

Minister's Approval for Discovery Indigenous for Funding Commencing in 2025 Schedule

Approved Organisation, Leader of Approved Research Program (Columns 1 and 2)	Approved Research Program (Column 3)	Estimated and Approved Expenditure (\$) (Column 4)	Indicative Funding (\$)					Total (\$) (Column 10)
			2024-25 (Column 5)	2025-26 (Column 6)	2026-27 (Column 7)	2027-28 (Column 8)	2028-29 (Column 9)	

Australian Capital Territory

The Australian National University

IN250100021	Pathways to non-Indigenous Allyship with Indigenous Australian Peoples	49,714.00	184,248.50	265,352.00	238,322.00	107,504.50	0.00	845,141.00
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Evans, Dr Olivia R

This project will identify pathways to reduce prejudice and foster allyship with Indigenous Australians. Leveraging momentum from the Voice referendum, the project will create significant new knowledge of the political and social levers that reduce prejudice and generate support for Indigenous issues. Outcomes include a better understanding of allyship and effective interventions for prejudice reduction. The findings will benefit social and political movements, particularly supporting Indigenous Australian initiatives like the Uluru Statement. Potential policy benefits include, informing governments on garnering public support for broader social policy initiatives like "Close the Gap."

National Interest Test Statement

While most Australians agree that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians remain disadvantaged by past government policies, this consensus has not reduced prejudice towards Indigenous Australians or greater support for Indigenous rights. This project will examine prejudice towards Indigenous Australians and pathways to allyship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians, following the failed Voice to Parliament referendum. As the first national-scale investigation into this prejudice, the project will include a longitudinal survey on attitudes towards Indigenous Australians, followed by experimental trials of prejudice reduction and allyship interventions. This project will identify how prejudice manifests in the Australian population as well as the potential pathways that could achieve greater solidarity and allyship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. The project will reveal changes in attitudes towards non-Indigenous Australians and strategies to help prevent and reduce prejudice towards them. Presented at a national colloquium for Indigenous leaders, policymakers and practitioners and through other translational activities, our evidence base will support key stakeholders in Australia to develop and implement more effective prejudice reduction policies and interventions that aim to improve support for, and the realisation of, the political aspirations of Indigenous Australians.

The Australian National University	49,714.00	184,248.50	265,352.00	238,322.00	107,504.50	0.00	845,141.00
Australian Capital Territory	49,714.00	184,248.50	265,352.00	238,322.00	107,504.50	0.00	845,141.00

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New South Wales

The University of Sydney

IN250100027	Attract and recruit Aboriginal people in the disability workforce	242,548.00	490,461.00	492,900.00	406,026.00	294,578.00	133,539.00	2,060,052.00
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Gilroy, Prof John A

The objective of this project is to identify the factors that influence the attraction and recruitment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the disability services workforce in government, non-government, and the for-profit sectors in QLD, NSW, Victoria, and WA. The proposed project aims to: 1. Identify ways to attract and recruit Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people into the disability services workforce from the experience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who have worked in this sector. 2. Provide practical policy advice and resources on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander disability workforce for disability service providers using Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Knowledge Translation models.

National Interest Test Statement

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and community services workforces are an identified area of the Closing the Gap strategy. The recruitment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in health and community services has a direct impact on the experiences and outcomes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. In addition, having Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers fosters cross cultural pollination between them and non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers. The National Disability Insurance Agency, the Australian government authority for managing the National Disability Insurance Scheme, has publicly committed to increasing the number and proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers in the disability workforce. What is needed is to document the experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander who, or have previously, work in the disability services workforce in government, non-government, and for-profit sectors to ascertain what attracts Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to work in the disability services sector. A Knowledge Translation and Action plan will be developed over the life of the project. The Plan will include adding more training modules placed onto an existing website that was developed under a previous ARC (IN190100041). Aboriginal traditional models will be adopted, such as art roadshow, that CIA did under previous grants.

The University of Sydney	242,548.00	490,461.00	492,900.00	406,026.00	294,578.00	133,539.00	2,060,052.00
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Western Sydney University

IN250100091	Indigenous/Pasifika LGBTIQ+ wellbeing & the role of rights-based practices	103,354.00	245,526.50	250,510.50	217,330.50	108,992.50	0.00	925,714.00
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Sullivan, Prof Corrinne T

This project will conduct comparative cross-country research into Indigenous/Pasifika LGBTIQ+ ways of addressing their health and wellbeing futures. The research will improve service provision by integrating the knowledges of Indigenous/Pasifika LGBTIQ+ peoples from Pacific nations (Australia, Aotearoa/NZ, & Pasifika nations). This will be the first project to comprehensively address this topic in the Pacific region and will have direct theoretical application for theory and the development of practical frameworks aimed at influencing rights-based approaches, policies and practices within government, community sector, UN Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity frameworks and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

National Interest Test Statement

Indigenous/Pasifika LGBTIQ+ peoples are severely underserved in social and health policy in Australia and the Pacific region. The negative impact upon their social, emotional and cultural wellbeing is widespread, they have one of the highest rates of depression and suicide. This project will address the significant gap in empirical research and document Indigenous wellbeing knowledges to improve health outcomes for this group across Australia and the Pacific, supporting Australia's development goals for the region. Through strategies of collaborative knowledge mobilisation and translation with academia, government and stakeholders the study will directly influence and inform inter/national local and development policy that it is inclusive of this group. Building on well established networks with community/organisations will enable the project findings to (a) improve Indigenous/LGBTIQ+ peoples' inclusion in policy making and service design; (b) develop organisations capacity to advocate, transform and optimise vital services; and (c) inform the implementation of rights-based approaches that actively facilitate wellbeing outcomes for this group. Through an agenda-setting research program built upon the principles of co-production and collaboration, the outputs will facilitate Australia's development goals at the forefront of global innovation for more

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	effective and sustainable development practice and services that are culturally appropriate and gender/sexuality responsive.							
IN250100096	Yarruwala: Complex Ecosystems of Indigenous Higher Education Leadership	121,550.00	273,932.00	282,576.50	130,194.50	0.00	0.00	808,253.00
Trudgett, Prof Michelle	<p>This study examines the governance ecology of universities, exploring networks with key industry partners, to identify the complex web of relationships which impact the portfolio outcomes of Indigenous leaders. Applying Indigenous institutional theory, it will establish a holistic model outlining how Indigenous leadership can be effectively woven through governance structures of Australian universities. It will explore self-determination providing unprecedented knowledge about Indigenous leadership across the higher education sector and industry, allowing new insights into how university/industry partnerships can foster Indigenous success nationally. The Indigenous leadership model will have broad application across corporate organisations.</p> <p>National Interest Test Statement</p> <p>The Australian Universities Accord foreshadows the economic need for an exponential rise in Indigenous students attending university and raises the critical idea of Indigenous self-determination. Universities educate the Indigenous professionals and leaders of the future who will drive the required innovation and fill vital community skills gaps. Indigenous Senior Leaders working in universities forge strategic agendas to foster this Indigenous success. The study examines the layered Indigenous and non-Indigenous governance ecology of universities, and networks with key industry partners, such as AIATSIS, National Indigenous Australians Agency, Career Trackers, Fulbright and the Aurora Education Foundation. This complex web of relationship interactions which can enhance or inhibit the performance and outcomes of Indigenous leaders, including those related to Indigenous student success. Critically, this research will explore the possibilities and potential limits of self-determination in Australian universities. These findings will have wide application for other large organisations seeking to foster Indigenous leadership and outcome success. Findings will be disseminated through scholarly avenues such as journals and conferences and to government and higher education institutions, external organisations and industry bodies, academic peers, and Indigenous community organisations, through accessible mechanisms like social media, online news media, public seminars, and reports.</p>							
	Western Sydney University	224,904.00	519,458.50	533,087.00	347,525.00	108,992.50	0.00	1,733,967.00
	New South Wales	467,452.00	1,009,919.50	1,025,987.00	753,551.00	403,570.50	133,539.00	3,794,019.00

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Queensland								
Central Queensland University								
IN250100468	Dandhigu yimbana: Listening on Country for social-emotional wellbeing	65,222.50	141,337.00	167,033.00	189,580.00	201,615.00	102,953.50	867,741.00
Saunders, Dr Vicki	<p>Dandhigu yimbana are Gunggari words used to acknowledge the impact and different meanings of listening on Country for First Nations peoples. This project is implemented by community-based and academic Indigenous researchers, engaged in promoting social and emotional wellbeing (SEWB) through deep active listening practices. It will contribute to reforms at the cultural interface of Indigenous health and arts-based research and extend international evidence of the strong contribution of the arts in promoting wellbeing and health equity and in enhancing research quality and impact. It uses Arts and Indigenous research methods to understand the relationship between the wellbeing of Country and people mediated through listening practices.</p> <p>National Interest Test Statement</p> <p>Improving social and emotional wellbeing is a Closing the Gap target. Arts-based research can contribute innovative solutions to complex social problems, including efforts to promote wellbeing, but there are widely recognised legal, ethical, intellectual and methodological tensions in the efforts of Indigenous communities to engage in this research. Drawing on lessons from five community arts initiatives, using yarning and creative storytelling methods, this project aims to provide evidence of what works in Indigenous-led creative research to promote wellbeing. Using poetic inquiry and creative methods to align and allow for differing perspectives of Indigenous data, research, and indicators of wellbeing, are methods ideally positioned to amplify Indigenous Voice. Findings will be shared through reports and presentations to partner organisations, as well as national and international stakeholders, to inform research training and community-led research capacity-building initiatives for arts and health researchers. Translation of these insights will enable the creation of new methods based on Indigenous ways of knowing, being, and doing in research and will provide cultural benefits for First Nations.</p>							
	Central Queensland University	65,222.50	141,337.00	167,033.00	189,580.00	201,615.00	102,953.50	867,741.00
Griffith University								
IN250100158	Advancing Indigenous social marketing process and practices	49,922.00	104,813.50	113,470.00	58,578.50	0.00	0.00	326,784.00
Harris, Dr Jessica A	<p>Youth sexual violence and abuse (YSVA) affects urban, regional and remote communities, with Indigenous youth disproportionately impacted. This project aims to reduce YSVA rates in Indigenous populations, focusing on local needs and promoting shared responsibility and awareness. With a national child sexual abuse rate of 28.5%, the project addresses lifelong impacts. Anticipated outcomes involve three pilot studies, implementing bystander programs, fostering safe relationships and social connections, and developing an Indigenous theory. Aligned with Queensland's YSVA Steering Committee report, benefits will include creating positive change within communities like Jagera, Giabal, and Jarowair, contributing to a reduction in YSVA.</p> <p>National Interest Test Statement</p> <p>Nearly one in three (28.6%) young people experience youth sexual violence and abuse (YSVA), which can have short- and long-term consequences that include (but are not limited to) alcohol abuse and suicide, costing the Australian community \$34.2 billion in the short-term and \$78.4 billion over the lifetime. Women and Indigenous peoples are at highest risk of YSVA. This project delivers three pilot tests in Toowoomba, experiencing high rates of YSVA, developed in response to co-designs offered by more than 300 people. The bystander training and safe and respectful relationship pilot trials were indicated in community co-design work, which featured yarning circles with Indigenous people. Reducing YSVA is critical economically and essential for happy, healthy children who are a national resource. They are the foundation of a cohesive, functioning, and productive society. This project will deliver Indigenous-owned or co-owned processes, addressing socio-economic disparity. Our team have a track record of delivering trademarked processes, Apps, websites, pilot programs, and social enterprises co-designed with communities that are supported by stakeholders. This project will enable the team to translate co-design findings into Indigenous-led pilot programs that can achieve intended outcomes (e.g., increased bystander action, positive social connections, and understanding of safe and respectful relationships).</p>							

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	Griffith University	49,922.00	104,813.50	113,470.00	58,578.50	0.00	0.00	326,784.00
James Cook University								
IN250100327	Navigating the Tides of Change	180,650.00	357,463.50	354,420.00	353,235.00	348,487.00	172,858.50	1,767,114.00
Nakata, A/Prof Sana M	This project seeks to undertake a landmark study into how Torres Strait Islanders have navigated the external influences in their communities over the past century. The project will be led by Torres Strait Islander researchers with a long track record of working with Indigenous communities and their leaders, building capacity of community researchers, early career researchers, graduating research students, and delivering projects on time. The significance of this study is the potential for it to assist current negotiations with governments to better align their organisations and services to meet the needs and interests of Islanders, and to benefit all Indigenous communities.							
	National Interest Test Statement							
	This project will contribute to the national Closing the Gap agenda by addressing a crucial gap in research knowledge of the qualities of Indigenous leadership and specifically their engagements with external influences that can work best for Indigenous people. The inability of the federal, state, and territory governments to make any significant gains in improving the life outcomes of Indigenous Australians has again been reported by the Productivity Commission, despite efforts over recent years to work closely with the Coalition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peak Organisations to drive a community-led, strengths-based approach. By examining how Torres Strait Islanders have navigated legal and policy frameworks of governments in pivotal events over the past century, this project will show how Islanders resolved tensions in adapting to changes in their region because of external influences whilst maintaining continuities with their traditional way-of-life. The aim is to extract from these tensions the elements that can best reveal how change and continuity have been managed over time. These qualities will go directly to informing how governments can work with Indigenous people to transform government organisations, policies, and services to improve how they address inequities in this country.							
	James Cook University	180,650.00	357,463.50	354,420.00	353,235.00	348,487.00	172,858.50	1,767,114.00
Queensland University of Technology								
IN250100029	Community-Led Approaches to Teaching Australian South Sea Islander History	158,956.50	313,435.50	305,708.00	306,529.00	302,295.50	146,995.50	1,533,920.00
Bobongie-Harris, Dr Francis T	This project argues that a new approach to teaching Australian South Sea Islander history in primary and secondary school education is urgently needed to address conditions by which Australian South Sea Islander students are made disadvantaged at school. Through a Tok Stori methodological approach that draws on community knowledges, this project will develop new ways of teaching Australian South Sea Islander history. It will work towards implementing the kind of meaningful progress that failed to follow the 1993 Recognition, build transnational research links, and increase and strengthen the capacity of Australian South Sea Islander educators and researchers.							
	National Interest Test Statement							
	In the 30 years that have followed Australian South Sea Islanders being recognized as a disadvantaged minority group, little has been done to address this disadvantage, particularly in regard to education. Despite a 1996 report recommending that to address disadvantages experienced by Australian South Sea Islander students, it was imperative that Australian South Sea Islander culture and history be taught in schools, nothing has been done to meaningfully implement these recommendations. This project will therefore bridge what has become a broken circuit of recognition by creating numerous resources— derived from community knowledges—to redefine how Australian South Sea Islander history is understood and taught. It will also examine what the historic experience of Australian South Sea Islanders has been in educational institutions and put forward new ethical guidelines for research involving Australian South Sea Islanders. In doing so, this project will work towards implementing the social and cultural changes that should have followed 1993, and advance the field for other researchers, and education policy makers. The project uses a combination of academic and non-traditional modes of dissemination, including publicly available ethical frameworks, podcasts, academic publications and books, and educational resources.							
	Queensland University of Technology	158,956.50	313,435.50	305,708.00	306,529.00	302,295.50	146,995.50	1,533,920.00
The University of Queensland								

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IN250100105	Understanding nicotine metabolism during pregnancy in First Nations peoples	53,860.50	74,693.00	20,832.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	149,386.00
Miles, Dr Jared	<p>This project aims to be the world-first to investigate the ways Indigenous Australians metabolise nicotine over pregnancy. Differences in nicotine metabolism are caused by genetic factors, yet data mainly comes from white women in the US & UK, and there is no scientific data on how Indigenous mothers metabolise nicotine. This project will utilise biochemical & genomic analysis to generate this new knowledge. Expected outcomes include highly accurate models for predicting nicotine levels over pregnancy & new theories linking Indigenous heritage with specific metabolism types. This would yield significant benefits through adding to the global knowledgebase, challenging generalisation of non-Indigenous data, & future impacts on health policy.</p> <p>National Interest Test Statement</p> <p>Indigenous mothers are over 3.5 times more likely to smoke during pregnancy than non-Indigenous mothers, and yet we have no scientific knowledge of how Indigenous Australians break down nicotine. Current data on nicotine metabolism mainly comes from white women in the northern hemisphere, however it is known to be affected by both genetics and external factors and can contribute to poor pregnancy outcomes, including miscarriage and birth defects. Our project aims to be the first to understand how Indigenous peoples metabolise nicotine throughout pregnancy, and if this is linked to being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent. This fundamental knowledge is critical for questioning the relevance of non-Indigenous data being applied to Indigenous peoples and policies, which subsequently could help address the challenges and stigma many Indigenous peoples face with smoking. In future, the results of this project may be used to improve the health of Indigenous mothers and babies through more accurate medical advice and better treatments to quit smoking. The results will be shared with the local Indigenous Health Service and community where this project takes place to integrate the knowledge into their practice. The findings will also be shared with Government Health Departments and Indigenous Health Services across Australia to encourage engagement in further studies involving broader representation of Indigenous peoples to expand the scientific knowledge.</p>							
	The University of Queensland	53,860.50	74,693.00	20,832.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	149,386.00
	Queensland	508,611.50	991,742.50	961,463.50	907,922.50	852,397.50	422,807.50	4,644,945.00

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South Australia

University of South Australia

IN250100126	Aboriginal unborn reporting and infant removals by child protection	87,022.00	205,385.00	244,167.50	227,445.00	101,640.50	0.00	865,660.00
Krakouer, Dr Jacyntha M	This project addresses a significant preventable problem: the high incidence and disproportionate removal of Aboriginal infants by child protection, experienced by Aboriginal people as another Stolen Generation. Privileging Indigenous perspectives and methodologies, this Aboriginal-led project will generate new knowledge to prevent infant removal by showcasing how Aboriginal people (parents, family, community, professionals) experience child protection intervention during pregnancy and after birth. Expected outcomes of this project include an improved understanding of factors that contribute to and prevent Aboriginal infant removal, providing significant benefits including new Aboriginal-led policy and practice solutions to close the gap.							

National Interest Test Statement

The overrepresentation of Aboriginal babies, children and young people in child protection is a major failure in our efforts to ensure the safety and well-being of all children in Australia. This project aims to address the overrepresentation of Aboriginal babies and children in the child protection system. We will access Aboriginal perspectives to identify protective factors, but also factors that may increase the likelihood of removal. The research has social, cultural and economic benefits. It will benefit relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Australians, with a focus on improving the lives of Aboriginal children and families, by addressing a key Closing the Gap target and a priority in the 10-year national child protection plan. The economic cost of statutory intervention is stark; past analysis has found that Australian governments spend \$15.2 billion annually on crisis and high-intensity services that could be prevented. This research focuses on preventing Aboriginal infant removals, thus contributing to financial savings for all Australians. The research findings will be circulated via government agencies, community organisations and professional associations. Importantly, this project involves partnerships with three Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisations (national and state-based), including the peak body for Aboriginal children and young people, with knowledge from this project being shared with these ACCOs to improve practice and policy.

University of South Australia	87,022.00	205,385.00	244,167.50	227,445.00	101,640.50	0.00	865,660.00
South Australia	87,022.00	205,385.00	244,167.50	227,445.00	101,640.50	0.00	865,660.00

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Victoria

The University of Melbourne

IN250100005	Eastern Maar Forest Country: embedding Culture value in decision making	157,973.00	338,516.50	271,422.00	90,878.50	0.00	0.00	858,790.00
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Pascoe, Dr Jack H
This project will embed Traditional Ecological Knowledge and cultural values into the management of Maar Country. This project expects to generate new knowledge in the novel integration and improvement of existing ecosystem management tools by seeking the expertise of Traditional Custodians and incorporating their priorities into the model. Expected outcomes include a spatially explicit adaptive management tool that allows managers to explore trade-offs among wildfire risk, biodiversity and cultural values. This approach should benefit the pursuit of national emergency preparedness and planning for conservation and climate change via the long-overdue incorporation of Traditional Ecological Knowledge into ecosystem management systems

National Interest Test Statement

Fire management in south-east Australia has largely ignored Traditional Ecological Knowledge, but the social, ecological and financial impacts of recent catastrophic wildfires highlight the need for a different approach. This project draws upon the knowledge of scientists, Traditional Custodians and land managers to develop an interactive model for managing flammable and biodiverse ecosystems in the Otway Range. The use of iterative models to support adaptive management of wildfire risk and biodiversity and Cultural Values is a key step towards transparent and consistent decision making. This project will build on existing research to demonstrate a more inclusive approach to future management of Country in the face of further environmental decline and climate driven natural disaster, providing significant social and environmental benefits for Australia. Outcomes of this project will be shared with land management agencies and government departments in the Otway region.

The University of Melbourne	157,973.00	338,516.50	271,422.00	90,878.50	0.00	0.00	858,790.00
Victoria	157,973.00	338,516.50	271,422.00	90,878.50	0.00	0.00	858,790.00
	1,270,772.50	2,729,812.00	2,768,392.00	2,218,119.00	1,465,113.00	556,346.50	11,008,555.00