Selection Rank Adjustments (Formally called ATAR Bonuses)

All four WA public universities have pathways which provide ATAR adjustments or bonuses to students at eligible schools and who meet certain school or personal background criteria. Generally to be eligible students must meet one of the following criteria-

1. Financial hardship
   The student is receiving Youth Allowance, or have a parent or guardian receiving a Commonwealth Income Support or Commonwealth means-tested Assistance payment.

2. Indigenous Australian
   The students have an Indigenous Australian background.

3. Educational disadvantage
   The student has completed Year 12 at a school located in a designated regional or remote area in WA OR at a school with an Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage (ICSEA) below the WA state Median of 1035*. Servite College’s ICSEA value is currently 1031 (2018)

So what does this mean for our current Year 12 ATAR students?
As a result of the College’s ICSEA, these students are eligible for ATAR bonuses (or Selection Rank Adjustments) for admission to all four of WA’s public Universities. These bonuses are as follows-

- **Curtin University - the StepUp to Curtin pathway**
  Students who achieve an ATAR of between 60 and 69.95 will receive a Selection Rank Adjustment (or bonus) to take this ATAR to 70 – this is called StepUp Entry.
  Students who achieve an ATAR of 70 or more will receive a bonus of 5 ATAR points added to their original ATAR score – capped at 99.95 – this is called the StepUp Bonus

- **ECU - ECU Access pathway**
  Students who achieve an ATAR of between 60 to 69.95 will receive a selection rank adjustment to take this ATAR up to 70; and
  If a student achieves an ATAR of 70 or more they will receive a selection rank adjustment of 5 to a maximum ATAR of 90 added to their original ATAR.

- **Murdoch University - the RISE pathway**
  Students will receive a Selection Rank Adjustment or bonus of 10 points added to their original ATAR score, up to a maximum of 90. This applies to ATARs between 60 and 89.95.

- **UWA - the Broadway pathway**
  There are two main categories of adjustment;
  1. Students who achieve an ATAR of 75 to 79.95 - will receive an increased selection rank of 80.
  2. Students with an ATAR of 80 or more will also receive an increase to their selection rank as follows:
     Original ATAR 80 to 84.95- adjusted selection rank: + 5.00 to a maximum of 89
     Original ATAR 85 to 89.95 - adjusted selection rank: + 4.00 to a maximum of 93
* The index of community socio-educational advantage (ICSEA) was created by the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) specifically to enable meaningful comparisons of NAPLAN test achievement by students in schools across Australia.

Each school has an ICSEA value. That value provides an indication of the level of the school’s educational advantage. This is worked out by looking at certain factors – for each student and for the school:

- parents’ occupation
- parents’ education
- a school’s geographical location
- proportion of Indigenous students.

From this information, an ICSEA value is calculated for every Australian school. Schools with an ICSEA above the mean value of 1000 are said to be more advantaged and those below less advantaged.

There has and continues to be some debate as to whether or not the ICSEA is an accurate assessment or comparison of the general social economical advantage between schools.