

# Amelia thrives at The University of Sydney

As a young high school student Amelia Stanmore had no interest in going to university and wanted to work in music or drama. After getting a taste of uni life through a summer residential program, she's now studying Psychology and has her sights set on becoming a doctor.

Born in Blacktown, Amelia moved around western Sydney as a child before living on the Central Coast. During Year 12 at Gosford Selective High School, Amelia took part in the University of Sydney's Gadigal Program, a five-day residential program designed to build the educational confidence and motivation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

"I actually chose and fell in love with the uni before figuring out what degree I wanted to study," says Amelia. "It just felt very much like home with the community and Aboriginal networks."

The Gadigal Program gives Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students the chance to experience university life, meet university students and staff and learn about pathways for tertiary education. Through her time on campus Amelia found out about the Gadigal Program, which enables Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to apply for

an early conditional offer at the University before sitting their final exams. Applications are assessed on factors beyond academic achievement, such as personal interests, motivations and goals.

Amelia was accepted into the University and supported by a scholarship moved to Sydney to begin a Bachelor of Psychology in 2021. She now lives near the main campus in Newtown with a fellow student and says the scholarship and bursaries from the University have provided her with financial stability.

"Money has always been a massive struggle. So to be able to support myself without having to stress my family has been great."

As well as making friends at uni, a highlight for Amelia has been career opportunities. She is currently working as a Student Ambassador and a Student Activity Officer.

"Career-wise I've really enjoyed all the opportunities I have. At the moment I'm working on changing the way Indigenous Acknowledgements of Country are taught for the health unit."

In the second year of her degree, Amelia has become interested in general health and is planning to combine her degree with



Amelia Stanmore joined the University of Sydney through the Gadigal conditional early offers program. Photo: Stefanie Zingsheim

a Master of Nursing. After graduation she wants to work as a Registered Nurse and ultimately to become a paediatric doctor.

"My nan was a nurse and passed away recently, and the more that I did the degree, the more I realised it was the health and biomedical models that I was enjoying the most."

Amelia encourages high school students to make the most of every opportunity. "I think it's always worth getting involved and trying every option."

**For more information about studying at the University, as well as scholarships and support, visit [sydney.edu.au/gadigal](https://sydney.edu.au/gadigal)**

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Discover our programs dedicated to supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to study at the University of Sydney.

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Through our Gadigal Program admission pathway, you will access lower minimum ATAR requirements, an academic skills program to set you up for success and ongoing academic and personal support.

### *Extended Bachelor's Programs*

The Extended Bachelor's Programs are a dedicated pathway for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to study some of our degrees with built-in cultural support. Students also receive a scholarship package valued at \$20,000 per year.

### *Student support and scholarships*

Join an inclusive network ready to support you in high school, during uni and as you begin your career. We also offer a wide range of study, travel and accommodation scholarships.

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