

ACT ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AGREEMENT 2019-2028

Delivering equitable outcomes for
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples

PHASE TWO FOCUS AREA ACTION PLAN

July 2022 – December 2024

FOCUS AREA:

Lifelong Learning

QUALITY LIFE OUTCOME:

Respect is given to preserving the world's oldest living cultures which enhances social inclusion and empowers Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to fully engage in lifelong learning and positive generational experiences.

WE WILL ACHIEVE THIS OUTCOME BY FOCUSING ON:

- Embedding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives into learning programs, with a focus on local history, culture, and knowledge.
- Keeping Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage alive and current.
- Assisting teachers in becoming confident and capable in teaching Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, with their histories, cultures, and languages visible throughout school communities and learning programs.
- Supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, young people, and adults at all stages of life to experience and enjoy the learning journey of choice.
- Supporting ACT Government employees to be culturally competent/literate with access to cross cultural training and immersion programs commensurate with their roles.
- Supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ACT Government employees in their journey of lifelong learning.

CLOSING THE GAP TARGETS

- By 2031, increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students (aged 20-24) attaining year 12 or equivalent qualification to 96 per cent.
- By 2031, increase the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people aged 25-34 years who have completed a tertiary qualification (Certificate III and above) to 70 per cent.

ACT HEADLINE INDICATORS

- Increase in young people with year 12 or equivalent qualification.
- Increase in adults with a tertiary qualification.



PHASE-BASED QUALITATIVE STATEMENTS

Closing off on Phase One implementation

While some key actions have been completed, work towards many of the Phase One actions in the Lifelong Learning focus area are still in progress, and this work will continue to be advanced in parallel to implementation of the Phase Two Action Plan. In addition, some actions under Phase One represent commitments to ongoing work. Full detail on the status of the actions under Phase One is available on the Community Services Directorate website under the section on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs Policy Development.

Successes of the Agreement that are evident at the end of Phase One include the Education Directorate has established an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Aspiration Program Services Portal page (intranet) outlining various bursaries via Mura Awards (\$400), scholarships (tertiary \$20,000 and secondary \$4,000) to complete further education and training, and events available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. This provides extra support and another communications channel for teachers to connect their students to the Program.

To be achieved in Phase Two implementation

By the end of Phase Two implementation:

- an increase in the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples completing year 12 and transitioning into further education, training, and employment.

PRIORITY ACTIONS

New Priority Actions for Phase Two Implementation



**Action
Number**

Priority Actions

1	Review subsidy loadings for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander traineeships and apprenticeships.
2	Strengthen the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Secondary and Tertiary Scholarship Programs to support Year 12 retention and attainment and to extend support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students undertaking a teaching degree.
3	Increase community awareness of post school pathways and lifelong learning opportunities available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Canberrans.
4	Develop, implement, and promote quality pathways to tertiary qualifications for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in the ACT.
5	Monitor the uptake and breadth of Australian School-based Apprenticeship opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander school students to inform future planning.

STATUS BAR | 10-YEAR PLAN

The status bar provides an at-a-glance timing of Agreement phases highlighting the current Phase.

<p>Phase One Feb 2019 – Jun 2022 Status: Complete</p>	<p>Phase Two Jul 2022 – Dec 2024 Status: In progress</p>	<p>Phase Three Jan 2025 – Dec 2027 Status: Not started</p>	<p>Phase Four Jan 2028 – Dec 2028 Status: Not started</p>
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