRICOS students applying for deferment or suspension will be reminded that a successful application may affect their student visa. They will be advised to contact the Department of Home Affairs (DoHA) regarding any impact the deferment or suspension may have on their student visa before formally lodging their application to defer their studies.
- The maximum period allowed for deferment of study for commencing students is two teaching periods
• For continuing students, the minimum period allowed for suspension of studies is one teaching period, the maximum period allowed is two teaching periods.

• If a deferral is granted there are two possible outcomes for a student’s Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE):
  1. EIT will notify the Department of Education and Training through PRISMS that they are deferring the student’s enrolment for a period without affecting the end date of their CoE. There will be no change to the CoE on PRISMS – the student will still be listed as studying. However, the notice of deferment will be recorded in PRISMS.
  2. EIT will notify the Department of Education and Training through PRISMS that they are deferring the student’s enrolment for a period which will affect the end date of their CoE. PRISMS will cancel the original CoE and EIT will create a new CoE with a more appropriate end date. If EIT does not know when the student will return, it can choose not to create a new CoE at that point, but to wait until the student has notified EIT of the intended date of return before creating a new CoE.

• As soon as practicably possible after the approval of a deferral, the necessary reporting will be carried out by EIT via PRISMS under Section 19 of the ESOS Act.

• Student visa holders who defer studies are expected to leave Australia during the period of their deferral, unless exceptional circumstances prevent them from leaving Australia.

• All applications for deferment or suspension must be approved by the Dean

4.8 Withdrawal from a Unit or Course

Students may apply to withdraw from a unit or course by completing a Withdrawal Declaration Form and returning it to the Learning Support Officer via email. A withdrawal is not effective until the withdrawal declaration form has been received and acknowledged in writing back to the student by the Learning Support Officer.

If a student formally withdraws from a course on or before the census date of the study period they will not incur any academic or financial penalty for the current unit(s) they are studying. The Withdrawal Declaration Form must be received by the Learning Support Officer before the census date.

If a student submits a withdrawal declaration form before the census date of the study period they will have a ‘cancelled’ status recorded against the unit(s) they are currently enrolled in. A ‘cancelled’ status signifies that a student has discontinued without academic penalty, and will not incur a tuition fee for that unit(s).

If a student submits a withdrawal declaration form after the census date they will have a ‘Failed Withdrawn’ (FW) grade recorded against the unit(s) they are currently enrolled in. A ‘Failed Withdrawn’ grade signifies that a student has discontinued, has failed the unit(s) due to late withdrawal, and will incur the full tuition fee for that unit(s).

EIT will update any CRICOS student information relating to unit or course withdrawal on PRISMS.

Students should also refer to the relevant EIT refund policy.
4.8.1 CRICOS Students

CRICOS students applying for withdrawal will be reminded that a successful application may affect their student visa. They will be advised to contact the Department of Home Affairs (DoHA) regarding any impact the withdrawal may have on their student visa before formally lodging their application to defer their studies.

Once a withdrawal has been finalised EIT will cancel a CRICOS student’s Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) and DoHA will also be advised of this cancellation via PRISMS.

4.9 Reduced Course Duration – CRICOS Students

If the duration of the course has been reduced for a CRICOS student, as a result of a credit application decision, the following actions must be taken:

- before a visa has been granted, the actual course duration must be indicated in the confirmation of enrolment (CoE) issued for the student for that course
- after a visa has been granted: the change in program duration is reported via PRISMS, under section 19 of the ESOS Act

4.10 Maximum Time Limit to Complete

After enrolment the maximum time limits allowed to complete a course whether taken on a full-time or part-time basis (inclusive of any periods of leave) are as follows:

Masters – Maximum 5 Years

Bachelors – Maximum 8 Years

International student visa expiry dates will match the standard full-time course length.

Time limits are measured in calendar years from the first day of the first teaching period in which the student was enrolled in a particular course of study. Periods of exclusion, periods of approved leave of absence or other approved periods of interruption will be included in the calculation of time limits.

Students re-admitted to a course after non-approved periods of leave will also have this time included in the calculation of time limits.

Students who exceed time limits for the completion of award courses will be considered in the first instance at faculty level. Where no extenuating circumstances exist to support a case for an extension, students will be excluded.

On application from the student, the Dean may grant an extension of up to 1 year (12 months) to the maximum period for completing the program where they are satisfied that exceptional circumstances affected the student's progress in the program and that the student has an expectation of completing the program.

5.0 Definitions

**Admission**: the process for admitting an applicant into a course at EIT, following a successful application and acceptance of the offer of a place in the course.

**Country Education Profiles (CEP)**: Country Education Profiles (CEPs) is an online qualifications recognition tool designed to help organisations understand overseas higher education and post-secondary technical and vocational educational qualifications. It can be used by universities and other education providers, professional bodies, employers,
international organisations and governments to help understand the level of an overseas qualification.

**Applicant:** a person who applies for a place in a course at EIT. An applicant becomes a student upon enrolment.

**Course:** A single course leading to an Australian higher education award.

**CRICOS Student:** A student studying in Australia and holding an Australian student visa.

**Deferment:** an agreement to allow an applicant to defer taking up the place they have been offered, or postpone their current studies, until a later time.

**Entry requirements:** the requirements that an applicant must satisfy in order to be eligible for selection. Entry requirements comprise general entry requirements, including English language proficiency and specific course entry requirements.

**Genuine Student (GS):** A genuine student (GS) is a student who intends to obtain a successful educational outcome and has the language, educational and material background to have a reasonable chance of achieving this educational outcome.

**Genuine Temporary Entrant (GTE):** The genuine temporary entrant (GTE) requirement is an integrity measure to ensure that the student visa programme is used as intended and not as a way for international students to maintain ongoing residency in Australia.

The GTE requirement applies to all CRICOS students. The Admissions Officer assessing the admissions application considers whether the individual circumstances of the student indicates that their intention is for a temporary stay in Australia.

**GPA:** a grade point average

**IELTS:** International English Language Testing System is an international standardised test of English language proficiency. It is jointly managed by University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations, the British Council and IDP Education Pty Ltd.

**Offer:** the offer of a place in a course to a successful applicant.

**Selection:** process of assessing applicants for courses and deciding which applicants will be made an offer of a place in the course.

**Teaching Period:** A scheduled duration within an academic year. EIT generally refer to teaching periods as Terms or Semesters. An EIT term (used for online courses) = 12 weeks, an EIT semester (used for on-campus courses) = 15 weeks.

**TOEFL iBT:** The test is an Internet-Based Test (iBT) that measures a candidate’s ability to combine listening, reading, speaking and writing skills, making it the most comprehensive English-language proficiency test. It is considered an industry standard in English-language assessment.

**Unit:** A discrete unit of study, where a combination of units make up a course of study.

### 6.0 Related policies and procedures

The following policies and procedures are related to this policy:

- Higher Education Fees Policy
- Refund Policy Domestic Students.HE
- Refund Policy International Students.HE
• Credit and Recognition of Prior Learning Policy.HE
• Student Complaints, Grievances and Appeals Policy.HE
• Student Complaints, Grievances and Appeals Procedure.HE

7.0 Accountabilities

The Academic Board is responsible for review and approval of this policy.

The policy is to be implemented via induction and training of staff and distribution to students and EIT's community via the website and other publications.
APPENDIX A

The table below shows comparisons between various English Language test scores and level systems (like TOEIC, TOEFL and IELTS). This table can be used to compare a student’s own test level with the approximate equivalent score of another test.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOEIC</th>
<th>TOEFL Paper</th>
<th>TOEFL CBT</th>
<th>TOEFL IBT</th>
<th>IELTS (Academic)</th>
<th>Pearson Test of English (PTE) Academic</th>
<th>Cambridge Exam</th>
<th>CEFR</th>
<th>VEC Online Score</th>
<th>Approximate VEC Level</th>
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<td>30 – 40</td>
<td>3.0 – 3.5</td>
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<td>35 – 42 (IELTS 5.0)</td>
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<td>TOEIC</td>
<td>TOEFL Paper</td>
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<td>Top Level</td>
<td>Top Score</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 990 | 677 | 300 | 120 | 9 | 90 | 100 | C2 | 100 | 15 |}

NOTE: TOEFL individual band scores can be compared against IELTS scores at: [https://www.ets.org/toefl/institutions/scores/compare/](https://www.ets.org/toefl/institutions/scores/compare/)