

# Scholarships at Monash

Monash University will offer over \$50 million in scholarships over the next three years for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and students experiencing economic disadvantage.

More than 6,000 students will be eligible to study for a university degree under an expanded and diversified Monash University scholarship program.

Indigenous students undertaking a three-year undergraduate degree, relocating from a regional or remote area, can receive a minimum of \$25,500 towards their degree, or at least \$38,500 for a five-year double degree. Economically disadvantaged students undertaking a three-year undergraduate degree, relocating from a regional or remote area, may receive a minimum of \$24,000 towards their degree, or at least \$36,000 for a five-year double degree.

Acting Provost and Senior Vice-President Professor Sharon Pickering announced the new program, which will be in place for incoming students in 2024, and will build on previous scholarship supports for students who have typically faced barriers to undertaking higher education.

"Monash is committed to empowering the next generation of changemakers to reach their full potential through our enriched scholarships program, Kummargi Yulendj. It offers financial support at a level to make a difference as well as sector-leading support programs to ensure student success," Professor Pickering said.

The Monash scholarship program was gifted the name Kummargi Yulendj, which translates to 'Knowledge is Rising', by Yaluk-ut Weelam Boon Wurrung Elder, N'arweet



Proud Wemba Wemba/Yorta Yorta woman Jaya Blandthorn speaks with the Hon Jason Clare MP about her Monash University nursing degree.

Carolyn Briggs AM, an Adjunct Professor with the Faculty of Art, Design and Architecture.

The name is grounded in her family's deep connection to the Ngargee, or ceremony tree, in St Kilda. Standing strong for 800 years, this towering red gum symbolises knowledge and its power to create lasting impact.

"What it means to me is the generations

of knowledge that it holds. Kummargi is rising up. Yulendj is a knowledge, deep knowledge that is rising up. The Ngargee tree is symbolic of something that is old, before settlers. It's more than a tree – it will be a habitat long after this too," Professor Briggs said.

"We've got 80,000 years of human history, and that knowledge has somehow survived.

With Kummargi Yulendj Monash has made its commitment to knowledge being shared across Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities."

Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous) Professor Tristan Kennedy said it was incumbent upon universities to ensure students had full access to resources and support to allow them to succeed during their time at Monash, and prepare them for their future careers. He said students who choose to study at Monash receive an experience that extends well beyond an excellent education in the classroom and financial support.

"Through Kummargi Yulendj, our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, and students from low income and regional backgrounds will have priority access to the university's Jobs for Students program to build their employability skills ahead of the completion of their degree," Professor Kennedy said.

"Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students have access to ongoing support via our William Cooper Institute – a dedicated Indigenous hub of research, learning and engagement. Support includes tutoring, subsidised prescribed textbooks, cultural and community events, Orientation Camp, Indigenous Leaders Program which includes an international study tour and Elder In Residence Program, as well as Monash Abroad mobility grants and priority access to teaching activities for their course and Student Academic Success learning advisors.

To find out more about Kummargi Yulendj, visit <https://www.monash.edu/learning-teaching/kummargi-yulendj>



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