



Uni Step-Up 2025 Ballarat Campus Program

ACU's Uni Step-Up is your chance to experience university life by studying two first-year units while you are in Year 11.

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 **ACU**
AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY



ACU's Uni Step-Up is your chance to experience university life by studying two first-year units while you are in Year 11.

Get a head start on a degree and university study by completing two undergraduate university units alongside other Year 11 students during the winter and summer school holidays.

GET A HEAD START	THERE IS NO COST	EARN UNIVERSITY CREDIT	TAILORED SUPPORT
Uni Step-Up is a great way to test out a subject area and develop your skills in academic writing and referencing. You'll learn to use university systems and support services to help you get ready for university life.	Uni Step-Up is HECS-free and there is no cost to participants. All tuition costs and resources are covered by ACU.	The units delivered in Uni Step-Up are the same units delivered to first-year undergraduate students. This means that you will receive credit for your Uni Step-Up units if you continue to study in a related course at ACU.	As a Uni Step-Up student, you'll be guided through your studies by our team of dedicated university lecturers and Uni Step-Up coordinators. You'll also receive guided mentoring by our team of experienced ACU students throughout your studies.

PATHWAY TO FURTHER STUDY

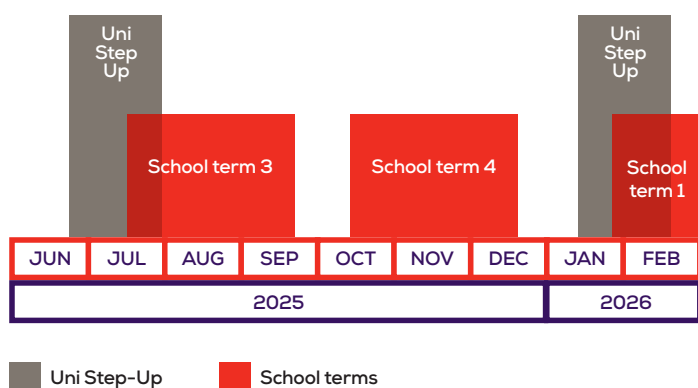
Participants who successfully complete two units become eligible to receive an early entry offer to a related ACU course.

What can I study?

There are two Uni Step-Up subjects available at the ACU Ballarat campus in 2025.

NURSING, MIDWIFERY AND PARAMEDICINE	OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
When you pursue a career in nursing, midwifery and paramedicine, you'll provide care, comfort and support to those at their most vulnerable, and help to build healthier communities.	Occupational therapists play an important role in the lives of individuals and communities, enabling participation in occupations of self-care, productivity and leisure.
PATHWAY TO	PATHWAY TO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bachelor of Nursing Bachelor of Midwifery Bachelor of Paramedicine Dual degrees are also available.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bachelor of Occupational Therapy (Ballarat Campus)

How does Uni Step-Up run?



Uni Step-Up is delivered on campus at ACU during the winter and summer school holidays. Additional online support sessions are held to help you with assessment tasks and coursework.

Classes are taught by an ACU academic staff member on campus at ACU. You will also receive additional support from an allocated Uni Step-Up staff member in addition to support from current ACU student ambassadors.

Classes for the first unit start in the winter school holidays in 2025. Classes for the second unit take place during the January 2026 school holidays. Each unit is taught over six-days with additional support sessions held when you return to secondary school study.

UNI STEP-UP CLASS SCHEDULE JULY 2025

	TIME	DATE	LOCATION
Orientation	10am – 1pm	Saturday 28 June 2025	ACU Ballarat Campus
On-campus classes	9am – 4pm	Wednesday 9 July 2025 Thursday 10 July 2025 Friday 11 July 2025 Monday 14 July 2025 Tuesday 15 July 2025 Wednesday 16 July 2025	ACU Ballarat Campus
Online classes	5.30 – 6.30pm	Wednesday 23 July 2025 Wednesday 30 July 2025	Online

UNI STEP-UP CLASS SCHEDULE JANUARY 2026

	TIME	DATE	LOCATION
On-campus classes	9am – 4pm	Wednesday 7 January 2026 Thursday 8 January 2026 Friday 9 January 2026 Monday 12 January 2026 Tuesday 13 January 2026 Wednesday 14 January 2026	ACU Ballarat Campus
Online classes	5.30 – 6.30pm	Wednesday 21 January 2026 Wednesday 28 January 2026	Online

WHERE ARE CLASSES HELD?

All classes are held on site at the ACU Ballarat Campus, 1200 Mair St, Lake Wendouree, which is set on sprawling grounds and boasts stunning gardens, open spaces and historic buildings.

WHO CAN APPLY FOR UNI STEP-UP?

To participate in Uni Step-Up, you must be in Year 11 and meet at least one of the following criteria:

- attend a widening participation partner school; or
- identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander; or
- live in a regional or remote area.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications are open until Sunday 8 June 2025 unless all spaces are filled earlier. To apply, you'll need to upload a copy of your most recent school report and provide two short answer written responses.

Visit acu.edu.au/usu for more details and to apply online today.

Uni Step-Up: study areas



Nursing, midwifery and paramedicine

Caring for others gives more than it takes. Your career in nursing, midwifery or paramedicine means a career helping others.

You will have the knowledge, skills and attitude to improve people's wellbeing. And be there to provide vital care when they need it most. The units delivered in this Uni Step-Up program can lead to further study in the Bachelor of Nursing, Bachelor of Midwifery, Bachelor of Paramedicine, and various dual degrees.

UNIT CODE	UNIT NAME	TIMING
HLSZ120	INDIGENOUS HEALTH AND CULTURE	JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2025

The social-historical-political context, cultural knowledges, and related health issues of Indigenous peoples of Australia and across the world are the focus of this unit. You will examine the historical context of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' health, contemporary issues in healthcare provision, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' ways of knowing, being and doing.

Topics will include:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander healthcare provision
- cultural competence in healthcare
- introduction to community engagement in health.

Indigenous Health and Culture is the first unit you will study in Uni Step-Up nursing, midwifery and paramedicine.

UNIT CODE	UNIT NAME	TIMING
HLSZ122	EVIDENCE FOR PRACTICE	JANUARY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2026

This unit provides foundational knowledge and skills for sourcing, appraising and reflecting on literature and information sources used in the healthcare environment. To assist health students to deliver evidence-based care, approaches to knowledge development in the health disciplines, including the generation of new knowledge, the refinement of practice and the delivery of quality care are explored.

Topics will include:

- introduction to evidence-based practice
- the five steps of evidence-based practice
- evidence-based healthcare.

Evidence for Practice is the second unit you will study in Uni Step-Up nursing, midwifery and paramedicine.



Occupational therapy

Occupational therapists play an important role in the lives of individuals and communities enabling participation in self-care, productivity and leisure.

Occupational therapists need to know how humans function and have the skills to practice competently and safely. You will learn how to analyse and assess occupational performance; apply and evaluate interventions to enable occupational performance; and collaborate and communicate effectively with clients and their families and colleagues.

The units delivered in this Uni Step-Up program can lead to further study in the Bachelor of Occupational Therapy on the Ballarat Campus. Participants must also obtain a study score of at least 25 (Units 3 and 4) in one of biology, chemistry or physics to be eligible for an early offer to the bachelor program.

Entry requirements: To be eligible for admission to this program students must be undertaking one of VCE biology, chemistry, or physics.

UNIT CODE	UNIT NAME	TIMING
OTHZ100	FOUNDATIONS OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY	JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2025
<p>This unit introduces you to the role, terminology and key concepts of occupational therapy including the type of occupations and the relationship between participating in occupations and health. Students will begin to develop therapeutic skills needed to communicate effectively and work collaboratively with clients to identify and achieve their goals.</p>		<p>Topics will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • introduction to occupational therapy theory and practice • activity and occupational performance analysis • facilitating occupational performance • professional behaviour and ethics. <p>Foundations of Occupational Therapy is the first unit you will study in Uni Step-Up occupational therapy.</p>

UNIT CODE	UNIT NAME	TIMING
ALHZ106	PSYCHOLOGY FOR ALLIED HEALTH	JANUARY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2026
<p>This unit introduces you to psychological theories and constructs that are crucial to working within the allied health professions. You will receive an overview of contemporary perspectives in psychology along with an understanding of the alignment of psychological principles with the allied health professions.</p>		<p>Topics will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • introduction to psychology • memory and intelligence • motivation and emotion • health psychology • interprofessional education and practice. <p>Psychology for Allied Health is the second unit you will study in Uni Step-Up occupational therapy.</p>



Frequently asked questions

For more information about the Uni Step-Up program, visit acu.edu.au/usu or email: wp.vic@acu.edu.au

WILL I BE ENROLLED AS A UNIVERSITY STUDENT?

Yes. We'll set you up with a university email account and access to ACU's online learning platforms. As an ACU student, you will have full access to support from our academic skills unit, library services and peer mentors.

CAN I APPLY IF I'M NOT ON AN ATAR PATHWAY?

Yes. You can participate if you are a current Year 11 student, and you are on a pathway to complete a recognised Year 12 certificate.

CAN I APPLY IF I'M AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT?

Uni Step-Up is for domestic students. If you are unsure whether you are classified as a domestic student, we recommend contacting us at usu@acu.edu.au

WHAT TYPE OF ASSESSMENTS ARE INVOLVED?

University unit assessments vary and can include multiple choice quizzes, posters, short answer questions, essays and exams. You will be guided and supported through all your assessments during your study.

DO I NEED TO ATTEND EVERY DAY?

Your attendance at every session is required. Please check the dates to ensure your availability.

WHO WILL BE IN MY CLASSES?

You will be in a small class with other Year 11 students. The class size is kept small to ensure that you can get to know other students and receive close support from university staff and peer mentors.

DO I NEED TO BUY ANY TEXTBOOKS?

No. All required learning resources will be supplied for you as part of your participation in the program.

WHAT IF I CHANGE MY MIND AND DON'T WANT TO CONTINUE?

It's okay to change your mind – this is part of the journey as you learn about your interests and goals for the future. Once you start the program, we'll be there to support you, but if you do change your mind, you can exit the program early.

HOW DOES UNI STEP-UP HELP ME TO GAIN ENTRY TO ACU?

By completing the Uni Step-Up program, you will be eligible to receive an early offer to study at ACU. You will need to pass two Uni Step-Up units to be eligible to receive an early offer. Full details on early offers and conditions will be communicated after you complete the program.

I AM NOT SURE IF I SHOULD APPLY?

Uni Step-Up offers you a unique opportunity to try out university study before completing your schooling. Talk with your teacher and parent/guardian about your readiness to take on this extra challenge.