

Western Sydney University champions Indigenous nursing talent

Western Sydney University is proud to be at the front line of training the next generation of Indigenous nurses, equipping them with the skills to make a significant impact on Indigenous health outcomes.

Over 90 Indigenous students are currently studying a nursing degree at Western Sydney University. Close to 50 students started their degree this year alone, highlighting an impressive increase in the number of students committed to caring for the community.

There is a pressing need for more Indigenous nurses to improve the healthcare experience for Aboriginal people and play a crucial role in closing the gaps in health outcomes.

Western is the number one ranked Nursing School in Australia, and in the top 50 in the world, with a strong focus on practical learning.

The program is taught at multiple locations, including Parramatta South, Hawkesbury, Campbelltown, Liverpool City and online, providing flexibility for mob, no matter where they live. It is the only university in Sydney to have simulated learning environments, where students learn in mock hospital wards equipped with beds, manikins and a range of technology commonly used in hospitals.



With a range of hospital partners, students will participate in practical workplace experience from their first year. Reubie Carriage is one of 18 new nursing students at Western Sydney University who gained entry to the course through

the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Entry Program.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Entry Program provides a way for mob to enter degrees at Western by completing an entry assessment. Importantly, this entry program looks at capacity for success, rather than prior educational journeys or ATARs.

"The Pathway Entry Program took a lot of pressure off me during high school, especially for my HSC and ATAR results," said Reubie.

"I chose to study at Western because of how the staff advocate for the Indigenous students that attend the University and I really loved the support given through the Program."

An older sister to three younger siblings, Reubie discovered a love for caring for others and hopes to utilise her expertise to improve health outcomes.

"I had to help take care of my siblings and become a role model for them when my parents were busy, so becoming a nurse is a passion of mine as I love making a difference in someone else's life," she said.

"My goal after I graduate is to become a paediatric nurse and care for babies, especially Indigenous children in more rural areas as they don't have as much medical proficiency out there."
For more information on the Entry Program and upcoming Assessment Days, please visit the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Pathway Entry webpage.

