

4. INDIGENOUS EDUCATION STATEMENT

OVERVIEW

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) requires information from higher education providers relating to their 2009 outcomes and future plans to meet ongoing responsibilities for Indigenous student achievement in higher education.

These responsibilities include assessing and reporting on progress towards improved educational outcomes for Indigenous Australians as defined in the goals of the [National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Policy](#).

The Indigenous Education Statement is also used to determine providers' eligibility for Indigenous Support Program (ISP) funding. Please refer to the *Higher Education Support Act 2003 – Other Grants Guidelines (Education) 2008* (DEEWR)¹ which details ISP grant conditions. There are three conditions of eligibility for ISP - Table A providers must demonstrate to DEEWR that they:

- Have implemented strategies for improving access, participation, retention and success of Indigenous Australian students
- Have increased participation of Indigenous people in the provider's decision-making processes and
- Have an Indigenous employment strategy.

Providers in receipt of ISP funding are also required to provide DEEWR with a report on the expenditure of the grant amount. The expenditure report for 2009 ISP funds must be included in this Indigenous Education Statement.

It is recommended that the format for the Indigenous Education Statement noted below is followed to ensure providers report against all relevant criteria. However, this should not limit providers who wish to report on a wider range of matters.

The Indigenous education statement is due on 30 June 2010 as legislated.

Please submit electronic documents by email to: hedip@deewr.gov.au

DEEWR contact officer:

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FORMAT FOR INDIGENOUS EDUCATION STATEMENT

Whilst it is recommended that this format is followed to ensure providers report against all relevant criteria, providers are invited to comment on a wider range of matters.

[Insert name of Higher Education provider]

SECTION 1 OBJECTIVES FOR INDIGENOUS HIGHER EDUCATION

Please supply a statement of:

- Your approach to improve higher education outcomes for Indigenous Australians and how this is being implemented.
- Whether/how Indigenous perspectives are embedded in your strategic plan and/or other key institutional documents.

If you have developed an Indigenous education strategy, we invite you to include a copy in this statement, or provide the web address.

SECTION 2 ACHIEVEMENT OF NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER EDUCATION POLICY (AEP) GOALS IN 2009 AND PLANS FOR FUTURE YEARS

Please provide evidence of:

- strategies you have implemented toward achieving the AEP goals and evidence that these strategies are working
- constraints on your ability to achieve the AEP goals and
- plans for future improvement to existing strategies or new strategies to meet each of the AEP goals relevant to higher education.

The AEP goals (paraphrased) relating to higher education are to:

1	<p>Establish effective arrangements for the participation of Indigenous peoples in educational decision-making.</p> <p>Your response to this goal needs to address but is not limited to the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of Indigenous Australians involved in institutional decision-making processes and the <u>nature of their involvement</u>, i.e. memberships on boards, committees etc. • If there is no Indigenous membership on key decision making bodies, please provide an explanation. • The roles and responsibilities of Indigenous leaders in your institution. • The role played by your Indigenous Education Unit (IEU) in decision making processes.
2	<p>Increase the number of Indigenous peoples employed, as academic and non-academic staff in higher education institutions.</p> <p>Your response to this goal needs to address but is not limited to the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An outline of your active Indigenous Employment Strategy including details on how it was authored, how current it is and whether or not it is publicly

	<p>accessible on the internet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on your strategies for increasing numbers of Indigenous Australians employed at your university. • The number of Indigenous-specific positions at your university, detailed by occupation and level. • The current number of Indigenous staff at your institution and their spread across the university (including numbers in academic and non-academic roles, and by level). • The role played by your IEU in improving Indigenous employment at your institution.
3	<p>Ensure equitable access of Indigenous students to higher education.</p> <p>Your response to this goal needs to address but is not limited to the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commencing Indigenous student numbers for 2009 (access rate) as compared to 2008 (please provide an all student comparison). • Programs run, through the IEU or the University, to improve access of Indigenous students. • Details on outreach activities and their success in including and attracting Indigenous students. • Details of Indigenous-specific and other scholarships offered by your university. • Promotion of scholarships to Indigenous students and take-up rates, including reasons for low take-up. • The role played by your IEU in seeking to improve Indigenous access to your institution.
4	<p>Achieve the participation of Indigenous students in higher education, at rates commensurate with those of other Australians.</p> <p>Your response to this goal needs to address but is not limited to the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The total number of Indigenous student enrolments for 2009, compared to 2008 (please provide an all student comparison). • Details of your institution's strategies to address Indigenous participation, including the involvement of your IEU.
5	<p>Enable Indigenous students to attain the same graduation rates from award courses in higher education as for other Australians.</p> <p>Your response to this goal needs to address but is not limited to the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The total number of Indigenous completions at Bachelor level and above in 2009, compared to 2008 (please provide an all student comparison). • Support mechanisms you have in place for Indigenous students, including the role of your IEU and Indigenous community involvement.
6	<p>To provide all Australian students with an understanding of and respect for Indigenous traditional and contemporary cultures.</p> <p>Your response to this goal needs to address but is not limited to the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of how and to what extent Indigenous perspectives are reflected in curriculum at your institution. • How you address the cultural competency of your staff and students. • Your involvement with Indigenous community members in working toward this

goal.

- The role of your IEU in enhancing the status of Indigenous knowledges and overseeing cultural competency at your institution.

Section 2 must also include information that demonstrates the following conditions of eligibility for ISP funding:

- Implemented strategies for improving access, participation, retention and success of Indigenous Australian students
- Increased participation of Indigenous people in the provider's decision-making processes and
- Have an Indigenous employment strategy.

Information in section 2 should focus on key developments and be concise (dot points are acceptable).

SECTION 3 EXPENDITURE OF INDIGENOUS SUPPORT PROGRAM GRANT

Please provide a report on the expenditure of the provider's ISP grant for 2009. Where ISP expenditure does not match the audited annual financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2009 provided under section 19-10 of *Higher Education Support Act 2003*, please provide a reconciliation.

This ISP report is a legislated requirement, through the *Higher Education Support Act 2003 – Other Grants Guidelines (Education) 2008* (DEEWR).

Use the following format (or similar), expanding to provide details on items where appropriate. Advice for completing items 3 and 4 is provided below.

Indigenous higher education expenditure 2009

	INCOME for Indigenous higher education purposes	
1	ISP 2009 grant only	\$ 2.549m
2	Unspent 2008 ISP funds, carried over to 2009 – as reported in your providers 2009 audited annual financial statements	\$ 0
3	TOTAL ISP income for 2009	\$ 2.549m
4	Other funds provided to Indigenous higher education (non ISP funds, including other Commonwealth grants, state government grants, privately sourced funds)**	\$ 50.788m
5	Total Indigenous higher education income for 2009	\$ 53.337m

6	EXPENDITURE of Indigenous Support Program (ISP) 2009 grant only (from Item 3)	
6a	Operating costs, including salaries, for Indigenous support services	\$ 2.549m
6b	Capital Items – list any major items purchased for Indigenous student/staff use only and briefly describe how they were committed to Indigenous Education – (eg. New computers in the ISU).	\$ 0
6c	Higher education provider overheads.	\$ 0
6d	Other Indigenous Support Program expenditure (please list major items publications and program costs).	\$ 0
6e	Total Indigenous higher education expenditure for 2009	\$ 2.549m

7	EXPENDITURE of Other Funds in 2009	
7a	Expenditure of Other funds provided to Indigenous higher education Item 4 (non ISP funds, including other Commonwealth grants, state government grants, privately sourced funds).**	\$ 39.453m
7b	Total Indigenous higher education expenditure for 2009	\$ 42.002m

*** Item 3**

Operating Expenditure

All BIITE expenditure is Indigenous focused, representing the core nature, mission and objectives of the Institute. Expenditure is detailed on Notes 9 to 13 of the audited Financial statements Attached.

**** Item 4**

Please refer to attached audited financial statements, particularly Notes 3 to 8 which detail revenue.

SECTION 4 HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDER'S CONTACT INFORMATION

Please nominate contact officers for all policy and operational matters regarding your Indigenous education statement, including name(s), position title, phone number and email address.

Where your IEU has been consulted in the development of this Indigenous Education Statement, please provide the contact details of the relevant IEU staff member.

SECTION 5 PUBLICATION OF THE STATEMENT

Providers are to publish Indigenous Education Statements on their website and on publication, provide DEEWR with a link to the statement for the DEEWR website.