



**SECTION 174, *EDUCATION (GENERAL PROVISIONS) ACT 2006***

**THE QUEENSLAND ACADEMY FOR CREATIVE INDUSTRIES**

**ENROLMENT ELIGIBILITY PLAN**

**Background**

The Queensland Academy for Creative Industries caters for students in Years 10, 11 and 12, offering the International Baccalaureate Diploma (IB Diploma) program as the only curriculum framework in Years 11 and 12. Year 10 students complete a Pre-IB course of study that prepares them for the rigour and skill set required to successfully complete the IB Diploma. Students undergo a selective entry process prior to an offer of enrolment. The IB Diploma Program provides students with the opportunity of global University entry and in most cases advanced standing arrangements with universities. The IB Diploma Program is externally moderated to give assurance to Universities of the high quality of graduates.

**Rationale**

The Queensland Academy for Creative Industries recognises as its prime obligation the provision of this specialised educational program for students who, through rigorous testing, are judged to be well placed to achieve the IB Diploma.

This plan sets out the requirements for enrolment of students at the Queensland Academy for Creative Industries.

**Enrolment capacity of the academy**

The Academy currently has the capacity to enrol up to 450 students across Years 10, 11 and 12.

Should this capacity change because of changes to occupancy capacity, this will be advertised through the approval and gazettal of an amended plan including the operative date for the new plan.

**Enrolment Policy**

Under Chapter 8 of the *Education (General Provisions) Act 2006* (the Act), a principal must enrol a student at a school the student is entitled to be enrolled at. Students enrolling at the Queensland Academy for Creative Industries must be eligible for general enrolment in State schools and must also satisfy the specific Enrolment Criteria of the Academy set out in this plan.

- **General enrolment requirements for State schools**

Prior to assessment against the Enrolment Criteria the Academy Principal must be satisfied that the student meets the general enrolment requirements for State schools. A student must meet the general requirements set out in the Act (for example having an allocation of state schooling remaining, and/or in the case of mature aged students possessing a positive mature age student notice). The Academy Principal may also defer an enrolment decision to the Director-General if a student poses an unacceptable risk to the safety or well being of the school community. Applicants who have been refused enrolment on the basis of the general enrolment requirements may pursue review rights under the Act as advised by the Academy Principal.

- **Enrolment Criteria**

The student must also meet the Enrolment Criteria set out below.

In order to be eligible for enrolment at the academy a student must at a minimum:

- demonstrate (via presentation of evidence at the time of application) that they:
  - a. have Australian Citizenship or are the child of an Australian citizen; or
  - b. have Permanent Resident status or are the child of a permanent resident; or
  - c. are eligibility under a Visa category; and
- have reached the benchmark results on the *Higher Ability Selection Test*<sup>1</sup>; and
- have successfully completed an interview and/or audition, against the interview and/or audition criteria, and produced a portfolio and documentary evidence of school-based testing<sup>2</sup> at their previous school; and
- can meet the financial commitment of the program fees at the Academy.

The Academy Enrolment Eligibility Committee (the Committee) conducts relevant tests, interviews and auditions and provides advice to the Academy Principal about the student's eligibility under the enrolment eligibility plan criteria. The Academy Principal will consider this advice when determining a student's enrolment application.

- **Processing of enrolment applications**

Enrolment applications are to be made to the Academy Principal who will consider the general enrolment requirements and the assessment advice from the Committee regarding the student's performance against the enrolment criteria for the academy. Students will not be eligible for enrolment unless they have undergone assessment by the Committee.

Vacancies will be filled by a rank order. Students will be ranked for interview based on their achievement in the *Higher Ability Selection Test* (HAST). Students who meet the HAST benchmark will be offered an interview and required to present a specific portfolio and or audition for each of the creative subjects they wish to study. Students will then be ranked in order for each subject based on their HAST score combined with the outcome of their interview and portfolio. Some students may be placed on a waiting list if more than one round of selection is required in order to fill the annual quota of places. Should more than one round of entry (testing and interview) be required in any one year, the number of enrolment places remaining will be filled through the ranking process above but also include those students on the waiting list.

Where there are students who were considered by the Academy Principal to have met all enrolment criteria set out above, but who were not enrolled in the Year 10 intake due to the Academy's capacity being reached, such students will be considered for an intake should vacancies arise in the school year. These vacancies will be filled through continuance of the rank order from the *Higher Ability Selection Test* results. Note: these intakes are not an option for Year 11 or 12 students.

The Committee has determined that the Academy may enrol up to ten (10) international fee paying students from the 2011 academic year. This international student capacity may be varied by the Academy Principal in consultation with Education Queensland International should the Academy's capacity to enrol international students change over time.

In all cases the parent or student must meet the financial commitment of the program fees at the Academy. The Department reserves the right to suspend delivery of educational services should there be failure to pay the program fee.

### **Queensland Academies Enrolment Eligibility Committee**

The Enrolment Eligibility Committee consists of the Manager, Corporate Services, Queensland Academies Brand Division (chair); the Academy Principal; a representative of the Academy Parents and Citizens Association and an elected staff representative.

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<sup>1</sup> The *Higher Ability Selection Test* is a test developed and scored by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) .

<sup>2</sup> Students wishing to study Music who cannot provide documentary evidence of having achieved up to Australian Music Examination Board (AMEB) Level 3 Theory will be required to undertake a 30 minute Music Theory Test.

**Review of Queensland Academies Enrolment Eligibility Committee assessments**

Applicants who have been refused enrolment by the Academy Principal on the basis of a report by the Enrolment Eligibility Committee will be notified in writing of the reasons for the refusal by the Manager, Corporate Services, Queensland Academies Brand Division.

Applicants may seek a formal review of an unsuccessful assessment by making a written submission to the Regional Director, Metropolitan Region, Education Queensland. This submission should present evidence to substantiate a claim that the stated criteria have not been applied correctly or fairly.

The Regional Director will, where possible, decide the review and provide written advice to the applicant within 14 days of the applicant's submission. The Regional Director's decision on the review will be final.

**Review Date**

The Enrolment Eligibility Plan for the Queensland Academy for Creative Industries is operational from 1 December 2010 and will be reviewed triennially. This plan remains in effect until a new plan is approved to replace it and while it is under review.

**All necessary amendments to this plan will be notified through the approval and gazettal of a new plan.**

**The provisions of the new plan will come into force either as of the date of gazettal or an operative date stated in the gazette notice.**