



the university
for the real world

Indigenous Australian program



Partner with us to empower the next generation of Indigenous Australian students

At QUT, we are focused on building, sustaining and celebrating a culture of excellence in Indigenous Australian education, research and engagement.

Our Indigenous Australian Program launched in 2023 and is bolstered by a robust network of alumni, student organisations, industry partners and community groups who are committed to dismantling barriers and supporting students in their educational and professional journeys.

Why partner with us?

✔ Cultivating future leaders

Our initiatives are designed to develop a diverse cohort of future leaders in engineering, architecture and built environment.

✔ Innovative programs

Participate in our specialised programs that inspire and support Indigenous Australians from high school through to university and beyond.

✔ Mutual growth

Partner with us to foster an inclusive industry and benefit from the innovative solutions and perspectives that diversity brings.



Did you know?

QUT holds the #1 ranking in Australia for the highest number of enrolled Indigenous Australian engineering students.

Source: Student Data - Department of Education, Australian Government (2024).

QUT deadly data

129

Indigenous Australian students
enrolled in the faculty

84⁺

Enrolled in
engineering

30%

Identify as
female

QUT received the Engineers
Australia President's Medal
in recognition of its outstanding
commitment to empowering
indigenous students



Our initiatives and opportunities

High school engagement

Science and Engineering Challenge

A dynamic four-day event aimed at inspiring Indigenous Australian students in years 9–10 to explore careers in STEM. This event targets Indigenous school groups and regional schools, with a significant focus on students from low ICSEA (Index of Community Socio-Educational Advantage) backgrounds.

Dean's Awards for Indigenous Excellence

Recognising outstanding achievements in design and engineering for Indigenous Australian students in years 11 and 12. Awardees receive a gift card and a \$3,000 bursary upon enrolling at QUT.

QUT First Nations STEM Workshops

Interactive workshops that ignite enthusiasm for STEM, connect students with STEM industries and link Indigenous Australian heritage with future careers. These workshops are delivered by Indigenous Australian student ambassadors on campus or in schools.

START QUT STEM Intensive

A comprehensive two-week program for Year 11 students entering Year 12, supported by the QUT Oodgeroo Unit. This program includes accommodation, meals and social activities, providing a supportive environment for Indigenous Australian students.

Current QUT students

Industry scholarships

Our initiative aims to increase scholarships for Indigenous Australian students in Architecture, Built Environment, and Engineering. We collaborate with companies like Arcadia Landscape Architecture, Blaklash, Powerlink, LCI Consultants, Lendlease and K-BIK Power to provide educational and employment pathways.

5-day cultural immersion program

An immersive program offering hands-on experience in engineering companies and cultural activities such as learning traditional language and bush tucker. This program highlights the integration of engineering with Indigenous culture and heritage.

Indigenous Australian Innovators Research Experience Scheme

A paid research program for undergraduate Indigenous Australian students, focusing on real-world problem solving in areas like renewable energy, health technology and sustainable urban development. This program serves as a pathway to doctoral research and academic careers.

Commitment to indigenous cultural competency

The QUT Faculty of Engineering, Architecture and Built Environment has implemented BlackCard cultural capability training across all schools, integrating Indigenous perspectives into various units, starting with civil engineering and architecture.

Ten Indigenous Associate Fellows have achieved Higher Education Academy status and unit coordinators are completing training to embed Indigenous knowledge in the curriculum.

We are the only university in Queensland with a dedicated Assistant Dean for Engagement with Indigenous Australians, whose role focuses on student engagement and retention, research excellence, enhancing cultural competencies, and building strong industry and community links.

'Cultured history tells a story and diverts us in the right direction as a lot of Aboriginals were very hands-on and creative as well as smart in knowing how, what, where and why to use certain things to help the tribe—which in modern days would classify as an engineer. I am very proud of my culture and have major respect for how strong we were and continue to strive in our DNA, all because of our ancestors.'



Join us on the journey

Partner with us to support and promote diversity and inclusion in Architecture, Built Environment and Engineering.

For partnership opportunities and more information, please contact:

 engage.engineering@qut.edu.au

 07 3138 8748

 bit.ly/QUTRealWorldPrograms