

Requirements for entry into New Zealand degree courses

Admission to degree courses in New Zealand is becoming tighter with the traditional **University Entrance** qualification, a **Preferential Entry Score** and **specific subject requirements** being required by most Universities.

1. University Entrance (this will be changing for students applying for 2013 courses)

All school leavers need to attain University Entrance to be able to apply for university courses. Students are qualified for admission to university if they have obtained:

1. a) **International Baccalaureate** a score of 24

1. b) **NCEA**

NCEA level 3 with a minimum of 42 credits

- 14 credits from approved Subject A
- 14 credits from approved Subject B
- 14 credits from approved Subject C

Plus

- a minimum of 14 credits a minimum of 14 credits at Level 1 or higher in Mathematics
- **Plus**
- a minimum of 8 credits at Level 2 or higher in English with at least:-
 - 4 credits must be in reading
 - and 4 credits must be in writing

The list of approved subjects can be found at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/awards/university-entrance/approved-subjects-for-university-entrance>

OR

NCEA level 3 with a minimum of 42 credits

- 14 credits from approved Subject A
- 14 credits from approved Subject B
- a total of 14 credits from Subjects C & D (from no more than 2 additional domains)

Plus

- a minimum of 14 credits a minimum of 14 credits at Level 1 or higher in Mathematics
- **Plus**
- a minimum of 8 credits at Level 2 or higher in English with at least:-
 - 4 credits must be in reading
 - and 4 credits must be in writing

The list of approved subjects can be found at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/awards/university-entrance/approved-subjects-for-university-entrance>

2. Additional specific subject requirements and other criteria

Many courses require more than University Entrance. e.g. **Interview, portfolio, an audition or specific results for individual subjects** may be required.

It is important for students to **RESEARCH** specific entry criteria carefully from a reliable source.

Examples of additional requirements for some courses (as at Oct 2011)

- **Entry to University of Auckland Bachelor of Pharmacy:** U.E. plus Rank score of 220 plus min. of 18 credits in Level 3 Biology and Chemistry plus interview. **IB** score of 29
- **Entry to Massey University Bachelor of Food Technology:** U.E. plus 16 credits or more in Level 3 Physics and Calculus and 14 credits or more in Chemistry.
- **Entry to University of Auckland Bachelor of Architectural Studies:** U.E. plus min. 16 credits or more in a Level 3 English rich subject plus min.16 credits in a "Table B" subject plus portfolio plus interview. **IB** score of 29
- **Entry to University of Auckland Bachelor of Nursing:** U.E. plus Rank score of 210 plus min. of 16 credits in Level 3 English rich subject + 16cr in one of Bio, Chem or Physics. **IB** 29

3. Preferential Ranking System / Entry Score

Most Universities have now adopted some form of preferential entry system so that they can manage the sizes of their classes easier. This **rank students who have gained University Entrance**.

The Preferential Entry Score is calculated on a student's **best 80 credits** at Level 3 from a maximum of 5 **approved subjects** with no more than 24 credits per subject. If a student achieves fewer than 80 credits at level 3 their score is determined from the level 3 credits they have achieved from approved subjects. The list of approved subjects can be found on the following link:

<http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/qualifications-standards/awards/university-entrance/approved-subjects-for-university-entrance>

How to calculate your Preferential Entry Score

The entry score is calculated by awarding points to each credit attained as follows :
 Excellence 4 points; Merit 3 points; Achieved 2 points

Approved subject (best 24 credits per subject)	Excellence Scores	Merit Scores	Achieve Scores	
English	8	6	6	
History	-	6	10	
Statistics & Modelling	4	4	16	
Geography	-	10	10	
French	-	-	24	
Subtotals	12	26	66	
Best 80 credits	12	26	42*	
Calculate points	48 points (12 x 4)	78 points (26 x 3)	84 points (42 x 2)	Rank Score 210 points

*Can only use 42 Achieve credits as there is already 38 credits being used from Merit and excellence. $12+26+42 = 80$

Some examples of Preferential / Guaranteed Entry scores for 2012

(Remember there may be specific subject requirements as well as the preferential score)

Uni of Auckland - preferential scores are different for each degree—some examples are:

B. Architecture: U.E. but no preferential score as entry determined by Portfolio

B.Commerce: 180 plus 16 credits or more in each of 3 specific subjects; IB score 28

B.Engineering: 240 (18cr Math, 18cr Physics); IB score 31 (HL Physics and Maths recommended)

Uni of Canterbury

NCEA Have achieved an entry score of at least 120 points for NCEA Level 3

IB Have achieved the International Baccalaureate Diploma with at least 26 points

Massey University

NCEA Have achieved an entry score of at least 120 points for NCEA Level 3

IB Have achieved the International Baccalaureate Diploma with at least 26 points

Uni of Otago

NCEA have achieved NCEA Level 2 awarded with merit or excellence and get U.E.

or have achieved an entry score of at least 140 points for NCEA Level 3

IB International Baccalaureate Diploma with at least 26 points

Victoria University

NCEA Have achieved an entry score of at least 150 points for NCEA Level 3 (Architecture 180)

IB Have achieved the International Baccalaureate Diploma with at least 26 points

Uni of Waikato

NCEA U.E plus Have achieved the NCEA Level 3 Certificate (or equivalent)

IB Have achieved the International Baccalaureate Diploma with at least 24 points

These preferential entry scores may change. It is recommended that you check the university website for up to date scores.