

Access and Participation Plan 2018

At the University of Sydney, we believe that the brightest and most promising students, regardless of their cultural or social background, can thrive and realise their potential through higher education. The University of Sydney's *Access and Participation Plan 2018* continues a deepening strategic commitment, underpinned by values of 'inclusion and diversity' to increase access and participation in higher education for people from low socio-economic status (LSES) backgrounds.

PRE-ACCESS			
Equity outcomes and strategies: <i>(For improving outcomes form people from a low SES background)</i>	Key activities: <i>(which will deliver an increase in the access, participation and success of people from a low SES background)</i>	Evaluation: <i>(How the University plans to evaluate the effectiveness of the equity strategies)</i>	Partnerships and collaboration: <i>(who the University will partner and collaborate with and how this will improve equity performance)</i>
<p>Pre-tertiary academic capacity building program aims to:</p> <p>Increase access and participation in higher education for young people from low socio-economic status (LSES), regional and remote areas and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds who are also LSES.</p>	<p>Widening Participation and Outreach multi-modal program initiatives include: experiential learning on campus, residential programs, community engagement and schools outreach.</p> <p>In- school enrichment programs across greater western Sydney and regional NSW develop critical academic skills to prepare students for higher education.</p> <p>Literacy programs support enhanced academic outcomes for students through innovative</p>	<p><i>Longitudinal evaluation project (2018-2020)</i> partnership agreements with targeted schools will see a core suite of enrichment activity extended to senior secondary cohorts.</p> <p>Comprehensive longitudinal evaluation will include measures of:</p> <p>Program participation numbers and participant feedback</p>	<p>Collaborative partnerships with community organisations: <i>Education and Training Out West and The Smith Family</i> enable extended reach and more effectively directed enrichment to students from priority cohorts.</p> <p>Public Library partnerships with: <i>Liverpool City Library, Whitlam Library (Cabramatta), HJ Daley Library (Campbelltown), Max Webber Library (Blacktown), Fisher Library (The University of Sydney)</i> provide in-community hosts for study centres,</p>

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<p>Engage and connect with teachers, families and community influencers to foster sustained change in beliefs and attitudes about higher education.</p> <p>Extend unique curriculum linked learning experiences to enable improved educational outcomes, capacity and engagement with life-long learning.</p>	<p>creative and persuasive writing activities.</p> <p>STEM focused programs encourage positive engagement and achievement in Science, Technology Engineering and Mathematics-related, subjects, degrees and professions.</p> <p>Professional Learning Programs support increased individual and collective efficacy of school teachers and leaders.</p>	<p>Increases in university applications/offers/enrolments from under-represented groups.</p> <p>Increases in applications/offers and enrolments through alternative pathways from engaged schools/students.</p> <p>Increased academic capacity and preparedness for higher education.</p> <p>Increased understanding of the breadth of study options and opportunities at university.</p> <p>Increased ability to make meaningful links between personal interests, higher education study options and careers.</p> <p>Increased understanding of the importance of subject selection, obtaining an ATAR and implications for future study at university.</p> <p>Increased knowledge of entry pathways, scholarships and support services available at University.</p>	<p>parent and community information evenings and HSCram events.</p> <p>Partnerships with arts and cultural organisations: <i>The Australian Museum, The Sydney Writers Festival, The Sydney Story Factory</i> and <i>The Seymour Centre</i> enable the provision of specialised educational experiences that students and schools may not otherwise access and the acquisition of cultural capital to prepare students for University life.</p> <p>Partnership with <i>Studiosity</i>, enables the University of Sydney to extend online, on demand academic tutoring to secondary school students who attend one of our engaged schools and/or identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.</p> <p>Western Sydney University is a project partner for the study of an individual-based socio-economic disadvantage measure, commissioned under the Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program (HEPPP) National Priorities Pool.</p>
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		<p>Increased student confidence about university being a place for them.</p> <p>Enriched teacher and school leader capacity through professional development opportunities.</p>	
ACCESS			
Equity outcomes and strategies	Key activities	Evaluation:	Partnerships and collaboration:
<p>Provision and promotion of pathway programs, alternative selection criteria tools, scholarships and integrated policy frameworks on equity-related issues</p>	<p>Expansion of the University of Sydney's <i>Widening Participation and Outreach strategy</i> anchoring and focusing access and participation activity across each stage of the student life cycle: Pre-access (outreach to school and communities), Access (pre-entry and admissions), Participation (transition and progression during studies) Attainment (successful completion and preparation for graduate employment.)</p> <p>Review of alternative entry pathways at The University of Sydney.</p> <p>Review impact of mathematics pre-requisites on Recent School Leavers accessing the University equity pathways and</p>	<p>Increased equity group access rates and participation rates</p> <p>Alternative pathway, applications, enrolment numbers and offer statistics</p> <p>Equity scholarships granted</p> <p>Accommodation subsidies granted</p>	



	<p>implementation of bridging courses and/or concessions to minimise access barriers.</p> <p>Current equity entry pathways will continue for 2018:</p> <p>The <i>Early Offer Year 12 (E12) scheme</i> for students who are from a financially disadvantaged background and/or are attending a UAC identified S01E list high school.</p> <p><i>Broadway Scheme</i> for domestic students who have experienced long-term disadvantage that has affected educational performance in Year 11 and/or Year 12 including from disrupted schooling, financial hardship, home or school environment, English language difficulty, personal illness or disability, or refugee status.</p> <p>The <i>Dalyell Scholars program</i> for high achieving students will continue its ATAR concessions for alternative pathway applicants.</p> <p>The University is scoping the development of a <i>Foundation Year</i> enabling program targeted at Aboriginal and Torres Strait</p>		
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	<p>Islanders and potentially LSES students who may be unable to gain University entry via traditional pathways.</p> <p>Additional <i>scholarships</i> like the Thynne Reid Foundation E12 Accommodation Scholarships will continue to provide critical additional support to regional students from low socio-economic status backgrounds who enter the University of Sydney through the E12 pathway.</p>		
PARTICIPATION			
Equity outcomes and strategies	Key activities	Evaluation	Partnerships and collaboration
<p>Provision and promotion of programs and support which ameliorate the challenges faced by identified student cohorts- transition, retention and success programs.</p> <p>First year students and Progression during studies</p>	<p><i>Student Support Services</i> program of enhanced support is designed to decrease early attrition and encourage students' persistence, engagement and sense of belonging at the University.</p> <p>The University's <i>Student Transition and Retention (STAR)</i> team will continue to enable critical welcome, orientation and information regarding support available to students entering via alternative pathways.</p>	<p>Increase in target cohort student retention and success ratios</p> <p>Support program/s participation numbers and participant feedback</p>	



	<p>Review Low-Ses data from the <i>Track and Connect</i> early intervention initiative to support student success, targeting students identified by teaching staff as being at risk of withdrawal or failure based on academic and engagement data; this program will continue to provide pastoral support and important information to students, and offer referral to services such as <i>Counselling and Psychological Services (CAPS)</i>, <i>Disability Services</i>, <i>the Careers Centre</i> and <i>Financial Assistance</i>.</p> <p>Opportunities to promote available <i>scholarships</i> for students from targeted cohorts will be prioritised.</p> <p>Sydney Abroad will facilitate the <i>Vice Chancellor's Global Mobility Award</i>, allocated to students who entered the University of Sydney on an <u>E12</u> or equivalent pathway.</p> <p>Extend and provide support for a First in Family (FIF) student and staff network, beyond the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at the University of Sydney.</p>		
ATTAINMENT			

Equity outcomes and strategies: <i>(For improving outcomes from people from a low SES background)</i>	Key activities: <i>(which will deliver an increase in the access, participation and success of people from a low SES background)</i>	Evaluation: <i>(How the University plans to evaluate the effectiveness of the equity strategies)</i>	Partnerships and collaboration: <i>(who the University will partner and collaborate with and how this will improve equity performance)</i>
Provision and promotion of programs and support to ensure successful completion and preparation for employment	Undertake strategic review, analysis and evaluation of the student experience and graduate destinations for students from Low-Socio-economic backgrounds and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.	Increased completion rates for targeted equity groups Rates of graduate employment or postgraduate study by target cohorts Graduate Destination Survey	