



# ABORIGINAL PATHWAY PROGRAM

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2021 GUIDE



University of  
South Australia





2018 APP completers (L – R) –  
Wyarta Miller, Chloe Warren,  
Joyleen Warrior and Serena Gunter.



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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

*UniSA respects the traditional owners on whose lands our campuses are built. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, their beliefs and spiritual relationship with their country. We also acknowledge the diversity of Aboriginal peoples, past and present.*

*Find out more about the University's commitment to reconciliation at:*

***[unisa.edu.au/rap](http://unisa.edu.au/rap)***



A portrait of Raymond Richards, a man with a goatee and blue eyes, wearing a black t-shirt with white stripes on the sleeves. He is standing in front of a blurred background that appears to be an airport or a modern building with large windows.

"Having been out of school for 15 years, the Aboriginal Pathway Program gave me the foundation to study again. I'm looking forward to my new career path of becoming a pilot."

*Raymond Richards*

*Completed APP in Adelaide and currently studying a Bachelor of Aviation (Pilot)*

**92%**

of Aboriginal Pathway Program students are studying from regional or remote areas



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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRO VICE CHANCELLOR

**Aboriginal Leadership and Strategy**  
**Professor Irene Watson**

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## Welcome to the Aboriginal Pathway Program at UniSA College.

Offered across five regions  
and delivered over 18  
months, the Aboriginal  
Pathway Program is designed  
for Aboriginal students

to develop the skills they need to successfully  
complete university study.

The program is open to all people who identify as  
Aboriginal<sup>1</sup> and can lead to entry into a bachelor's  
degree at the University of South Australia (UniSA).

If you are looking for a change in your life,  
I encourage you to read through the information  
in this guide. I know it can be daunting when thinking  
about making that change, especially if you are the  
first in your family to undertake such a journey.

When I graduated from university, I was not only the  
first in my family to do so, but also the first Aboriginal  
to graduate from a law degree in South Australia.

As a woman proud to belong to the Tanganekald  
Meintangk Boandik First Nations Peoples, of the  
Coorong and the south east of South Australia,  
I wanted to use my law degree to fight for the  
land rights and self-determination of First Nations  
Aboriginal Peoples.

At UniSA, we are committed to creating an  
environment where Aboriginal students and staff  
can learn, grow and define the future in a place  
that acknowledges, respects and learns from  
Aboriginal knowledge.

I wish you all the best in deciding the path for your  
future. As one of the first graduates of the program  
said, "Take that first step. There's a whole world  
out there. Whatever you want to become or do,  
it's waiting for you."

# CONTENTS

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**ABORIGINAL PATHWAY  
PROGRAM EXPLAINED / 6**

---

**OUR COMMUNITY / 9**

---

**WHAT WILL YOU LEARN? / 10**

---

**HOW WILL YOU STUDY? / 11**

---

**SUBMITTING YOUR  
APPLICATION / 12**

---

**APPLICATION FORM / 13**

<sup>1</sup> Consistent with common usage now in many  
organisations, this publication uses the shorter form of  
reference to 'Aboriginal People' but is intended, always, to  
be inclusive of both Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait  
Islander Peoples.



"I was working in a field that wasn't for me, so I went travelling, became a mother and then decided I wanted to do something completely different. I joined the Aboriginal Pathway Program and it was one of the best decisions I've made."

*Wyarta Miller*

*Completed APP in Whyalla and currently studying a Bachelor of Digital Media*

# ABORIGINAL PATHWAY PROGRAM

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## WELCOME TO UniSA COLLEGE AND THE ABORIGINAL PATHWAY PROGRAM

Developed exclusively for Aboriginal students, the APP is delivered over 18 months by UniSA College. It is designed to develop your academic, literacy, digital and numerical skills, along with enhancing your knowledge in areas such as Aboriginal culture and wellbeing and the community and environment.

To learn more, visit [unisa.edu.au/app](https://unisa.edu.au/app)



"The Aboriginal Pathway Program was being promoted in my community. I said I would help to promote it, and then thought... hey, I'm someone who should give it a go!"

Serena Gunter

Completed APP in Ceduna and currently studying a Bachelor of Business (Tourism and Event Management)

## PREPARATION FOR UNIVERSITY STUDY

Courses are designed to build the skills you need for success at university. The supportive and layered design of the program allows for exploration into diverse discipline areas, while developing the academic skills you will need to study a university degree.

## FURTHER STUDY

After successfully completing the program, you can use your competitive Grade Point Average (GPA) to transfer into any UniSA degree. UniSA College provides advice and support through this process, and there is no fee to transfer.

## LOCATION

The program is offered in Adelaide at City West Campus, as well as in regional locations including, Mount Gambier, Whyalla, Ceduna and Port Lincoln.

## FLEXIBILITY

You can choose to study full-time over 18 months or the part-time equivalent.

*To be considered full-time, students must be enrolled in three courses in each six month period.*

## FEES

There are no tuition fees for this program. You can defer the compulsory student amenities fee via the Federal Government's HECS-HELP loan scheme.

## DIRECT ENTRY

There are no formal entry requirements and applications can be made directly through UniSA College.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

There are a range of scholarships available to support your learning, including:

- Commonwealth Accommodation Support (CAS): and
- Commonwealth Education Costs (CECS).

To explore our full range of scholarships, visit:

[unisa.edu.au/scholarships](https://unisa.edu.au/scholarships)

## TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION

Travel and accommodation support may be available for students who live remotely or are located far from our learning facilities.

# STUDY ONLINE

After successfully completing the Aboriginal Pathway Program, you can choose to study a 100% online bachelor's degree through UniSA Online, giving you full control and flexibility over your learning.

To explore what degrees are available, visit [unisaonline.edu.au](https://unisaonline.edu.au)



**Online**



Amie Brant  
Completed APP in Mount Gambier and  
currently studying a Bachelor of Nursing





# OUR COMMUNITY

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## UNIVERSITY OF CHOICE

From its foundation, UniSA has been committed to improving the education and life opportunities of Aboriginal people.

UniSA is the *University of Choice* for Aboriginal people and we continue to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to Aboriginal engagement through a range of important initiatives, including our Aboriginal Pathway Program.

In 2018, we released our Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), which is centred on supporting Aboriginal students to achieve success.

The Stretch RAP sets out a range of actions, from enhancing student outcomes and Aboriginal research, to building cultural awareness with staff and students.

This is a whole-of-university approach that is fundamental to providing a culturally safe space in which our students can thrive.

UniSA is committed to strengthening our position as the *University of Choice* for Aboriginal people. We aim to create an environment where Aboriginal students and staff can learn, teach, research and engage with each other in a place that acknowledges, respects and learns from Aboriginal people and their knowledge.

[unisa.edu.au/rap](https://unisa.edu.au/rap)

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## WIRRINGKA STUDENT SERVICES

**Wirringka Student Services is located on all UniSA campuses, providing support services to Aboriginal students.**

Wirringka is a Kurna name that means 'together and in common with', and has been used with permission from Kurna Warra Pintyanthi and its sister organisation Kurna Warra Karrpanthi.

As an Aboriginal Pathway Program student, you will have full access to all of the support services available. You can meet Wirringka staff face-to-face on campus, or make contact by phone, email or Skype.

If you then choose to go on to further studies with UniSA, you will continue to be supported by Aboriginal Student Engagement Officers from Wirringka.

The dedicated staff will help you navigate with the university environment and provide supportive arrangements through culturally-safe study centres and access to the Aboriginal Tutorial Program.

For more information, visit:

[unisa.edu.au/wirringka](https://unisa.edu.au/wirringka)

# WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

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## SKILLS THAT WILL HELP YOU SUCCEED

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**The Aboriginal Pathway Program delivers the skills and knowledge you will need to thrive in future university study.**



**UNIVERSITY SKILLS COURSES** are at the core of all programs at UniSA College,

providing you with the reading, writing and research skills required for university study. These courses will build your understanding of the academic environment and the fundamentals of academic writing, debate and research.

*Courses:*

- > *University Studies*
- > *Building Academic Success*



**LITERACY COURSES** teach writing and critical thinking skills that will be

vital to your success at university. These include writing for different audiences, purposes and areas of study.

*Courses:*

- > *Communication for Academic Purposes*
- > *Critical Thinking*
- > *Media and Academia*



**A NUMERACY COURSE** is included because many university degrees require an

understanding of mathematics. In this course, you will revise existing knowledge and build new skills that are required for tertiary study.

*Course:*

- > *Maths Fundamentals*



**CULTURE AND COUNTRY COURSES** acknowledge the importance of

your Aboriginal culture and personal wellbeing, as well as the environment and the community. These courses allow you to explore topics of interest and further your knowledge in environmental and cultural areas, while encouraging you to ask questions about the world.

*Courses:*

- > *Aboriginal Knowledges*
- > *Learning and Cultures*
- > *Land Management*
- > *Introduction to Human Behaviour*



**A DIGITAL COURSE**

will allow you to work with technology that is key to future study and employment. You will

develop knowledge in the practical application of various software programs, with a focus on skills that can be used at university and beyond your studies.

*Course:*

- > *Applied Computing Practices*



2018 APP completers  
(L-R) – Lorraine Garay,  
Jacqueline Holzhauser  
and Raymond Richards.



# HOW WILL YOU STUDY?

## PROGRAM DELIVERY

There are nine courses in the Aboriginal Pathway Program. Classes are held from February to November, with study breaks in the first phase of the program aligning with school holidays. In the second phase of the program, classes may be combined with UniSA College's Foundation Studies classes.

## TAILORED STUDY LOADS

The Aboriginal Pathway Program uses a combination of 8-week and 13-week courses, incorporating both face-to-face classes and online engagement.

The 8-week courses have an intensive delivery of classes held between 9:00am – 4:00pm during weeks one, four and seven. Alternate weeks have a 3-hour tutorial commitment. The 13-week courses follow the standard university schedule.

## FLEXIBILITY

Study can be undertaken full-time over 18 months, or the part-time equivalent. Students who are unable to commit to full-time study can negotiate their study load with the Program Director.

## INDEPENDENT STUDY

While courses run for a maximum of three days per week, students are expected to complete their own independent study and can also get support from the Aboriginal Tutorial Program. Each course has an expected study load of 7–10 hours of independent study per week.

## PROGRAM DELIVERY EXPLAINED...

*18 months full-time study, or equivalent, available in both Adelaide and regional locations.*

Study foundation courses and participate in intensives and weekly tutorials that will prepare you for university study.



Use your competitive Grade Point Average (GPA) to apply for a UniSA bachelor's degree of your choice.



Start the first year of your UniSA bachelor's degree (competitive entry criteria apply).

# YOUR APPLICATION

## **COST**

There are no tuition fees. Students can defer the compulsory student amenities fee via the Federal Government's HECS-HELP loan scheme.

## **WHO CAN APPLY**

The program is open to all people who identify as Aboriginal. There are no formal qualifications required for entry into this program.

## **WHEN TO APPLY**

Enquiries are welcome all year. Applications open from August to January, with the program commencing in February.

## **HOW TO APPLY**

Fill in the application form on the opposite page and send it to:

UniSA College  
16O Currie Street  
Adelaide  
South Australia 5000

## **APPLY ONLINE**

Alternatively, you can submit your application through our online form:

[unisa.edu.au/appform](https://unisa.edu.au/appform)

"If I hadn't completed the Aboriginal Pathway Program, I think I would have struggled in my degree. Study can be overwhelming, but I felt prepared."

*Danielle Hirschausen*

*Completed APP in Port Lincoln and currently studying a Bachelor of Early Childhood Education (Honours)*

## **CONTACT US**

### **City West**

Metropolitan Tutor  
P: (08) 8302 9249  
M: 0435 658 581

### **Ceduna**

Regional Tutor  
P: 0428 199 654

### **Mount Gambier**

Regional Tutor  
P: (08) 8721 8931  
M: 0435 656 260

### **Port Lincoln**

Regional Tutor  
P: (08) 8302 5310  
M: 0466 511 519

### **Whyalla**

Regional Tutor  
P: (08) 8302 6073  
M: 0466 351 653

### **UniSA College**

16O Currie Street  
Adelaide SA 5000  
P: (08) 8302 7407

*email: [app@unisa.edu.au](mailto:app@unisa.edu.au)*





# APPLICATION FORM

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## Online Application Form

If you wish to complete this application form online, please visit: [unisa.edu.au/appform](https://unisa.edu.au/appform)

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## Region I am applying for:

☐ Ceduna    ☐ Port Lincoln    ☐ Mount Gambier    ☐ Whyalla    ☐ Adelaide (City West)

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## About you

Title:    ☐ Mr    ☐ Mrs    ☐ Ms    ☐ Miss

Last name: .....

First name: .....

Other name: ..... Preferred first name: .....

Date of birth: ..... Citizenship status: .....

Do you identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?    ☐ Yes    ☐ No

In which country were you born?    ☐ Australia    ☐ Other (please specify): .....

Is English your first language?    ☐ Yes    ☐ No (please specify): .....

Do you have a disability?    ☐ Yes    ☐ No

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## Contact details

Home address: .....

Postal address (if different): .....

.....

Contact number: .....

Alternative contact number: .....

Email address: .....

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## High school information

Have you completed Year 12?    ☐ Yes    ☐ No    If yes, what year? .....

If no, what is your highest level of education? .....

Which year did you complete your highest level of education? .....

Where did you complete your highest level of schooling?    ☐ Australia    ☐ Other

Name of the school where you completed your highest level of schooling .....

.....

Other education? .....

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**\*Please continue on next page**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge, the information provided by me is true and complete in every way. I acknowledge that the University of South Australia may vary or reverse any decision regarding admission or enrolment, made on the basis of incorrect or incomplete information provided by me.

I authorise the University of South Australia to make enquiries about the details associated with this application, including but not limited to obtaining from the institutions concerned whatever details of my academic record it considers necessary.

☐ I give authorisation

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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**I understand that:**

- The University of South Australia is collecting information in this form for the purpose of assessing my entitlement to Commonwealth assistance under the Higher Education Support Act 2003 and allocation of a Commonwealth Higher Education Student Support Act 2003 and allocation of a Commonwealth Higher Education Student Support Number (CHESSN) to me;
- The University of South Australia will disclose this information to the Department of Education and Training (DET) for those purposes;
- DET will store the information securely in the Higher Education Information Management System;
- DET may disclose the information to the Tax Office; and
- The University of South Australia and DET will not otherwise disclose the information without my consent unless required or authorised by law.

☐ I understand

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: Once you have submitted your application, changes may only be made by contacting UniSA. Please ensure that your application is fully completed before submitting.*





2018 APP completers (L-R) –  
Joyleen Warrior, Chloe Warren,  
Wyarta Miller and Lorraine Garay.



University of  
South Australia

***Australia's University of Enterprise***

[unisa.edu.au](http://unisa.edu.au)

Telephone: (08) 8302 2376

Make an enquiry: [unisa.edu.au/enquire](http://unisa.edu.au/enquire)



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Information correct at time of printing (March 2020)

CRICOS provider number 00121B

For information specific to international students, please visit [unisa.edu.au/international](http://unisa.edu.au/international)