1 YEAR HONOURS IN PSYCHOLOGY



DOMESTIC APPLICATION GUIDE 2023



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This guide provides information about the current eligibility criteria and application process for entry to the 1 Year Honours Psychology courses in 2023 only. Every effort has been made to ensure the information in this guide is accurate at the time of publication: October 2022. Flinders University reserves the right to alter any information contained herein without prior notice.

Flinders University reserves the right to make changes to the entry requirements and selection methodology from one intake to the next without notice. Any such changes will be reflected in future editions of this guide online at www.flinders.edu.au/study/courses/honours-bachelor-psychology.

All prospective students are expected to act professionally toward the university, its staff, students and other applicants. Flinders University reserves the right to consider any aspect of an applicant's behaviour in the assessment of their suitability for admission.

WELCOME

Welcome to the 2023 1 Year Honours in Psychology Domestic Application Guide.

Reading this Guide is the first step on the way to applying for a Psychology Honours year at Flinders University. This Guide will help applicants determine their eligibility to apply and understand the application process. Information on the required supporting documentation is also provided in this guide. Reading and understanding this Guide forms part of the application process.

Flinders University's one year Psychology Honours courses, accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) as a Fourth year of psychology, are:

- Bachelor of Psychological Science (Honours)
- Bachelor of Arts (Honours)
- Bachelor of Behavioural Science (Honours)

The Psychology Honours year is offered on a full-time (or part-time equivalent) basis and is available for semester one commencement only. Offers are not deferrable.

We thank applicants for considering Psychology Honours at Flinders University.



APPLICATION TIMELINE

2022 FOR 2023 ENTRY

Monday 5 September	Applications for 1 Year Honours in Psychology open 9.00am (ACST)	
Friday 18 November	Applications close 11.59pm (ACST)	
Friday 9 December	Final date for submission of official academic transcripts*	
Week commencing 12 December	First round offers are made from this week	
Early January 2023	Second round offers made (if required)	
Mid to late January 2023	Application outcome notifications sent to remaining applicants	
Monday 6 February 2023	Honours year teaching commences with an Honours meeting (attendance is compulsory). Students must be available on this date to attend Supervisor Topic Presentations and Interviews to determine their thesis supervisor.	

^{*} Official Academic transcripts must be submitted by applicants who have completed or are about to complete an APAC accredited undergraduate sequence in Psychology at institutions other than Flinders University.

ELIGIBILITY TO APPLY

Applicants must meet citizenship requirement, English language proficiency requirements and academic requirements to be eligible to apply.

CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Australian citizens, Australian permanent residents and Humanitarian visa holders are classified as domestic applicants. Applicants are required to meet domestic eligibility criteria at the time of application.

Applicants who are in the process of applying for permanent residency must have residency confirmed before they submit an application as a domestic student. Applicants who do not meet the domestic citizenship classification as above are considered international applicants and are not eligible to apply as domestic applicants.

Note: New Zealand permanent residents are classified as international students.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS

Flinders University conducts an English Language Proficiency Check (ELPC) for all its courses to confirm applicants meet the minimum English language proficiency as per it's <u>Policy</u>. Most applicants pass the ELPC due to having undertaken previous study in Australia at a higher education level. Applicants who may not pass the check will be contacted with further information.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must have completed (normally within the last ten years), or be in the final year of, an APAC accredited 3-year undergraduate sequence in Psychology. Applicants are also required to have passed a minimum of one semester of full-time equivalent study in second year Psychology topics and one semester of full-time equivalent study in third year Psychology topics (the equivalent to 50% of a full-time academic load at each year level). All applicants must have also passed PSYC3007 Research Methods 3 (or its third-year level equivalent at another university).

Applicants with a Flinders equivalent Grade Point Average (GPA) of less than 5.25 in all second and third year Psychology topic attempts will not be considered for a place in Honours. A Flinders equivalent GPA of 5.25 is equivalent to 75% Credit and 25% Distinction grades. Normally, a higher GPA is required. The specific minimum GPA varies from year to year depending on the applicant pool and the number of available places.

Note: Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) (4 year) students should not apply for a one-year Honours, as they progress into Honours following completion of the first three years (providing that the academic performance requirements have been met) of this four-year APAC accredited degree.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications are submitted directly to Flinders University through the online application system. Refer to our step-by-step Direct Application Guide for assistance on the application submission process.

Applicants who wish to undertake the course on a part-time basis can choose this as an option when selecting the course in the online application system.

WHICH COURSE TO APPLY FOR

Applicants who have completed or are about to complete one of the below degrees at Flinders University, or the equivalent at another institution, would normally apply for Bachelor of Psychological Science (Honours) or the Bachelor of Behavioural Science (Honours):

- Bachelor of Psychological Science
- Bachelor of Behavioural Science (or who have a second major that is equivalent to one of the cognate (second major)
 areas in Flinders University's Bachelor of Behavioural Science)
- Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Psychology
- Bachelor of Psychological Studies
- Bachelor of Psychological Studies (Graduate Entry) (or equivalent graduate-entry degree from another university)
- Graduate Diploma in Psychology (Advanced)

Applicants with a Bachelor of Arts with an APAC approved sequence in Psychology would normally apply for a Bachelor of Arts (Honours).

Note: each applicant is considered equally irrespective of the Psychology Honours degree they apply for. Therefore, applicants are permitted to apply for only one of these courses. If an applicant submits more than one application the least relevant application as per the above will be withdrawn by the University.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

OFFICIAL ACADEMIC TRANSCRIPTS

Those applying based on their Flinders qualifications do not need to provide Official Academic Transcripts unless components of their study in an APAC accredited undergraduate sequence in Psychology was completed or is being completed at another tertiary institution.

Those applying based on completing a 3-year APAC accredited undergraduate sequence in Psychology at another tertiary institution, are required to submit an Official Academic Transcript for these studies by the deadline. The transcript/s must show grades for completed studies so far in the course and must be uploaded to the online application. Please include a grading key (normally found on the back of the official transcript).

An electronic original or a certified copy of an original Official Academic Transcript must be uploaded to the application by the deadline per the Application Timeline above, as evidence of meeting this requirement.

It is an applicant's responsibility to comply with requests to provide further documentation, either in the original language or English translation.

Note: Applicants who submit Unofficial Academic Transcripts, Australian Higher Education Graduation Statement (AHEGS), Statement of Results, exam slips, screen shots of grades, Enrolment List, Confirmation of Enrolment, etc will NOT be considered as these are **NOT** Official Academic Transcripts. It is suggested applicants check with their institution how to obtain one if they are unsure what to provide.

Applicants who do not provide Official Academic Transcripts by the deadline will NOT be considered.

Applicants must upload all supporting documentation to their online application in one of the following file formats: JPEG, DOC, DOCX, or PDF e.g., transcript.pdf. Applicants must submit each academic transcript, statutory declaration, etc. as a separate file. There is a 2MB file size limit.

Only clear legible scans will be accepted. Only scanned copies of original or certified copies of documents are accepted. Mobile phone photos of documents will not be accepted.

My eQuals

If an applicant's Official Academic Transcript is available via the My eQuals platform, it should be shared directly with Flinders University through the My eQuals portal.

In the Document Sharing window, select 'Send my documents to a registered organisation' and nominate Flinders University as the recipient. Please provide your Application ID and ensure the expiry date selected is **after February 2023** as the University may need to access the document up to and including this time.

For further information about sharing Official Academic Transcripts via the My eQuals portal visit My eQuals.

If applicants receive further results and need to update their initial shared version of the document by the deadline, they will need to re-share the transcript with Flinders University in the My eQuals portal by the deadline.

Note: Official Academic Transcripts shared with Flinders University after the deadline will NOT be accepted.

Document authenticity through My eQuals

Some digital official academic transcripts specifically mention the University issuing the transcript will only guarantee the document's authenticity when it is accessed through the My eQuals portal. They further state that when viewed online, the security of the document is only verified by the presence of the 'Certified' blue ribbon in the document.

Note: applicants are advised not to download the document from My eQuals to then upload to their application as this cannot be certified unless viewed via the My eQuals portal in most instances.

Applicants who upload PDF documents from My eQuals that contain a blue ribbon stating 'Certified by (University)... all signatures are valid' in the Signature Panel in the electronic document may be accepted. However, if a printed copy of this document is uploaded to the application it will not be accepted as the electronic document normally states '(University) cannot verify this document's authenticity in printed format'.

Note: Official Academic Transcripts submitted in the format specified by the institution as not being able to verify the authenticity will **NOT** be accepted.

OVERSEAS QUALIFICATION ASSESSMENT

Applicants who are graduates with psychology degrees from non-Australian universities must have their qualifications assessed by the <u>Australian Psychological Society (APS)</u> for equivalence to an Australian programme of study prior to submitting their application.

Information about the process for obtaining this assessment can be found on the APS website.

If official academic transcripts are in a language other than English, applicants must submit certified copies of both the original transcript and full translations in English. Translations must show results for all subjects undertaken and be certified by an independent accredited translator (NAATI) and feature the translator's original stamp and signature on every page. The translation must be a scan of the original hard copy translation document issued by the translator. Electronic versions of the translation, where the translator's stamp has been affixed electronically, cannot be accepted.



Applicants must upload all supporting documentation to their online application in one of the following file formats: JPEG, DOC, DOCX, or PDF e.g. transcript.pdf.
Applicants must submit each academic transcript as a separate file.

Only clear legible scans will be accepted. The entire document must be included without any external elements visible – such as a table, shadows etc. We only accept scanned copies of original documents.

Upload of screenshots of system results, statements of results, academic records or unofficial transcripts etc. will not be accepted.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Selection is based on academic merit – applicants are ranked for offers based on their Flinders equivalent GPA for their second and third year Psychology sequence topics only.

At least 80% of offers are made to graduates of one of the following Flinders University degrees:

- Bachelor of Arts (Psychology major)
- Bachelor of Psychological Science
- Bachelor of Behavioural Science (Psychology)
- Bachelor of Psychological Studies (Graduate Entry)
- Graduate Diploma in Psychology (Advanced)

Up to 20% of offers are made to external applicants that have satisfactorily completed or are about to complete a 3-year approved APAC accredited Bachelor degree.

OFFERS

Offers are made to the highest-ranking applicants on the basis of their Flinders equivalent GPA for their second and third year Psychology sequence topics until places are filled.

Offers are not deferrable and are only valid for the intake for which the application is made.

Note: Applicants who receive an offer will be required to secure their place by enrolling in at least one topic in the course by the deadline stated in their offer letter and maintaining their enrolment. Failure to enrol via the Flinders University Student System by the specified date, will mean the offer of a place in the course will be forfeited and their place may be offered to the next ranked applicant.

WAITLISTED AND UNSUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

Applicants who are not successful in receiving an offer early in the selection process will be advised of the status of their application as soon as the assessment outcome has been determined.

Offers may be made up until the commencement of the course in February 2023 to fill places available and applicants will be advised if they have been placed on a waitlist.

CONDITIONAL OFFERS

There are some instances in which an applicant may receive a conditional offer:

- A Flinders University 3-year undergraduate psychology sequence is due to be completed in late 2022 and offer is conditional on successful completion; OR
- An APAC accredited 3-year undergraduate psychology sequence at another institution is due to be completed and
 offer is conditional on evidence of successful completion through an Official Academic Transcript to be provided
 by the deadline stated in the offer letter.

Conditions of an offer must be met as specified in the offer letter and by the stated deadline. Failure to do so will mean the offer of a place in the course will be forfeited and their place may be offered to another applicant.

Note: Applicants who meet the conditions of their offer will also be required to secure their place by enrolling in at least one topic in the by the deadline stated in the communication confirming they have met the conditions of their offer. Failure to enrol via the Flinders University Student Information System by the specified date, will mean the offer of a place in the course will be forfeited and their place may be offered to another applicant. Applicants who decline an offer for a place, will not be considered for another place or receive another offer.

THESIS SUPERVISION

All offers are also conditional on the University's ability to allocate a thesis supervisor. The University cannot guarantee that a particular applicant's idea for a research project will be approved as an Honours thesis topic, nor that a member of staff will agree to supervise a particular thesis topic. This could be because some ideas may be not appropriate for a thesis (e.g. idea might be too ambitious, require specialist skills, or be too simple). Other projects might not be practical because they require ethical clearance from external agencies, which can take a long time.

Following the initial Honours compulsory meeting on 6 February, students are required to consult with potential supervisors and discuss possible thesis topics. They can consult with up to six potential supervisors in individual consultations.

The discussions might begin with an idea from the student or from the staff member. Students are given a list of staff members' research interests and some possible thesis ideas at the first meeting.

Students submit a list of possible supervisors to the Honours Coordinator. Supervising staff similarly submit a list of possible students.

The Honours Coordinator allocates each student a supervisor by seeking to maximise the match between student and supervisor preferences.

External supervisors: With the approval of the Honours Coordinator, a person who is not a staff member in the College of Education, Psychology and Social Work may act as an external supervisor for the thesis. An internal co-supervisor will be appointed in such cases. In the past, joint supervision with an external supervisor has included staff at the Australian Institute of Sport, CSIRO, the National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction, and Flinders Medical Centre.

Although the majority of students usually receive their first choice of supervisor, this is not guaranteed, each supervisor has a maximum number of Honours students they can supervise.

Conducting research projects with participants from a vulnerable population group (e.g. school children under 18, people with disabilities, older adults in residential care) is generally not a good idea for an honours project because of the challenge of gaining ethics approval and the often complex logistics of recruiting in such settings. A Department of Human Services screening check will be essential for working with vulnerable populations. This should be arranged as early as possible by contacting the College of Education, Psychology and Social Work via epswenguiries@flinders.edu.au.



Please email all enquires to <u>askflinders@flinders.edu.au</u>.

How can I calculate my GPA?	The Flinders GPA calculator can be used to determine your GPA for second and third year Psychology topics.	
Will a Non-Graded Pass (NGP) affect my GPA calculation?	NGPs cannot be used in GPA calculations.	
I am having issues with the student account activation process, who do I contact to get technical assistance?	If you are experiencing difficulties with the account activation process you can contact our helpdesk on (08) 8201 2345.	
I'm not sure if I'm eligible, can I request a pre- assessment before I apply?	Pre-assessment is not possible. However, if you have Credit grades or higher in your 2 nd and 3 rd year Psychology sequence topics you are encouraged to apply.	
Do I need to provide an official academic transcript?	If you are applying on the basis of a Flinders 3-year undergraduate psychology sequence, you do not need to provide a transcript. Applicants who have qualifications from other institutions must upload a certified copy or original official academic transcript by the deadline. Refer to the Supporting Documentation section of this guide for details.	
Can I submit my official academic transcript via My eQuals?	Yes, you can share your transcripts via the My eQuals portal ensuring the expiry date is after 28 February 2023. Further information can be found at My eQuals. Refer to the Supporting Documentation section of this guide for details.	
When will I be advised of the outcome of my application?	First round offers will be made by the end of the week commencing 12 December 2022. If required, second round offers will be made in early January. To ensure the University fills its quota for admission to this course each year, final notification to unsuccessful applicants may not be confirmed Until mid to late January 2023.	
I was not successful in my application. Am I able to get more information on the outcome?	If you have been unsuccessful in your application and you wish to obtain more information than was provided in the correspondence notifying you of the outcome, you can email askflinders@flinders.edu.au . Advice on the outcome of your application will not be provided over the phone.	
How will I be contacted about my application?	Communication regarding all aspects of the application is via email. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure they provide a current email address, regularly check their inbox (including the junk and clutter folders) and respond to any emails they may receive requesting further information. Applicants will be able to check and update their contact email address in the Flinders University Student System by visiting the My Details tab and selecting a preferred email address. Detailed instructions are available in the Direct Application Guide .	
Can I defer my place to the next year?	Deferment of an offer is not permitted. If you are unable to commence the course in the current admission cycle you will be required to reapply.	
Are late offers made if places are available?	Occasionally offers are issued in early January should any applicants decline first round offers.	
Can I study the course externally?	No, the course is only available to be studied on campus and in person.	
What are the time commitments for the course?	The course is available on a full-time and part-time basis. It is normally expected students to commit at least 3 days a week for part-time study and 5 days a week for full-time study, depending on the grades they want to achieve. Part-time students would complete the course over 2 years with 4 topics to complete in the first year and the Thesis being completed in the final year of study.	



Contact us

Office of Student Recruitment 1300 354 633 askflinders@flinders.edu.au