Future student guide
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
Welcome to The University of Queensland (UQ), where we strive every day to ensure you achieve your goals and aspirations through access to a world-class university education.

You’ll find opportunities at UQ that will help you become a game-changer and future leader, ready to join our growing network of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander alumni doing extraordinary work in our communities and around the globe.

At UQ, we acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as First Australians. We value and celebrate the uniqueness of knowledges, cultures, histories and languages that have been created and shared for at least 65,000 years.

You will study among some of the best and brightest Indigenous students in the country and have fun being immersed in a positive, enriching environment.

At UQ, we will empower you with the skills and confidence to excel, no matter where life takes you.

Come and explore your full potential at UQ.

Professor Bronwyn Fredericks
Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement)

“I recently completed my first internship at the UQ Diamantina Institute, with the goal of one day working in either pathology or research, potentially in the field of cancer treatments.

It was a thrill to be working with accomplished researchers who implement ground-breaking technology like NanoString to change the way we see cancer therapy.

The ATSISU has been an incredible support for me, providing resources such as culturally safe study areas, tutors, yarning, and access to the Career Trackers program, which led to me being accepted for the UQDI internship and discovering a career path I’m really passionate about”

Callan Rudd-McMahon
Bachelor Biomedical Science
Why choose UQ?
UQ offers a complete university experience, including an exciting mix of educational, social and cultural opportunities to help you achieve your individual goals.

UQ is the number one university in Queensland for graduate employability (QS Graduate Employability Rankings 2021), and UQ graduates enjoy some of the best employment rates and starting salaries in Australia thanks to our outstanding global reputation.

What can I study?
UQ offers the most comprehensive range of undergraduate and postgraduate programs and courses in Queensland across a range of study areas, including:
• Agriculture and Environment
• Architecture and Planning
• Arts, Communication and Society
• Business, Economics and Law
• Education
• Engineering and Information Technology
• Health and Behavioural Sciences
• Medicine
• Science and Mathematics
• the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies major.

Visit future-students.uq.edu.au to explore your study options.

Student services available
UQ strives to ensure that all students feel part of a positive and affirming learning environment. The ATSISU assists and supports prospective and current students from pre-enrolment through to graduation. Indigenous students at UQ can access:
• world-class learning facilities, including spaces specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
• helpful advice and support on UQ admission pathways to help you find the best program for you
• orientation for new students to assist with the transition to university life and study
• professional development, work experience and career opportunities

How do I apply?
QTAC
All applications for UQ’s undergraduate programs are processed through the Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC).

For more information about applying through QTAC, visit qtac.edu.au.

For UQ postgraduate coursework and higher degree by research requirements, visit future-students.uq.edu.au or contact the ATSISU for further assistance.

“I did an InspireU Engineering Camp while I was in high school – didn’t love the engineering aspect but fell in love with the St Lucia campus and the staff at the ATSISU.

I’m from rural NSW – no traffic lights even! – so UQ’s atmosphere and the people and vibrancy just blew me away. I knew I had to study here.

I’m staying on campus at the Women’s College: it’s so convenient being on campus and close to everything, and beautiful being by the lakes.”

Caoimhe Griffiths
Bachelor of Arts / Bachelor of Education (Secondary)
Admissions pathways

In addition to gaining entry through QTAC based on your Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) or other tertiary selection rank, UQ has an admission scheme specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

If you identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander on your QTAC application, you will be invited to apply via a special entry scheme. This pathway considers your previous formal education and a range of additional factors including your employment history, academic abilities and personal characteristics.

UQ’s ATSISU will be there to support you every step of the way through the application process.

Please contact our friendly and knowledgeable staff for further information and visit future-students.uq.edu.au/apply/undergraduate/admission-schemes or atsis.uq.edu.au for more details.

“I always dreamed of studying Medicine at UQ, but wasn’t sure how I could accept the offer until I was awarded the Peter Hoj Mandy Thomas Scholarship. The scholarships and financial support available has made a huge difference to my work-study-life balance.

I’ve nearly completed my first year of study, and every day I walk through the campus and still can’t believe I got here. My whole family and mob were behind me during the whole application process and are so excited for me.

I am also really grateful for the support offered by the ATSISU. I signed up for a referencing workshop as well as the ITAR tutoring support, and was assigned a tutor who is a practicing pharmacist who works in a hospital setting, so she is really well-placed to help me with my studies. I feel really confident and excited about the years ahead here at UQ.”

Miah Hickman
Doctor of Medicine
About the ATSISU

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Unit (ATSISU) was established at UQ in 1984 as a commitment to the learning and cultural needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The ATSISU celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and knowledges, recognising the enormous contributions that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have made and continue to make at UQ and to the broader community.

We work closely with faculties, schools, central units and the wider UQ community to provide a range of services for students, from pre-enrolment through to graduation.

Our students have access to a range of professional development and employability services, including internships, graduate programs and global experiences.

Through the ATSISU, the Goorie Berrimpa Indigenous Student Collective and a large student peer group, you can get involved in social, cultural and professional development activities, including the pre-Orientation welcome and information sessions, workshops with guest speakers, NAIDOC Week and the NAIDOC Ball, Reconciliation Week and the Indigenous Uni Games. Social and study spaces are provided in the ATSISU, and graduating students can also look forward to the Indigenous Graduation and Sashing Ceremony.
More information/Contact

Give us a call
Call our friendly Student Success team for advice and assistance with applications, scholarships and general enquiries.
+61 7 3443 1404

Visit us online
Find out more about programs, entry pathways, scholarships, and support services offered by the ATSISU.
atsis.uq.edu.au

Ask us a question
Email us and we’ll be in touch soon.
atsis@uq.edu.au

Cover artwork elements from ‘A Guidance Through Time’ by Quandamooka artists Casey Coolwell and Kyra Mancktelow. This artwork recognises UQ’s three major campuses, while also championing the creation of a strong sense of belonging and truth-telling about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, and ongoing connections with Country, knowledges, culture and kin.