

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

20 April 2016

AIEF partners with UTS to create opportunities for Indigenous university students

The Australian Indigenous Education Foundation and the University of Technology Sydney have announced a new partnership that will provide scholarships for Indigenous students at UTS.

From 2016, eligible students can apply for scholarships provided by AIEF in partnership with UTS that cover the cost of accommodation at UTS Housing Service Residences and provide a living allowance, enabling students to live on campus and access the support they need to excel in their studies.

Scholarship students will also access the AIEF Pathways Program, which offers ongoing career support to ensure students make a successful transition from study to careers, in addition to tutoring and other services offered by the Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning at UTS.

The partnership is AIEF's first with a university and the scholarship will be available to students across degree programs, and at all UTS Housing Residences.

AIEF Executive Director Andrew Penfold AM says the scholarship was designed to remove financial barriers to university study.

"AIEF Scholarships open doors to leading schools and universities, ensuring Indigenous students who want to pursue their education at these schools and universities are not denied the opportunity. Our partnership with UTS will remove financial barriers that can discourage students from enrolling, or lead to students withdrawing from their course."

"And the scholarships we offer will do more than remove barriers. By enabling students to live on campus and access support through the AIEF Pathways Program – on top of the fantastic support Indigenous students receive from Jumbunna – the scholarships will empower students to make the most of their time at university and prepare to embark on a fulfilling career."

"This is a very significant contribution to UTS and in particular to Indigenous students, many of whom find the securing of accommodation and meeting the costs of living a significant barrier to considering university study," says Director of Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning Professor Michael McDaniel. "This is often the case for students wishing to study in Sydney and I believe this scholarship opportunity will make a world of difference."

For more information about the scholarship, visit aief.com.au.

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