

## Diploma of Science (DPSC) - DipSci

QTAC code (Australian and New Zealand applicants): Toowoomba campus: 906271; External: 906275

	On-campus*^	Online+
<b>Start:</b>	Semester 1 (February) Semester 2 (July)	Semester 1 (February) Semester 2 (July)
<b>Campus:</b>	Toowoomba	-
<b>Fees:</b>	Commonwealth supported place Domestic full fee paying place	Commonwealth supported place Domestic full fee paying place
<b>Standard duration:</b>	1 year full-time, 2 years part-time	

### Footnotes

\* The Biology and Computing/IT majors cannot be completed full-time with a semester 2 entry.

^ Please refer to the Program Structure for further information on mode of offer for each major.

+ The Biology major is available on-campus and online with highly recommended on-campus residential schools.

### Contact us

Future Australian and New Zealand students	Current students
<a href="#">Ask a question</a> Freecall (within Australia): 1800 269 500 Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 5315 Email: <a href="mailto:study@usq.edu.au">study@usq.edu.au</a>	<a href="#">Ask a question</a> Freecall (within Australia): 1800 007 252 Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 2285 Email: <a href="mailto:usq.support@usq.edu.au">usq.support@usq.edu.au</a>

### Program aims

This is a generalist program providing students with the necessary skills that are essential for successful study in a Bachelor's degree and the knowledge of fundamental concepts in a chosen science major. The program aims to provide an articulation pathway for students into the [BSCI Bachelor of Science](#).

### Program objectives

On completion of this program, students should be able to:

- Display broad technical and theoretical knowledge with some depth of understanding associated with the underlying principles and concepts within a scientific context
- Identify, analyse, synthesise and evaluate information gathered from a range of scientific sources to enable the development of problem solving skills
- Display and apply a limited range of specialist cognitive, technical and practical skills relevant for paraprofessional work and further study in a field of science
- Proficiently communicate knowledge within a scientific context to a diverse range of audiences, including professionals, paraprofessionals, clients and the wider community
- Work autonomously displaying accountability, responsibility, cultural competency and ethical capacity for their own performance and actions within defined parameters.

### Program Information Set

View USQ's admission criteria, student profiles and a summary of all offers made under [Course Admission Information Set](#) via the QTAC website.

### Admission requirements

To be eligible for admission, applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

- Have achieved a minimum Overall Position (OP) **15**, tertiary entrance rank **68** or equivalent qualification.<sup>^</sup>
- English Language Proficiency requirements for Category 2.

Applicants are advised to also note the following:

- **Assumed knowledge** expectations: English and Mathematics A.

All students are required to satisfy the applicable **English language requirements**.

If students do not meet the English language requirements they may apply to study a University-approved **English language program**. On successful completion of the English language program, students may be admitted to an award program.

<sup>^</sup> These are determined by the University for specific programs each Semester. The 2019 OP and tertiary entrance ranks are based on agreed QTAC schedules which assess formal study at Year 12 or **equivalent level**, tertiary, preparatory, professional or vocational qualifications or work experience, as detailed in the QTAC Assessment of Qualifications Manual and QTAC Assessor Guidelines.

Special admissions may help you get into the program of your choice by increasing your Selection Rank. The additional points don't apply to all applicants or all programs. Please read the information about USQ's **Special Admissions** carefully to find out what you may be eligible for.

## Program fees

### Commonwealth supported place

A Commonwealth supported place is where the Australian Government makes a contribution towards the cost of a students' higher education and students pay a **student contribution amount**, which varies depending on the courses undertaken. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the **Course Fee Finder**.

Commonwealth Supported students may be eligible to defer their fees through a Government loan called **HECS-HELP**.

### Domestic full fee paying place

Domestic full fee paying places are funded entirely through the full fees paid by the student. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the **Course Fee Finder**.

Domestic full fee paying students may be eligible to defer their fees through a Government loan called **FEE-HELP** provided they meet the residency and citizenship requirements.

Australian citizens, Permanent Humanitarian Visa holders, Permanent Resident visa holders and New Zealand citizens who will be resident outside Australia for the duration of their program pay full tuition fees and are not eligible for **FEE-Help**.

## Program structure

The Diploma of Science consists of 8 units comprising 2 core units of Foundation Studies with 4 units chosen from either a specified major or from level 1 or 2 courses included in the Diploma of Science or the **Bachelor of Science**, with two additional elective units chosen from any level 1 or 2 course offered by the University of Southern Queensland, subject to Faculty approval.

Major	Offering		
	ONC	ONL	EXT

Biology	Toowoomba		Highly recommended residential schools
Computing/IT	Toowoomba	Online	
Environment and Sustainability	Toowoomba	Online	
Mathematics	Toowoomba	Online	
Physical Sciences		Online	
General Science	Depends on the 6 Approved courses		

## Required time limits

Students have a maximum of 3 years to complete this program.

## Core courses

### Foundation Studies

The Foundation knowledge courses for every major in the program are listed in the table below. Students wishing to vary foundation studies courses must obtain Faculty approval.

Course	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
<a href="#">CMS1100 Communicating in the Sciences</a>	1,2	ONC, ONL
<a href="#">SCI1001 Succeeding in Science</a>	1	ONC, ONL

## Biology major

Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
<a href="#">BIO1101 Biology 1</a>	1	ONC, EXT*
<a href="#">BIO2107 Cell and Molecular Biology 1</a>	1	ONC, ONL
<a href="#">BIO2103 Biology 2</a>	2	ONC, EXT*
<a href="#">BIO2219 Genetics</a>	2	ONC, ONL

### Footnotes

\* This offering has a highly recommended residential school (linked to an assessment item and non-attendance will mean a student misses an element for assessment preparation or an element of assessment).

**Biology major - recommended electives** (Complete either the recommended electives or two (2) elective units chosen from any level 1 or 2 course offered by the University of Southern Queensland, subject to Program Coordinator approval.)

Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
<a href="#">CHE1110 Chemistry 1</a>	1	ONC, EXT*
<a href="#">CHE2120 Chemistry 2</a>	2	ONC, EXT*

### Footnotes

\* This offering has a highly recommended residential school (linked to an assessment item and non-attendance will mean a student misses an element for assessment preparation or an element of assessment).

## Computing/IT major

Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
<a href="#">MAT1101 Discrete Mathematics for Computing</a>	1	ONC, ONL
<a href="#">CSC1401 Foundation Programming</a>	1,2,3	ONC, ONL
<a href="#">CSC2406 Web Technology 1</a>	2	ONC, ONL
<a href="#">CIS1000 Information Systems Concepts</a>	1,2,3	ONC, ONL

**Computing/IT major - recommended electives** (Complete either the recommended electives or two (2) elective units chosen from any level 1 or 2 course offered by the University of Southern Queensland, subject to Program Coordinator approval.)

Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
<a href="#">ELE1301 Computer Engineering</a>	1	ONC, ONL
<a href="#">STA2100 Evaluating Information</a>	2	ONC, ONL

## Environment and Sustainability major

Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
<a href="#">REN1201 Environmental Studies</a>	1	ONC, ONL
<a href="#">CLI1110 Weather and Climate</a>	1	ONC, ONL
<a href="#">REN2200 Ecology for Sustainability</a>	1	ONC, ONL
<a href="#">CLI2201 Climate Change and Variability</a>	2	ONL

**Environment and Sustainability major - recommended electives** (Complete either the recommended electives or two (2) elective units chosen from any level 1 or 2 course offered by the University of Southern Queensland, subject to Program Coordinator approval.)

Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
<a href="#">STA2100 Evaluating Information</a>	2	ONC, ONL
<a href="#">BIO1100 Biology Concepts</a> <b>OR</b>	2	ONL
<a href="#">BIO1101 Biology 1</a>	1	ONC, EXT

## Mathematics major

Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
<a href="#">CSC1401 Foundation Programming</a>	1,2,3	ONC, ONL
<a href="#">MAT1000 Mathematics Fundamentals</a> * <b>OR</b> <a href="#">MAT1102 Algebra and Calculus I</a> *	1	ONC, ONL
<a href="#">STA2100 Evaluating Information</a>	2	ONC, ONL
<a href="#">MAT1100 Foundation Mathematics</a>	2	ONC, ONL

#### Footnotes

\* Students who have completed Mathematics B (4, SA) or equivalent should include [MAT1102](#) in their program. All other students should include [MAT1000](#).

**Mathematics major - recommended electives** (Complete either the recommended electives or two (2) elective units chosen from any level 1 or 2 course offered by the University of Southern Queensland, subject to Program Coordinator approval.)

Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
<a href="#">MAT1101 Discrete Mathematics for Computing</a>	1	ONC, ONL
<a href="#">CSC2410 Computational Thinking with Python</a>	2	ONC, ONL

#### Physical Sciences major

Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
<a href="#">PHY1101 Astronomy 1</a>	1	ONL
<a href="#">PHY1104 Physics 1</a> <sup>^</sup>	1	ONL
<a href="#">PHY1107 Astronomy 2</a>	2	ONL
<a href="#">PHY1911 Physics 2</a> <sup>^</sup>	2	ONL

#### Footnotes

<sup>^</sup> [PHY1104](#) and [PHY1911](#) can only be completed by students who have completed Mathematics B (4, SA) or equivalent. Students who have not completed Mathematics B (4, SA) or equivalent must complete [MAT1100](#) as one of the electives prior to enrolling in [PHY1104](#) and [PHY1911](#).

**Physical Sciences major - recommended electives** (Complete either the recommended electives or two (2) elective units chosen from any level 1 or 2 course offered by the University of Southern Queensland, subject to Program Coordinator approval.)

Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
<a href="#">STA2100 Evaluating Information</a>	2	ONC, ONL
<a href="#">MAT1100 Foundation Mathematics</a> <sup>^</sup> OR	2	ONC, ONL
<a href="#">MAT1102 Algebra and Calculus I</a>	2	ONC, ONL

#### Footnotes

<sup>^</sup> [PHY1104](#) and [PHY1911](#) can only be completed by students who have completed Mathematics B (4, SA) or equivalent. Students who have not completed Mathematics B (4, SA) or equivalent must complete [MAT1100](#) as one of the electives prior to enrolling in [PHY1104](#) and [PHY1911](#).

#### General Science major courses

Any four (4) level 1 or 2 approved courses included in the [Bachelor of Science](#) or Diploma of Science, plus any two (2) approved elective courses chosen from any level 1 or 2 course offered by the University of Southern Queensland, subject to pre-requisite requirements and Program Coordinator approval.

#### Residential schools

The attendance requirement of residential schools within this degree is indicated by the following letters: V = Voluntary; O = Optional; C = Compulsory; R = Recommended; HR = Highly Recommended; M = Mandatory. To find out more about [residential schools](#), visit the [Residential School Schedule](#) to view specific dates for your degree, or visit the [Policy and Procedure Library](#).

Highly recommended residential school (linked to an assessment item and non-attendance will mean a student misses an element for assessment preparation or an element of assessment).

#### Biology major:

- [BIO1101 Biology 1](#)
- [BIO2103 Biology 2](#)

## Articulation

Upon successful completion of the Diploma of Science students have the opportunity to articulate directly into the [BSCI Bachelor of Science](#)).

Students articulating into the USQ [BSCI Bachelor of Science](#) may be given exemptions for eight courses completed in the Diploma of Science.

## Credit

Exemptions/credit will be assessed based on the [USQ Credit and Exemption Procedure](#).

## Recommended Enrolment Pattern - Biology - Full-time

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Residential school	Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)			
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem		
<b>Year 1</b>								
<a href="#">BIO1101 Biology 1</a>	1	1	1	1			HR	
<a href="#">BIO2107 Cell and Molecular Biology 1</a>	1	1			1	1		Pre-requisite: <a href="#">CHE2120</a>
<a href="#">SCI1001 Succeeding in Science</a>	1	1			1	1		
Elective 1	1	1			1	1		
<a href="#">BIO2103 Biology 2</a>	1	2	1	2			HR	Pre-requisite: <a href="#">BIO1101</a>
<a href="#">BIO2219 Genetics</a>	1	2			1	2		Pre-requisite: ( <a href="#">BIO1100</a> or <a href="#">BIO1101</a> or <a href="#">BIO1204</a> )
<a href="#">CMS1100 Communicating in the Sciences</a>					1	2		
Elective 2	1	2			1	2		

## Recommended Enrolment Pattern - Biology - Part-time

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Residential school	Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)			
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem		
<a href="#">BIO1101 Biology 1</a>	1	1	1	1			HR	
<a href="#">SCI1001 Succeeding in Science</a>	1	1			1	1		
<a href="#">BIO2103 Biology 2</a>	1	2	1	2			HR	Pre-requisite: <a href="#">BIO1101</a>
<a href="#">CMS1100 Communicating in the Sciences</a>					1	2		
<a href="#">BIO2107 Cell and Molecular Biology 1</a>	2	1			2	1		Pre-requisite: <a href="#">CHE2120</a>
Elective 1	2	1			2	1		
<a href="#">BIO2219 Genetics</a>	2	2			2	2		Pre-requisite: ( <a href="#">BIO1100</a> or <a href="#">BIO1101</a> or <a href="#">BIO1204</a> )
Elective 2	2	2			2	2		

## Recommended Enrolment Pattern - Computing/IT - Full-time

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
<a href="#">CSC1401 Foundation Programming</a>	1	1			1	1	
<a href="#">MAT1101 Discrete Mathematics for Computing</a>	1	1			1	1	
<a href="#">SCI1001 Succeeding in Science</a>	1	1			1	1	
Elective 1	1	1			1	1	
<a href="#">CSC2406 Web Technology 1</a>	1	2			1	2	Pre-requisite: <a href="#">CSC1401</a> or Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GDT1 or GCEN or METC or MCOT or MCTE or MCOP or MPIT or MCTN or BSED
<a href="#">CMS1100 Communicating in the Sciences</a>					1	2	
<a href="#">CIS1000 Information Systems Concepts</a>	1	2			1	2	
Elective 2	1	2			1	2	

## Recommended Enrolment Pattern - Computing/IT - Part-time

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
<a href="#">CSC1401 Foundation Programming</a>	1	1			1	1	
<a href="#">MAT1101 Discrete Mathematics for Computing</a>	1	1			1	1	
<a href="#">CIS1000 Information Systems Concepts</a>	1	2			1	2	
<a href="#">CMS1100 Communicating in the Sciences</a>					1	2	
<a href="#">SCI1001 Succeeding in Science</a>	2	1			2	1	
Elective 1	2	1			2	1	
<a href="#">CSC2406 Web Technology 1</a>	2	2			2	2	Pre-requisite: <a href="#">CSC1401</a> or Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GDT1 or GCEN or METC or MCOT or MCTE or MCOP or MPIT or MCTN or BSED
Elective 2	2	2			2	2	

## Recommended Enrolment Pattern - Environment and Sustainability - Full-time

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
<b>Year 1</b>							
<a href="#">REN1201 Environmental Studies</a>	1	1			1	1	
<a href="#">CLI1110 Weather and Climate</a>	1	1			1	1	
<a href="#">SCI1001 Succeeding in Science</a>	1	1			1	1	
<a href="#">REN2200 Ecology for Sustainability</a>	1	1			1	1	
<a href="#">CLI2201 Climate Change and Variability</a>					1	2	

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
<a href="#">CMS1100 Communicating in the Sciences</a>					1	2	
Elective 1	1	2			1	2	
Elective 2	1	2			1	2	

### Recommended Enrolment Pattern - Environment and Sustainability - Part-time

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
<a href="#">REN1201 Environmental Studies</a>	1	1			1	1	
<a href="#">SCI1001 Succeeding in Science</a>	1	1			1	1	
<a href="#">CLI2201 Climate Change and Variability</a>					1	2	
<a href="#">CMS1100 Communicating in the Sciences</a>					1	2	
<a href="#">CLI1110 Weather and Climate</a>	2	1			2	1	
<a href="#">REN2200 Ecology for Sustainability</a>	2	1			2	1	
Elective 1	2	2			2	2	
Elective 2	2	2			2	2	

### Recommended Enrolment Pattern - Mathematics - Full-time

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
<b>Choose one of the following two courses:</b>							
<a href="#">MAT1000 Mathematics Fundamentals</a> *	1	1			1	1	
<a href="#">MAT1102 Algebra and Calculus I</a> *	1	1			1	1	
<a href="#">SCI1001 Succeeding in Science</a>	1	1			1	1	
<a href="#">CSC1401 Foundation Programming</a>	1	1			1	1	
Elective 1	1	1			1	1	
<a href="#">MAT1100 Foundation Mathematics</a>	1	2			1	2	
<a href="#">CMS1100 Communicating in the Sciences</a>					1	2	
<a href="#">STA2100 Evaluating Information</a>	1	2			1	2	Enrolment is not permitted in <a href="#">STA2100</a> if <a href="#">S TA3100</a> has been previously completed.
Elective 2	1	2			1	2	

#### Footnotes

- \* Students who have completed Mathematics B (4, SA) or equivalent should include [MAT1102](#) in their program. All other students should include [MAT1000](#).



## Recommended Enrolment Pattern - Mathematics - Part-time

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
<a href="#">MAT1000 Mathematics Fundamentals</a>	1	1			1	1	
<a href="#">CSC1401 Foundation Programming</a>	1	1			1	1	
<a href="#">MAT1100 Foundation Mathematics</a>	1	2			1	2	
<a href="#">CMS1100 Communicating in the Sciences</a>					1	2	
<a href="#">SCI1001 Succeeding in Science</a>	2	1			2	1	
Elective 1	2	1			2	1	
<a href="#">STA2100 Evaluating Information</a>	2	2			2	2	Enrolment is not permitted in <a href="#">STA2100</a> if <a href="#">STA3100</a> has been previously completed.
Elective 2	2	2			2	2	

## Recommended Enrolment Pattern - Physical Sciences - Full-time

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
<b>Year 1</b>							
<a href="#">PHY1101 Astronomy 1</a>					1	1	
<a href="#">PHY1104 Physics 1</a> <sup>^</sup>					1	1	
<a href="#">SCI1001 Succeeding in Science</a>	1	1			1	1	
<a href="#">CMS1100 Communicating in the Sciences</a>	1	1			1	1	
<a href="#">PHY1107 Astronomy 2</a>					1	2	
<a href="#">PHY1911 Physics 2</a> <sup>^</sup>					1	2	
Elective 1	1	2			1	2	
Elective 2	1	2			1	2	

### Footnotes

<sup>^</sup> [PHY1104](#) and [PHY1911](#) can only be completed by students who have completed Mathematics B (4, SA) or equivalent. Students who have not completed Mathematics B (4, SA) or equivalent must complete [MAT1000](#) as one of the electives prior to enrolling in [PHY1104](#) and [PHY1911](#).

## Recommended Enrolment Pattern - Physical Sciences - Part-time

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
<a href="#">PHY1101 Astronomy 1</a>					1	1	
Elective 1	1	1			1	1	
<a href="#">PHY1107 Astronomy 2</a>					1	2	
<a href="#">CMS1100 Communicating in the Sciences</a>					1	2	
<a href="#">PHY1104 Physics 1</a> <sup>^</sup>	2	1			2	1	
<a href="#">SCI1001 Succeeding in Science</a>	2	1			2	1	

Consult the Handbook on the Web at <http://www.usq.edu.au/handbook/current> for any updates that may occur during the year.  
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Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
Elective 2	2	2			2	2	
<a href="#">PHY1911 Physics 2</a> <sup>^</sup>					2	2	

**Footnotes**

<sup>^</sup> [PHY1104](#) and [PHY1911](#) can only be completed by students who have completed Mathematics B (4, SA) or equivalent. Students who have not completed Mathematics B (4, SA) or equivalent must complete [MAT1000](#) as one of the electives prior to enrolling in [PHY1104](#) and [PHY1911](#).