

POLICY ABOUT REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION TO A COURSE

Recruitment is aimed at onshore overseas students only. The ACTh does not actively pursue off-shore marketing. Potential and enrolled students are informed accurately of the entry requirements for courses via the Student Handbook produced and distributed annually by each member college in strict conformity with ACTh regulations. The content of this handbook is published on the college website and the ACTh manuals are available on the ACTh website.

In addition to being given the student handbook prior to enrolment at an affiliate college, overseas students meet with the principal and/or advisor of the affiliate college at which the applicant proposes to study where these issues are discussed and are given access to detailed outlines of the upcoming semester's units of study, including the ACTh unit syllabus information in handbooks.

These unit outlines clearly show the potential or enrolled student expectations about attendance and unit assessment, likely require completion of 2-3 assignments of a specific word length and/or an examination at the end of the unit.

Potential students are informed of the course duration, unit pre-requisites or requirements, relevant unit details, semester start times, timetable of units, fee schedule, etc. They are informed of this in the following ways:

- letter/email communication with the Principal or his proxy,
- in the annual student handbook available at the beginning of each year,
- in the brochures each college provides on each course and
- via the various college websites.

The following sections are excerpted from various ACTh policies relating to overseas students printed in all copies of the ACTh course manuals and published on the ACTh website:

Attention is drawn to the following matters relating to candidates and to study in Australia.

The information provided by overseas students to the provider (the Australian College of Theology) may be made available to Commonwealth and State agencies and the Fund Manager of the Educational Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Assurance Fund, pursuant to obligations under the ESOS Act 2000 and the National Code; and the provider is required, under section 19 of the ESOS Act 2000, to tell the Department about: (i) certain changes to the student's enrolment; and (ii) any breach by the student of a student visa condition relating to unsatisfactory academic performance.

1 English Language Proficiency

Applicants for admission who (a) have an assessable qualification that was undertaken solely in English in one of a set of prescribed countries OR (b) who have been resident in Australia with English being the language spoken at home and at work for ten (10) or more years are NOT required to provide proof of English Language proficiency for consideration for admission to an ACT course. All other domestic and international applicants MUST provide proof of English Language proficiency for consideration for admission to an ACT course. Such proof will normally be by provision of the results of an IELTS test (Academic Version).

Applications for admission to a diploma or an advanced diploma course will be considered if the applicant can demonstrate English Language proficiency at least at the following level (or equivalent):

- IELTS 6.0 overall with a minimum of 6.0 in each subtest.

Applications for admission to the Associate Degree of Theology or a bachelor degree course (including honours) will be considered if the applicant can demonstrate English Language proficiency at least at the following level (or equivalent):

- IELTS 6.5 overall with a minimum of 6.5 in each subtest.

Applications for admission to the Graduate Diploma or Master of Divinity or a Master of Arts course (or nested Graduate Diploma) will be considered if the applicant can demonstrate English Language proficiency at least at the following level (or equivalent):

- IELTS 7.0 overall with a minimum of 7.0 in reading and writing, and 6.5 in listening and speaking.

Applications for admission to the Master of Theology, Doctor of Ministry or Doctor of Theology courses will be considered if the applicant can demonstrate English Language proficiency at least at the following level (or equivalent):

- IELTS 7.5 overall with a minimum of 7.5 in reading and writing, 7.0 in listening and 6.5 in speaking.

Visas and Government Regulations

The College is not responsible for any matters relating to student visas applications. These will be the responsibility of the candidate and enquiries should be directed only to the Department of Immigration and Citizenship. The ACTh is responsible for ensuring that overseas students abide by the regulations concerning the terms of their visas and has a responsibility for reporting breaches of those regulations. Full details of the student's obligations can be obtained from the affiliate college.

Time of candidature for overseas students will be subject to government imposed restrictions and the terms of their visas.

The admission requirements for specific courses, which are printed in our course handbooks and on our website, are as follows:

Accredited Courses of the College

For each course below the academic requirement for admission is the minimum required. For more detail regarding the admission requirements see the relevant sections of the Undergraduate and Postgraduate Handbooks.

Diploma of Theology (DipTh), Diploma of Ministry (DipMin)

Advanced Diploma of Theology (AdvDipTh), Advanced Diploma of Ministry (AdvDipMin)

Candidates are normally admitted upon satisfactory completion of Year 12 in an Australian school system or equivalent. Consideration will also be given to other factors such as practical experience, maturity and motivation, and the likelihood of satisfactory completion of the academic requirements of the course.

Associate Degree in Theology (AssocDegTheol), Bachelor of Christian Studies (BChrStuds), Bachelor of Ministries (BMin), Bachelor of Theology (BTh),

- Open as a first degree to persons who have achieved an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) score of no less than 77.10 or its equivalent.
- Consideration will also be given to other factors such as practical experience, maturity and motivation, and the likelihood of satisfactory completion of the academic requirements of the course.

Bachelors Honours (BThHons) (BMinHons)

Normally open as a degree to persons who hold the Bachelor of Theology or Bachelor of Ministry with a GPA of at least 2.8 overall, and 2.8 in the designated field of study to be pursued in the Honours program.

Graduate Diploma of Divinity (GradDipDiv), Master of Divinity (MDiv)

The College will consider an applicant for admission to the GradDipDiv/MDiv if the applicant:

- (i) has graduated with or qualified for at least a bachelor degree or equivalent qualification in a non-theological discipline from an Australian university or other approved higher education provider; or
- (ii) has successfully completed study deemed equivalent to (i).

In addition, consideration will also be given to other factors such as maturity and motivation, and the likelihood of satisfactory completion of the academic requirements of the course.

Master of Arts (Theology) [MA(Th)] and Graduate Diploma of Theology (GradDipTh)

Master of Arts (Ministry) [MA(Min)] and Graduate Diploma of Ministry (GradDipMin)

- (i) Open as a degree to persons who hold the College’s BMin or BTh or to graduates in theology or ministry from a recognised provider considered equivalent to the College’s BTh or BMin.
- (ii) Consideration will also be given to other factors such as practical experience, maturity and motivation, and the likelihood of satisfactory completion of the academic requirements of the course.

Master of Arts (Christian Studies) [MA(ChrStuds)] and Graduate Diploma of Christian Studies (GradDipChrStuds)

- (i) The educational qualification for admission to the Master of Arts (Christian Studies) and Graduate Diploma of Christian Studies is an approved three-year non-theological undergraduate degree of a recognised university, or its equivalent. Prospective students will present full academic transcripts to their sponsoring institution. Graduates in a theological or a related discipline are ineligible to enrol in the GradDipChrStuds.
- (ii) Although the degree is not primarily intended for those engaged in full time professional ministry it is recognised that some students, having satisfied (i) above, and having completed either the Graduate Diploma of Christian Studies or the BTh, BMin, AssocDegTh, BChrStuds or Advanced Diplomas of the College may have a special interest in the Master of Arts (Christian Studies) degree. Many who complete theological degrees and diplomas do so with no intention of entering full time professional ministry.

Master of Theology (MTh)

Graduates of the four year BTh (or BMin) Honours I, IIA or IIB (or equivalent) may become candidates for the MTh.

Doctor of Ministry (DMin)

Applicants for the Doctor of Ministry program would normally have satisfied one of the following three requirements where the preliminary essay is required—

- (i) Either of the Honours Degrees of Bachelor of Ministry or Bachelor of Theology,
 - (ii) The Master of Divinity degree,
 - (iii) The Bachelor of Ministry or Bachelor of Theology with the Graduate Diploma of Theology or Ministry,
- Applicants must also demonstrate evidence of their own commitment to learning and development since their introduction to their ministry

Doctor of Theology (ThD)

Candidates shall normally be a graduate of one of the following awards of the College:
the four year degree BTh (Hons I) or BMin (Hons I) or MTh (or equivalent).

Assessment of Previous Awards

Potential students are required to send “certified/attested true copies” of their academic transcripts and the award certificate, along with an application form, to the Registrar of the member college at which the applicant proposes to study. Once this has been done the affiliated college checks to see what profile the previous institution has. Colleges check with the ACTh Academic Administrator that the qualifications meet its criteria before an offer is made.



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ACT Quality Manager