



First Nations Education

The Australian Government will invest \$113 million in a range of programs to support First Nations students' education outcomes and help them thrive academically and culturally.

How will it work?

Funding will be invested to support the following initiatives:

- \$55.5 million to extend funding to the Clontarf Foundation for the 2027 and 2028 calendar years to support up to 12,500 First Nations boys and young men to continue their schooling and complete Year 12.
- \$30.0 million for the Australian Indigenous Education Foundation's Indigenous scholarships program over the 2027 and 2028 calendar years.
- \$23.8 million to extend Indigenous Boarding Provider Grants over the 2027 calendar year, supporting up to 50 boarding providers to assist about 2,500 First Nations students from remote and very remote communities to access boarding school. This measure will continue to be administered by the National Indigenous Australians Agency.
- \$2.2 million towards the First Nations Languages Education Program over 2026-27, further strengthening the training of First Nations language educators and the delivery of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Language education in primary schools.
- \$1.5 million for the MultiLit (Making Up Lost Time in Literacy) program to extend the program for one calendar year (2027), in 42 regional and remote primary schools with a majority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Why is it important?

Investing in First Nations education contributes to Closing the Gap Target 5: By 2031, increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (aged 20-24) who have attained Year 12 or equivalent qualification to 96%.

Funding for First Nations languages will also progress Closing the Gap Target 16: By 2031, to support a sustained increase in the number and strength of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages being spoken.

Who will benefit?

The Australian Indigenous Education Foundation's Indigenous Scholarship Program supports more than 350 students per year and provides funding that enables First Nations students to pursue education at leading Australian boarding schools by contributing to tuition, boarding fees and educational expenses.

The Clontarf Foundation has an established record in improving student engagement through increased attendance, retention and overall academic performance. It supports up to 12,500 First Nations boys and young men to stay engaged in school.

MultiLit delivers phonics-based programs that support primary school students in 42 regional and remote primary schools with a majority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to catch up in reading and early literacy.

The Indigenous Boarding Provider Grants Program reduces the challenges that students from remote communities can face in accessing school, supporting around 2,500 First Nations young people to access a secondary education.

The First Nations Languages Education Program, developed in partnership with First Languages Australia, is working to support 28 projects across 40 communities across Australia.

How much will it cost?

The Australian Government will invest \$113 million in measures to support First Nation students' education.