

HIGHER EDUCATION PARTICIPATION AND PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM (HEPPP) 2017



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The Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program (HEPPP) aims to ensure that Australians from low SES backgrounds who have the ability to study at university have the opportunity to do so.

HEPPP provides funding to assist universities listed in “TABLE A” of the Higher Education Support Act 2003 to undertake activities and implement strategies that improve access to undergraduate courses for people from low SES backgrounds, as well as improving the retention and completion rates of those students.

CQUNI HEPPP 2017 GRANT FUNDING

CQUniversity Australia (CQUni) HEPPP grants are for initiatives that increase access to and participation in higher education by domestic undergraduate students from low SES backgrounds, and that support the retention, success and attainment of those students. This can include activities that target low SES students who are also Indigenous students, students from regional and remote locations, students with disability, women in non-traditional areas, or students from non-English speaking backgrounds.

In 2017, CQUni has been funded \$4,682,592 and will use this grant funding to deliver 13 projects across five key areas:

1. CQUni HEPPP Project Management Support
2. Equity | Accessibility | Inclusion
3. Outreach and Aspirational
4. Pre-Entry | Admissions | Transition
5. During Study

The following information provides a synopsis of CQUni’s HEPPP 2017 projects.

For more information about how CQUniversity engages with equity students through HEPPP grant initiatives, please contact Lindy Smith, CQUni HEPPP Projects Coordinator on 07 4150 7111 or email HEPPP@cqu.edu.au.

Project name	Project description	Project Management Division	Project Coordinator	Intended target audience					
				Students from low socio-economic backgrounds	Indigenous students	Students from regional and remote locations	Students with disability	Women in non-traditional areas	Students from non-English speaking backgrounds
1. CQUNI HEPPP Project Management Support									
1.a CQUni HEPPP Coordination project	<p>The CQUni HEPPP Coordination project is responsible for the overarching coordination, evaluation and strategic direction of CQUni HEPPP projects to ensure that they meet Australian Government reporting requirements and guidelines.</p> <p>The Project works to support CQUni HEPPP Project Coordinators in progressing project initiatives and outcomes, by providing the necessary advice, training, tools and resources required to deliver on agreed project outcomes, on-time and within budget.</p> <p>The CQUni HEPPP Coordination project is also responsible for annual reporting to the Australian Government on the effectiveness of the money spent – in particular, how CQUni grant funding aligns with activities that target low socio-economic status students who are also indigenous students, students from regional and remote locations, students with disability, women in non-traditional areas, and/or students from non-English speaking backgrounds.</p>	Student Experience and Governance	<u>Lindy Smith</u>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
1.b CQUni HEPPP Communications	The CQUni HEPPP Communications project facilitates communication with and between CQUniversity equity students via a purpose-built digital channel called UCROO, and aims to provide strategic communications advice and practical support to student-facing CQUni HEPPP projects, in the interests of promoting student access to these initiatives.	Student Experience and Governance	<u>Sarah Pierce</u>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
1.c CQUni HEPPP Evaluation and Policy	<p>The role of the CQUni HEPPP Evaluation and Policy project is to consolidate CQUni HEPPP 2016 project evaluations into one overall CQUni HEPPP program evaluation.</p> <p>The project also provides guidance to CQUni HEPPP Project Coordinators and project sponsors on 2017 project evaluations, and the implications arising from the evaluations.</p>	Tertiary Education	<u>Professor Denise Wood</u>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2. Equity Accessibility Inclusion									
Student Equity Program	The Student Equity Program supports students from disadvantaged backgrounds to participate in higher education through the provision of scholarships, financial assistance and essential disability support services.	Student Experience and Governance	<u>Cate Rooney</u>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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3. Outreach and Aspirational									
3.a Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience (AIME)	<p>The Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience (AIME) project is designed to build self-confidence and pride in being Indigenous and develop students' aspirations to transition from one grade to the next and ultimately graduate from Year 12 and go on to further education or employment.</p> <p>In 2017, CQUni HEPPP AIME will continue to engage with high school students from Years 7–12 in Rockhampton, Yeppoon, Gladstone and Mackay. Students will learn about higher education and career opportunities and access free tutoring and mentoring support.</p> <p>The project will also engage university students who will be trained as mentors. They will receive focused leadership, cultural training, and a unique opportunity to engage with Indigenous students.</p>	Engagement and Campuses	<u>Marina Mikecz</u>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3.b Community Aspirations Program (CAP-ED)	<p>The Community Aspirations (CAP-ED) program aims to demystify CQUniversity, so that Indigenous people can gain the skills needed to transition into higher education.</p> <p>The CQUni CAP-ED program provides short sessions that are practical, inspiring and focus on identity and culture. By developing a relationship with participants, the program builds self-confidence to achieve personal goals and further develop opportunities in tertiary education or employment.</p> <p>The CQUni CAP-ED program also hosts information sessions and network events to encourage discussion among Indigenous people within their local communities.</p>	Tertiary Education	<u>Tasha Lamey</u>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3.c CQUni Connect Program	<p>The CQUni Connect program raises and support the career aspirations of school students from disadvantaged backgrounds to consider post-school pathways through university and TAFE.</p> <p>Students participate in a range of individual and group activities delivered over a number of weeks and designed for their specific year level. Students develop a sound awareness of pathways from high school to university, and university to the workforce. The CQUni Connect Program also aims to assist senior secondary students to build practical tertiary education readiness skills to improve their understanding and expectations of university and TAFE.</p> <p>The CQUni Connect program is offered in Central Queensland (Bundaberg, North Burnett, Central West, Rockhampton, and Mackay) and the Cairns region.</p> <p><i>*Previously known as the Widening Participation Program</i></p>	Student Experience and Governance	<u>Melinda Mann-Yasso</u>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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4. Pre-Entry Admissions Transition									
4.a Retention Follow-Up and Return to Study	<p>The Retention Follow-Up and Return to Study project aims to address high levels of attrition from CQUni programs through a follow-up phone survey of all students who withdrew, failed to re-enrol, transferred or were precluded over a three-year period, and provide opportunities for former students to return, with steady and flexible support to increase their chances of success.</p> <p>The outcomes of this project will inform the development of a CQUni retention and success strategy that addresses the key factors contributing to continuing high levels of attrition, with a specific focus on students from low SES backgrounds, and those who are indigenous, from regional and remote locations, living with disability, women in non-traditional areas, and/or students from non-English speaking backgrounds.</p>	Tertiary Education	<u>Robyn Bailey</u>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4.b Student Readiness	<p>The Student Readiness project aims to improve student preparation, transition and success at CQUni through a number of initiatives, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • development of an online pre-orientation program to enable early engagement with commencing students • proactive intervention with identified 'at-risk' students to connect them with existing support services and advice • improved access to general academic assistance outside of business hours • facilitation of a University-wide Student Retention Community of Practice to increase staff knowledge, communication and collaboration on retention-based issues and projects. 	Student Experience and Governance	<u>Annette Thompson</u>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5. During Study									
5.a Accessible Online Delivery	<p>The Accessible Online Delivery project uses an evidence-based approach to designing and redeveloping online courses to suit the needs of a diverse student population, including those students from low SES backgrounds.</p> <p>By considering usability, accessibility and analysis of data, the project will facilitate the development of a framework, guidelines and prototype usability testing system application, which is embedded in learning management systems such as Moodle.</p> <p>The outcomes of this project provides academics with an integrated process to design online curricula that can be adapted to suit individual student accessibility needs.</p>	Tertiary Education	<u>Renette Viljoen</u>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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5.b Communication Hub	<p>The Communication Hub project primarily provides assistance to CQUni students from disadvantaged backgrounds.</p> <p>This support is delivered using a number of modes and services, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> workshops tailored specifically to develop written and oral academic literacy skills collaboration with lecturers to embed academic literacy teaching in classrooms learning and teaching resources developed by advisors and made accessible via Moodle. 	Tertiary Education	<u>Valerie Cleary</u>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5.c CQUni Career Connection	<p>The Student Alumni Mentoring program brings students from low SES backgrounds together with alumni in purposeful, mutually rewarding relationships, using an online platform to introduce students to alumni from different class years, programs and industries, who come from similar backgrounds to their own.</p> <p>This student alumni platform enables online self-matching and free phone calls to connect participants from across the world to provide and receive advice and mentoring, to and from the right person, no matter the location.</p>	Engagement and Campuses	<u>Anthea Cuddihy</u>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5.d Supporting Students' Assessment Success (SSAS)	<p>The Supporting Students' Assessment Success (SSAS) project consults with first year CQUni students to identify obstacles around assessment within current course structures that may limit their abilities to succeed. It focuses on the improvement of assessment design and the provision of better assessment support resources to students.</p> <p>The SSAS project works to increase CQUni faculty knowledge and skills around the design of quality assessment to promote best practice in learning and teaching.</p>	Tertiary Education	<u>Joanne Dargusch</u>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓