



University of
South Australia

2025 ABORIGINAL PATHWAY PROGRAM



UniSA Acknowledgement of Peoples and Country

UniSA respects the Kaurna, Boandik and Barngarla Peoples' spiritual relationship with their country.



Artist: Ngupulya Pumani

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

unisa.edu.au/RAP



Adelaide University

a new university for South Australia

We're planning for an exciting new future.

The new Adelaide University, which is targeted to open in January 2026, will combine the strengths of the University of South Australia (UniSA) and the University of Adelaide to offer contemporary curriculum aligned to industry and enterprise, provide more flexible and accessible ways to study, and aim to deliver the best in research, student experience and graduate outcomes.

There are no changes for 2025 entry. If you start your studies with UniSA or the University of Adelaide, you'll be highly supported in your transition to the new institution in either your existing or an equivalent program. Graduates from 2026 onwards will receive their award from the new Adelaide University.

A new 'Adelaide University' is subject to legal and regulatory approvals.



Discover more at
adelaideuni.edu.au



Welcome to UniSA College

We're delighted that you've found the Aboriginal Pathway program at UniSA College. Offered across five regions and delivered over 18 months, this 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 and can lead to entry into a bachelor's degree at UniSA or UniSA Online.

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

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

UniSA Aboriginal Pathway Team

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

On the cover: Aboriginal Pathway Completers Roger Eyles and Dharma Ducasse with Aboriginal Pathway Program Director, Dr Paul 'Nazz' Oldham.

Above image: Hayley Sumner, Aboriginal Pathway (Whyalla) Completer

Aboriginal Pathway explained

This program is exclusively for Aboriginal students. Delivered over 18 months, it will help to develop your academic, literacy, digital and numerical skills, so you can feel confident to start your future university studies. You'll also explore Aboriginal culture and wellbeing, the community and environment.

📄 unisa.edu.au/app

PREPARING FOR UNIVERSITY STUDY

We want you to achieve your best, so our courses are designed to build the academic skills you'll need to thrive at university while learning in a highly supportive environment.

FURTHER STUDY

After successfully completing the program, you can use your competitive Grade Point Average (GPA) to transfer into any UniSA or UniSA Online degree. We'll support you every step of the way and can help you find the right degree. You can start exploring now:

📄 unisa.edu.au/study

PROGRAM DELIVERY

You'll study nine courses, with classes running from January–November. There's a combination of 8-week and 13-week courses, including both face-to-face classes and online learning. The 8-week intensive courses are held for a full-day of study once a week.

INDEPENDENT STUDY

Each course has an independent study load of around 7–10 hours a week. This is in addition to your contact hours. Your independent study time is where you can complete your readings and assignments. You can also connect with the Aboriginal Tutorial Program for extra help.

LOCATION

We offer this program across both metro and regional locations, including Adelaide (City West Campus), Mount Gambier, Whyalla, Ceduna and Port Lincoln.

FLEXIBILITY

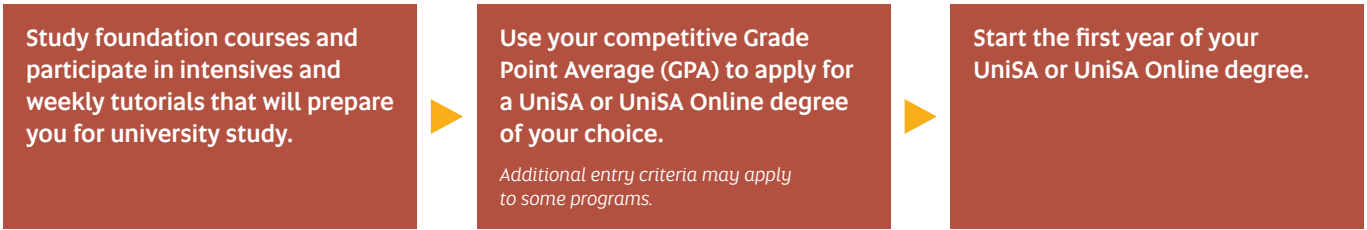
You can choose to study full-time over 18 months or the part-time equivalent. We're here to support you, so chat with your tutor about your study plan.

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

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

There are no formal entry requirements for this program and it's open to all people who identify as Aboriginal.

Applicants who have not completed SACE or equivalent must be 17 years of age or over before January 1st of the year of intended enrolment.



"I love that the subjects we tackled have set me up for success in my degree. Through the Aboriginal Pathway, I've built the academic and language skills I need, while learning about culturally relevant topics. I particularly enjoyed the course on land management."

Cherrie Clancy | Aboriginal Pathway (Whyalla) Completer/
Bachelor of Psychology

What you'll learn



UNIVERSITY SKILLS

Build your understanding of the academic learning environment and develop the reading, writing and research skills needed for university study.

Courses:

- University Studies
- Building Academic Success



LITERACY

Develop the writing and critical thinking skills to grow your confidence for future learning.

Courses:

- Communication for Academic Purposes
- Critical Thinking: Media and Academia



NUMERACY

Maths is important – it's part of everyday life. You'll revise existing knowledge and build new skills.

Course: Learning Mathematics at University



CULTURE AND COUNTRY

We want to give you the space to acknowledge your Aboriginal culture and personal wellbeing, along with asking bigger questions about the world around you, including the meaning of community and key environmental challenges.

Courses:

- Aboriginal Knowledges, Narratives and Experiences
- Land Management



DIGITAL

Get hands-on experience using different technologies and software needed for future study and employment.

Course: Applied Computing Practices



ELECTIVE

Learn about the human body, why we behave the way we do, or the impact education can have on society and our everyday lives.

Choose one of the following courses:

- Introduction to Human Physiology
- Introduction to Human Behaviour
- Foundations of Education Studies



Rhys Peden, Aboriginal Pathway (City West) Completer/
Bachelor of Laws (Honours), Bachelor of Psychology.



We're here to support you

UNIVERSITY OF CHOICE

We're committed to being a University of Choice for Aboriginal Peoples. From its foundation, UniSA has been committed to improving the education and life opportunities of Aboriginal Peoples.

Our whole-of-university approach means that we create a culturally safe space at all levels where Aboriginal students can feel supported and thrive. We want our community to learn, teach, research and engage in a place that respects and grows from Aboriginal Peoples' knowledge and experiences.

We were the first university in Australia to issue a statement of reconciliation, and since then we've released a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) and Stretch RAP, providing a road map for our commitment and action.

UniSA proudly teaches the largest number of Aboriginal students in South Australia – we're a place of true diversity and inclusion.

📄 unisa.edu.au/rap



"My inspiration throughout my study journey is to make the world a better place and strive to create an inclusive society where everybody is considered. My career aspiration is to become a politician and create real change."

Dharma Ducasse | Aboriginal Pathway (City West) Completer

WIRRINGKA STUDENT SERVICES

We provide support to Aboriginal students across all UniSA campuses. Wurringka is a Kaurna name that means 'together and in common with', and has been used with permission from Kaurna Warra Pintyanthi and its sister organisation Kaurna Warra Karrpanthi.

As an Aboriginal Pathway student, you'll have full access to all of the support services available. You can meet Wurringka staff face-to-face on campus, or make contact by phone, email or virtual meetings.

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

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

📄 unisa.edu.au/wurringka

How to apply

WHO CAN APPLY?

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

Applicants who have not completed SACE or equivalent must be 17 years of age or over before January 1st of the year of intended enrolment.

FEES

There are no tuition fees, however the student services amenities fee applies to all university students. These can be deferred through the Federal Government HECS-HELP loan scheme.

SCHOLARSHIPS

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

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

To see what you might be eligible for, go to our online scholarships search engine.

📄 unisa.edu.au/scholarships

Travel and accommodation support may also be available if you live remotely or are located far from our learning facilities.

WHEN TO APPLY

Applications are open from September–January, with study commencing in late January.

APPLY DIRECTLY

Go online to complete your application.

📄 unisa.edu.au/appform

STUDENT ENQUIRIES

You can contact our friendly UniSA College team with any questions you have.

P: (08) 8302 7407
E: app@unisa.edu.au



University of South Australia

Australia's University of Enterprise

We're here to help

P: (08) 8302 2376

E: unisa.edu.au/enquire

🌐 unisa.edu.au/study



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