



REGIONAL UNIVERSITIES NETWORK (RUN) SUBMISSION TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION STANDARDS PANEL CONSULTATION ON THE TRANSPARENCY OF HIGHER EDUCATION ADMISSIONS PROCESSES

The Regional Universities Network (RUN) supports Universities Australia's submission to the Higher Education Standards Panel on the transparency of higher education admissions processes.

In particular, RUN supports the following principles for admissions:

- 1) *Transparency* – we support the proposed principles relating to the transparency of the admissions process as outlined by the panel in their paper. In doing so, we note that the transparency must cover non-ATAR criteria and requirements as well as ATARs. Most mature age students (the majority of students at RUN universities) and some school-leavers are admitted on a basis other than ATAR.
- 2) *Comparability* – consistency of criteria must be used between as well as within universities for comparability. To this end, we support the model developed by Universities Australia and described in its submission. We note the current complexity that Queensland universities will only transfer to the ATAR system in 2018.
- 3) *Autonomy* – university autonomy must be accepted and institutions have the right to set their own requirements for course entry, within the relevant higher education standards and compliance requirements. Vice-Chancellors should sign-off on their reporting of admissions requirements.