

ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION PLAN 2018

University of New England

The University's Access and Participation plan will promote the increased participation and progression of domestic undergraduate students from low socioeconomic backgrounds in Higher Education.

1 Equity outcomes and strategies:

To encourage and support diversity by increasing opportunities for access, developing strategies and improving activities to encourage participation and success in higher education for all equity groups, including those from a low SES background.

PRE-ACCESS and ACCESS:

Expand outreach liaison to increase interest and aspirations of potential students and their families through comprehensive access and participation programs and partnerships that provide a sustainable outreach & engagement model for UNE through the delivery of key activities, such as:

- ❖ Discovery Road Show;
- ❖ HSC Booster Days;
- ❖ Field Days;
- ❖ Careers Fairs (mobile);
- ❖ Careers days at regional schools;
- ❖ Information packages;
- ❖ Pathways information;
- ❖ Workshops for Careers Advisers, Principals, Teachers, Parent and Community Members;
- ❖ Professional Development;
- ❖ Indigenous specific programs such as AIME;
- ❖ On campus workshops for school students relating to interests, electives and careers;
- ❖ Workshops for future students regarding university expectations and course understanding;
- ❖ Term 5 experience programs;
- ❖ Enabling programs;

PARTICIPATION:

Provision of a suite of programs that complement existing student services to facilitate transition and progression including student mentoring and support programs. Additional support is provided for students from low SES backgrounds to continue to attend university through the provision of bursaries and scholarships. Key activities include:

- ❖ Scholarships and bursaries;
- ❖ Student support programs;
- ❖ Peer mentoring programs;
- ❖ Tutoring programs;
- ❖ UNE community inclusion activities;
- ❖ Collaboration workshops;
- ❖ TransitionIN programs;
- ❖ Foundation programs such as academic literacy activities;

- ❖ Short term financial support for work placements, residential schools, child care, texts, computers and so on;
- ❖ Professional development for staff and students (mentors and tutors).

ATTAINMENT:

Aimed at improving preparation for graduate employment and ensuring learning and graduate outcomes enhance students' employability skills base. Key activities include:

- ❖ Workshops to facilitate career readiness and graduate employability;
- ❖ Business and Industry connections;
- ❖ Professional mentoring;
- ❖ Industry partnerships;
- ❖ Intern programs.

2 Evaluation:

Institutional enrolment and planning data using qualitative and quantitative measurements will be used to quantify progress and to aid in the development of access and participation initiatives. HEPP funded projects will be monitored at defined times, against agreed milestones and evaluative controls.

3 Partnerships and collaboration:

The University of New England is a partner in the RUN network and will continue to work with regional universities to foster a broad coverage of regional issues. The University will continue its work with schools, and community groups in the New England/North West of NSW, Hunter Valley, Central Coast and North Coast of NSW in delivering programs to improve the access and participation in Higher Education of students in equity groups. Opportunities with industry for internships and the like, will continue to be pursued.

Appendix B: Equity Initiatives Framework: Student Life Cycle Stages

The Access and Participation Plan could address the stages in a student's life cycle and include listed activities to deliver support equity outcomes.

Activity ↓	Equity Initiatives Framework Stage										HEPPP component		
	Pre-Access					Participation		Attainment			Partnerships	Participation	National Priorities Pool
	Primary school	Secondary Yr 7-10	Access		School leavers	First year students	Progression during studies	Completion	Graduate destinations				
		Secondary Yr 11-12	VET	Mature age									
Aspiration raising - pre-entry university experience		✓	✓		✓	✓						◆	
Aspiration raising – non-university experience	✓	✓	✓			✓						◆	
Careers advice		✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		◆◆	
Mentoring, peer support							✓	✓				◆◆	
Academic preparation/support							✓					◆◆	
Professional development													
Parent/community information/support													
Other outreach		✓				✓						◆	
Pre university qualification pathway													
Foundation programs for extra academic skills							✓					◆◆	
Inclusive entry processes													
Orientation programs							✓					◆	
First year transition programs							✓					◆◆	
Scholarships							✓	✓	✓			◆◆	
Inclusive course design/pedagogies												◆◆	
Alternative exit programs							✓	✓	✓			◆	
Monitoring student progress							✓	✓	✓			◆	
Employment support pre-completion		✓								✓		◆◆	
Employment support post-completion													
Monitoring/evaluation							✓	✓	✓	✓		◆	
Research													
Enhancing program implementation													

Note: ◆ indicates an activity that achieves the objective of this HEPPP component. ◆ indicates an activity that can be funded from this program component. ▲ indicates activities that can be the subject of research or innovative trials under the HEPPP National Priorities Pool
 SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING 2016. From Report to Department of Education and Training 16 March 2017 Evaluation of the HEPPP (ACIL Allen Consulting).