

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander *Student Guide 2026*



Celebrating 175 years



Preparing for *university*

We offer a range of on-campus programs so you can experience university, meet current students, receive exam support and prepare for life after school.

Gadalung Summer Program (Years 11, 12)

Spend a week on campus to find out what university is really like. You will have the opportunity to explore courses and careers, make new friends, participate in a full program of academic and extracurricular events, and access world-class facilities.

Ngara Future Focus Program (Years 9, 10, 11, 12)

Through the Ngara (Listen, Hear, Think) Program, students from NSW metropolitan schools are invited to unique on-campus events throughout the year, including discipline-specific and personal development workshops. You will build your confidence, receive exam support and gain access to useful tools and resources for your studies and future plans.

Tahgara Winter Program (Year 12)

We know Year 12 can be a stressful time, so we offer tailored, individual support and academic preparation in the lead up to HSC exams. Delivered over a week-long intensive, you will have access to HSC exam preparation workshops, one-to-one tutoring, and faculty and support staff to assist you on your journey to university.

We'll also guide you through scholarship applications, university pathways and everything you need to know as you get ready to take your next steps.

There is no cost for participating. All program related expenses – including travel, meals and accommodation – are covered by the University of Sydney.



“As a full-time student living away from home, the tutoring and scholarships provided by the Gadigal Program have made my studies possible.”

Amelia Stanmore
proud Wonnarua woman
Bachelor of Psychology
Gadigal Program

Your history, *your future*

The University of Sydney was founded in 1850 on the land of the Gadigal people.

Today, our campuses and facilities stretch across the ancestral lands of many of Australia's First Peoples.

Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff include senior leaders across the community who are helping to shape the University's future.

Our graduates have distinguished themselves in all sectors of Australian society and throughout the world, and include many prominent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders and achievers.

Discover our range of programs dedicated to supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who dream of studying here, and start your journey to the University of Sydney.



"I didn't really give much thought to study until I visited the University of Sydney. I knew that if I wanted success, not just for myself but also for my family and community, that the University of Sydney was the place to go."

Patrick Lucarnus

proud Ngadjuri man
Bachelor of Commerce/Bachelor of Laws
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Entry
Scholarship





Entry to *university*

When you're ready to apply for university, we look at more than your ATAR by focusing on your interests, motivation and goals.

Gadigal Entry Program

Through our Gadigal Entry Program admissions pathway, specifically designed for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, you will have:

- the opportunity to apply for a Gadigal early conditional offer
- reduced ATAR requirements
- access to an intensive Academic Skills Program
- ongoing academic and personal support throughout your degree.

For further information on pathways, visit:

- sydney.edu.au/indigenous-pathways

Extended Bachelor's Programs

Our extended bachelor degrees offer a dedicated pathway for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. These extended degrees include an additional foundation year with culturally relevant literacy and mathematics studies. These studies will equip you with excellent communication, critical and analytical skills that will prepare you for university studies and beyond. This pathway is open to eligible students who can demonstrate potential for tertiary study to a standard sufficient to undertake the course, as defined in the course admission criteria.

The extended degrees:

- Bachelor of Arts (Extended)
- Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Science (Extended)
- Bachelor of Science (Extended)
- Bachelor of Science (Extended) (Health)

Our dedicated staff are available to assist you throughout the admission process:
indigenous.recruitment@sydney.edu.au

Support at *university*

You'll receive continuous support throughout your degree so you can achieve your potential and graduate job-ready.

The Gadigal Centre

Our dedicated student centre that supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

We are deeply committed to supporting our students with their academic, cultural, economic, and social and emotional needs.

We want to empower you throughout your studies and beyond. Think of us as your family at the University – we will work with you to make sure that your journey here is as fun and successful as possible.

Through the Gadigal Centre you'll have access to:

- Mentoring Our Brothers and Sisters (MOBS) Program delivered by senior Indigenous students
- free tutoring and group sessions through our Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme (TAS)
- culturally safe spaces for Indigenous students.

You'll also have access to the broader range of student support services such as careers support, disability services, financial support, academic support and enrichment programs.

- sydney.edu.au/gadigal-centre

Accommodation

Living on campus is a great way to meet people, build friendships and develop networks that will stay with you for life.

Accommodation options include:

- University-owned (independent living, self-catered)
- University colleges (inclusive of all meals and programs)
- off-campus accommodation.

Scholarships

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Entry Scholarship

A \$10,000 scholarship to support Indigenous students with an ATAR (or equivalent) of 85+ to study at the University of Sydney.

- sydney.edu.au/indigenous-entry-scholarship

Gadigal Accommodation Scholarship

This scholarship reduces your weekly rent to \$50 and will give you a guaranteed spot in one of our residential colleges or in university-owned accommodation options. The number of scholarships available varies each year.

- sydney.edu.au/gadigal-accommodation-scholarship

Search from hundreds of offerings for Indigenous students:

- sydney.edu.au/scholarships-search

For further support, the Australian Government provides an ABSTUDY Living Allowance. Find out more at:

- servicesaustralia.gov.au

University is a time for growth and change – we provide a culturally supportive environment for you as you transition to becoming a University of Sydney student.



We recognise and pay respect to the Elders and communities – past, present, and emerging – of the lands that the University of Sydney's campuses stand on. For thousands of years they have shared and exchanged knowledges across innumerable generations for the benefit of all.

Application support

Email: indigenous.recruitment@sydney.edu.au

sydney.edu.au/indigenous-support

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Visit our website, chat to staff and follow us on social media.



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