THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

Sydney School of Health Sciences

- Master of Diagnostic Radiography
- Master of Exercise Physiology
- Master of Occupational Therapy
- Master of Speech Language Pathology

Special Admission Pathways 2027

For domestic applicants only



("Ngapa Jukurrpa", by Shorty Jangala Robertson)

1. Admission criteria

For 2027 entry, applicants for special admission pathways must fulfil the following requirements to be considered:	
1. Qualification	A bachelor's degree, master's degree, or a PhD from an Australian institution or equivalent.
2. Satisfactory performance in the eligible degree	Demonstrated satisfactory performance in an eligible degree at the time of application, as indicated by a minimum average mark. Rural applicants and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants, as well as applicants living with disabilities (for Master of Occupational Therapy) must have a minimum average mark of 60 out of 100 or equivalent (as calculated by the USYD Admissions Office; approximate GPA of 4.5 on a 7-point scale) to be eligible to apply.
Applicants must also fulfil the following additional requirements, if applicable, to be eligible for admission:	
English language requirement	All applicants must meet **this requirement**.
Master of Exercise Physiology	All applicants must also provide evidence* of: (i) current Exercise Scientist Accreditation (AES) with Exercise and Sport Science Australia; or (ii) completion of a bachelor's or master's degree accredited by Exercise and Sport Science Australia at the level of Exercise Science; or (iii) an approved Graduate Entry Assessment from Exercise and Sport Science Australia. **By providing evidence of accreditation, applicants are also proving extensive pre-existing knowledge in human anatomy, human or exercise physiology and research design and statistics.*

Available places will be offered to qualified applicants based on merit and competitive ranking, according to the above admissions criteria. Different ranked lists of applicants will be generated for each pathway; for example, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants; Rural applicants; Standard applicants; applicants living with disabilities (for Master of Occupational Therapy). Sydney School of Health Sciences may reserve a percentage of domestic places for eligible applicants to be admitted under the Rural Applicants Facilitated Entry Scheme and Indigenous Facilitated Entry Scheme and for Master of Occupational Therapy only, the Applicants Living with Disability Facilitated Entry Scheme. The school reserves the right to vary these percentages in any given year.

2. Special admission pathways

2.1 FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER APPLICANTS
Indigenous Facilitated Entry Scheme

2.2 FOR AUSTRALIAN RURAL ORIGIN APPLICANTS
Rural Applicants Facilitated Entry Scheme

2.3 FOR APPLICANTS LIVING WITH DISABILITIES (MASTER OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ONLY)
Applicants Living with Disabilities Facilitated Entry Scheme

2.1 For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants

Confirmation of Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander status

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply to study allied health at the University of Sydney, and their applications are welcomed.

The University will accept one of the following forms of proof of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander status as specified in the University's **Confirmation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Identity Policy 2015:**

- a letter stamped with the common seal and signed by the chairperson of an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Land Council, in whose area the person lives or has previously lived; or
- a letter stamped with the common seal and signed by a delegate of an incorporated Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander organisation, such as the Aboriginal Medical Service or Aboriginal Legal Service.

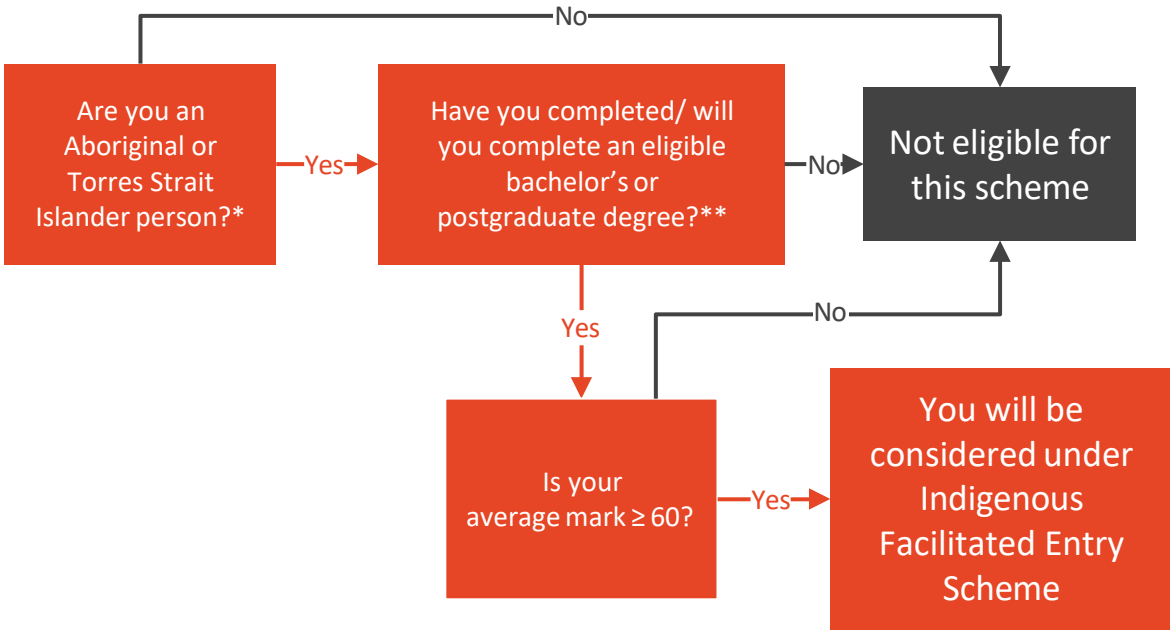
Where records are not available, a person's Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander identity may be confirmed by a **statutory declaration**. This is a binding legal document demonstrating self-identification as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person, declaring that they:

1. are of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent;
2. identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander; and
3. are accepted as such by the community in which they live, or previously lived.

Note: Proof of receipt of Abstudy will not be accepted as confirmation.

If your application is audited, you will need to provide, within 7 days of our request, the original proof or a certified copy of the original proof to the University.

Applicants must upload the required documentation to Sydney Student at the time of application. If you do not provide the appropriate documentation, your application may be processed as a standard application and not via the admission pathway for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants.



* Applicants must upload the required document to Sydney Student at the time of application.
** Eligible postgraduate degree must be completed within ten years before 1 January of the year in which the applicant is seeking admission.

For admission through the Indigenous Facilitated Entry Scheme:

a. Applicants must be able to demonstrate that they are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander as outlined in the University of Sydney policy; and
b. Applicants must have completed a bachelor's or postgraduate degree or be in the final year of a bachelor's or postgraduate degree** to be considered; and
c. Applicants' minimum average mark must be at least 60 (approximate GPA of 4.5 on a 7-point scale) in the relevant degree.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants are encouraged to contact the Faculty of Medicine and Health Admissions Office for more information and support. Please email: **fmh.admissions@sydney.edu.au**.

2.2 For Australian rural origin applicants

Rural Applicants Facilitated Entry Scheme

Eligibility for the rural pathway

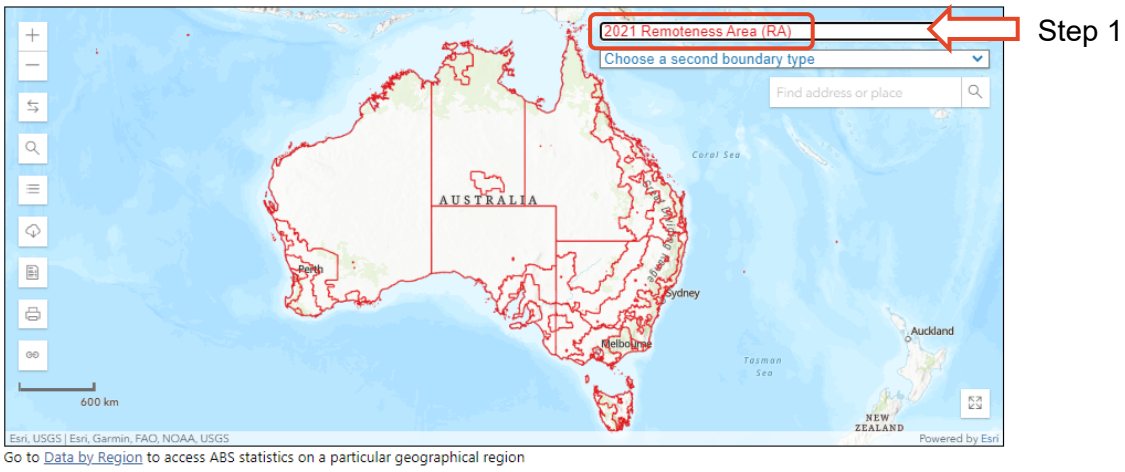
A facilitated entry scheme is available for domestic applicants who can certify that they are of Australian rural origin.

The **Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Edition 3** Remoteness Structure defines 5 classes of relative geographic remoteness across Australia. These 5 classes are:

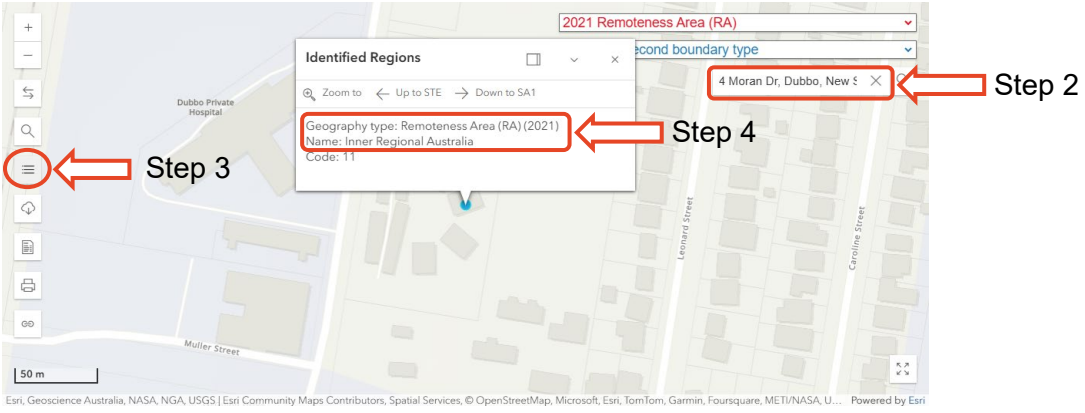
- Major Cities of Australia
- Inner Regional Australia
- Outer Regional Australia
- Remote Australia
- Very Remote Australia

You are eligible to apply for admission under the Rural Applicants Facilitated Entry Scheme if you have lived for at least 10 years cumulatively or any 5 years consecutively, *from birth*, in an ASGS - Inner Regional Australia, Outer Regional Australia, Remote Australia or Very Remote Australia area. Please use the **ABS Maps** for "2021 Remoteness Areas" to determine if you are of rural origin.

Step 1: Under 'Choose a boundary type', choose '2021 Remoteness Area (RA)'.



Step 2: Enter your address in the "Find address or place" field and search.
Step 3: Select 'Identify regions and ASGS classifications' icon on the left of the map and click twice.
Step 4: The 2021 Remoteness Area and classification will appear underneath the map, or in a box on the map.



ASGS Classification

Latitude: -32.2373 Longitude: 148.6223

Geography Type	ASGS Name	ASGS Code
2021 State/Territory (S/T)	New South Wales	1
2021 Greater Capital City Statistical Area (GCCSA)	Rest of NSW	1RNSW
2021 Statistical Area Level 4 (SA4)	Far West and Orana	105
2021 Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3)	Dubbo	10503
2021 Statistical Area Level 2 (SA2)	Dubbo - East	105031100
2021 Statistical Area Level 1 (SA1)		10503110028
2021 Mesh Block (MB)		10243300000
2021 Indigenous Region (IREG)	Dubbo	101
2021 Indigenous Area (IARE)	Dubbo	101002
2021 Indigenous Location (ILOC)	Dubbo - North	10100202
2021 Section of State (SOS)	Other Urban	11
2021 Section of State Ranges (SOSR)	20,000 to 49,999	112
2021 Significant Urban Area (SUA)	Dubbo	1012
2021 Urban Centres and Localities (UC/L)	Dubbo	112006
2021 Remoteness Area (RA)	Inner Regional Australia	Step 4

Confirmation of Rural Origin

If you are a domestic applicant of Australian rural origin and would like to be considered for the Rural Applicants Facilitated Entry Scheme, you must provide **Confirmation of Rural Origin** in the template form (docx, 56.1KB) completed by:

- a currently-registered medical practitioner, dentist, pharmacist or lawyer;
- a school principal; or
- a current or former employer

confirming that you have lived in the rural area for at least 10 years cumulatively or any 5 years consecutively.

If the form is completed by an employer, you must also provide a covering letter from your employer's HR department or a senior manager confirming that the information provided on the Confirmation of Rural Origin form is correct. The letter must be on letterhead showing the Australian Business Number (ABN). Confirmation of Rural Origin from family members will not be accepted. The University may accept a form completed by other members of the rural community on a case-by-case basis, provided that the community member is not related to the applicant. Applicants will be given an opportunity to re-submit supporting documentation if they fail to meet the requirements.

The form must meet the following requirements:

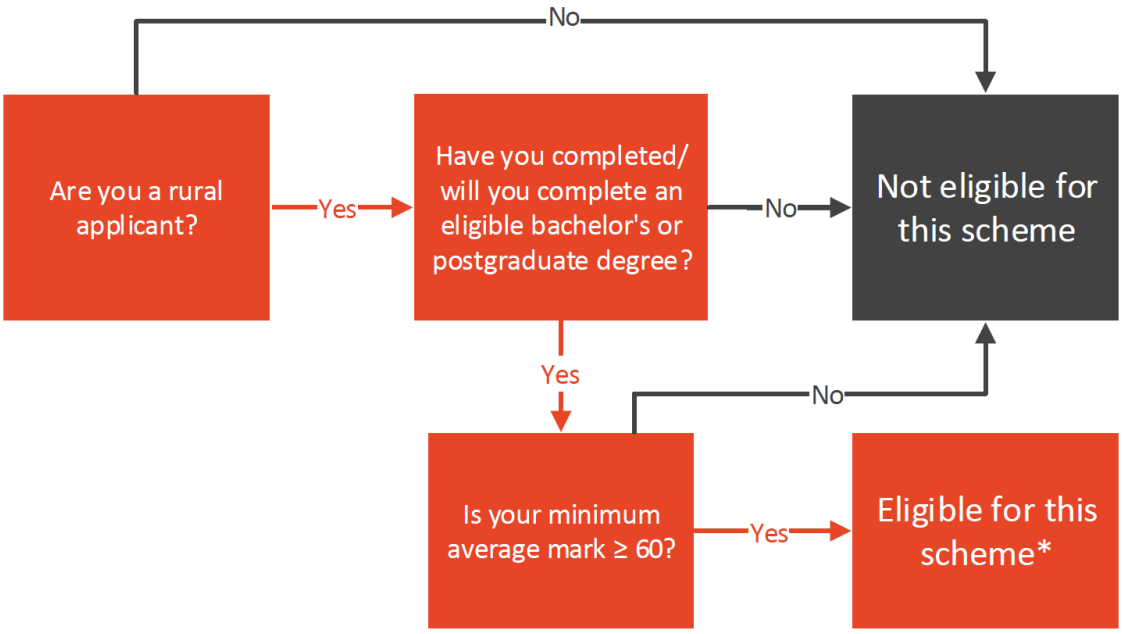
- It must include your FULL rural address, the duration that you resided at that rural address (e.g. from dd/mm/yy to dd/mm/yy), and the position and current contact details of the author.
- The author must be contactable to verify the details contained in the form.
- The author must state their relationship to you.

- If your residency was for at least 10 years cumulatively, then the form must support 10 full years and cover each time period that you resided at each rural address (e.g. from dd/mm/yy to dd/mm/yy).
- You must upload the form as a supporting document to the portal at the time of application, otherwise your application will be processed as a standard application and not via the Rural Applicants Facilitated Entry Scheme.
- Confirmation of Rural Origin forms from any previous application for admission to the allied health programs will not be accepted. Your form must be completed and signed in 2026 for 2027 entry.
- The author must have direct and personal knowledge of the applicant's residence in the rural location(s) that are listed, based on lived experience or independent authenticated records.

The University will audit rural applicants. As part of the audit, the author of your Confirmation of Rural Origin form will be contacted to verify the contents of the form. Applicants should explain their rural application and the audit process to the author to ensure they are sufficiently prepared. This will also help avoid unnecessary delays in the rural application process. You will need to provide the original form to the University on request.

Note:
- Time in the future cannot be claimed as part of the 5 or 10 years.
- Statutory declarations will not be accepted.
- If you fail to provide documents by the due date, or if you provide fraudulent documents or misrepresent your true circumstances, the University may withdraw your offer of admission, or cancel your enrolment at any time.
- A person who intentionally submits fraudulent documentation is guilty of an offence and may be referred to the relevant legal authorities.

Admission Criteria



* Applicants must upload the required document to the Sydney Student Portal at the time of application.

Rural applicants must have a minimum average mark of 60 out of 100 in the relevant degree at the time of application (approximate GPA of 4.5 on a 7-point scale).

Please see the FAQs below:

Q: My address was in ASGS-RA 2 in the ASGS Remoteness Area 2016 classification, however it is now in ASGS - Major Cities of Australia in the ASGS (Edition 3) Remoteness Area 2021 classification. Can I be considered as a rural applicant?

A: Please contact the Faculty of Medicine and Health Admissions Office **fmh.admissions@sydney.edu.au** before application closing date if you feel that you have been adversely affected by the March 2023 change in remoteness area classifications.

Q: If I have lived for almost 5 years in a rural area (eg, 4 years and 11 months), am I an applicant of rural origin?

A: No, you must have lived in an ASGS - Inner Regional Australia, Outer Regional Australia, Remote Australia or Very Remote Australia area for at least 5 years consecutively or at least 10 years cumulatively to be classified as being of rural origin.

Q: Am I an applicant of rural origin if my address is 20m from an Inner Regional Australia area?

A: No, you must live within an ASGS - Inner Regional Australia, Outer Regional Australia, Remote Australia or Very Remote Australia area for you to be classified as being of rural origin.

Q: Half of my street is counted as rural and the other half is not. If I live on the part of the street that is outside the ASGS - Inner Regional Australia area, can I be considered as a rural applicant?

A: No, you must live within an ASGS - Inner Regional Australia, Outer Regional Australia, Remote Australia or Very Remote Australia area to be classified as being of rural origin.

Q: Can time spent living in an ASGS - Inner Regional Australia, Outer Regional Australia, Remote Australia or Very Remote Australia area for shorter periods be added together to make up the 5 years?

A: No. 'Rural origin' is defined as residency for at least 5 years consecutively or at least 10 years cumulatively. Shorter periods of time may be added together but must make up 10 years cumulatively in an ASGS - Inner Regional Australia, Outer Regional Australia, Remote Australia or Very Remote Australia area.

Q: Does time spent in a boarding school in a major city count if my home address is in an ASGC - Inner Regional Australia, Outer Regional Australia, Remote Australia or Very Remote Australia area? eg, Am I defined as a rural applicant if I went to primary school in a rural area, and then to boarding school in Sydney?

A: Time spent in a boarding school in a major city does not count towards the requirement. However, the time you spend at your home address in a rural area during school holidays does count towards the10-year requirement.

If you went to primary school in a rural area and spent your secondary school holidays at your home address in a rural area, you will be defined as a rural applicant only if the total amount of time you spent living in a rural area amounts to 5 years or more consecutively or 10 years or more cumulatively.

Q: Does time residing at a university residential college count if I return home to a rural area during semester breaks?

A: Time spent residing at a residential college will count towards the 10-year requirement only if the University is located in an ASGC - Inner Regional Australia, Outer Regional Australia, Remote Australia or Very Remote Australia area.

You will be defined as a rural applicant only if the total amount of time you spent living at your home address in a rural area amounts to 5 years or more consecutively or 10 years or more cumulatively.

2.3 For Applicants living with disabilities (applying for Master of Occupational Therapy)

Applicants for admission under the Applicants Living With Disabilities Facilitated Entry Scheme must be able to demonstrate that they have a disability, impairment or long-term medical condition which has affected, or is likely to affect, their ability to study at university as specified in the current *Coursework Policy*. Disability in this context does not include short-term disabling health conditions. Students must still meet the inherent requirements of the course.

Applicants under this facilitated entry scheme must upload the required **supporting documentation** at the time of application. If you do not provide the appropriate documentation, your application may be processed as a standard application and not via the admission pathway for applicants living with disabilities.

Applicants for admission under the Applicants Living with Disabilities Entry Scheme must have a minimum average mark of 60 out of 100 in the relevant degree at the time of application (approximate GPA of 4.5 on a 7-point scale).