

1. Equity outcomes and strategies

a) Outcomes for improving performance for equity groups from 2015-2017

Charles Sturt University (CSU) will use HEPP funds to further develop strategies in our holistic approach to enabling successful participation in higher education by people from non-traditional backgrounds. We seek to consolidate our position as a leader in education for regional communities (2nd largest regional enrolments), and build enrolments of students from remote communities (increasing by 1%), continue to build Indigenous enrolments (the largest National provider in 2013), and facilitate Indigenous student success (the highest number of completions in Australia in 2013), We will also build on our success in facilitating engagement by LSES students (Nationally the 7th largest number of enrolments of LSES), and aim to increase participation at CSU by people with disabilities from (4% to 4.5%).

b) Strategies for achieving the outcomes

Our holistic approach will continue to involve activities across four key areas: ***building aspiration; opening access; partnering to establish firm foundations; and preparing for practice.***

- *Building aspiration:* centres on the Future Moves program that incorporates *Danygamalanha*.
- *Opening access:* We will continue to strengthen our significant VET sector partnerships and develop new pathways (see iPROWD as an example for Indigenous students).
- *Firm Foundations:* strategies involving mentoring, tutoring, student self assessment and reflection, curriculum redesign and staff development facilitate the establishment of effective study practices by students engaging in scaffolded learning experiences.
- *Preparing for practice:* as a leader in education for the professions, we will continue to develop strategies that facilitate practice excellence in partnership with industry and the professions. Strengthening strategies to enhance leadership capacity will enable CSU graduates to retain their strong reputation for being work ready.

2. Evaluation Plan

Significant evaluation strategies have been built that support data collection and analysis using a mixed method approach to enable evaluation at micro and macro levels aligned with CSU's Strategic plan.

3. Partnerships and collaboration

CSU will build on extensive existing partnerships with Schools, communities, the VET sector, industry and the professions. We will also benchmark our activities with higher education partnerships engaged in existing programs (e.g. Future Moves and the VET sector).