

## Submission No 2

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on issues related to entry to higher education. My chief concerns relate to framing question 6. I have few concerns around the proliferation of bonus points and the erosion of strict ATAR cut-offs, indeed I think those are good things that allow more flexible and realistic opportunities to students.

However, the disparity of state-based entry systems is an anachronism that diminishes student opportunities. From the perspective of the ACT - where a high proportion of students head interstate - this is particularly apparent, both from the point of view of students who must navigate different systems and from schools who only receive information from the NSW/ACT UAC and are left largely in the dark about the destination of students heading to other states.

Moreover, even within the NSW/ACT system we face the gross anomaly of the ATAR calculation for students in Canberra not including English, while English must be included for students across the border in Queanbeyan. This leads to absurd gaming of the school enrolment system and, fundamentally, to a disadvantage for NSW students seeking to enter the ANU and University of Canberra alongside their ACT peers.

Then there is the perpetual battle to defend the rights of International Baccalaureate students against the archaic prejudices of entrenched interests in UAC; a battle not fought nearly to the same degree in other states.

In short, it is absurd for a nation of our population size, sophistication and intellectual aspirations to have such a parochial approach to university admission.

With regards, sincerely,

Justin Garrick