

Testimonials



Carli Westmore

Carli has always been dedicated to her family. She was one of seven siblings and three foster children, all of whom were home-schooled by her mother. At age 15, she had to finish her secondary education and find a job to help support her family through difficult financial circumstances. She is now following her dream to become a doctor.

Read Carli's full story on the university website www.newcastle.edu.au/achievers



Sarah Goddard

Sarah has seen the effects of life long illness within her own family and has always had a passion to help. According to Sarah, "since I could talk, I have wanted to be a doctor".

This passion has brought her far from her home in the Northern Territory to study medicine in the JMP.



Kevin Toby

Kevin Toby is an Indigenous mature aged student based at the University of New England, who moved from Central Queensland to study medicine in the JMP. He is a single dad and feels like he's a long way from home.

One of the popular and regular events on the Indigenous medical calendar is the cultural camps. After attending his first camp Kevin said...



Sheree Enderby

"Its fantastic being able to understand complex processes about the body and to come to that understanding through the group PBL setting is a great way to learn."

"It's a bit nerve wracking going to university when you have not finished schooling – the academic support program was fantastic."

"Having an indigenous support network of staff and students has helped me to keep a good balance between study and family."

"The Problem Based Learning curriculum and Indigenous support programs make the JMP the best choice for Indigenous people to study medicine."

"Over the next few years, I hope to get as much rural experience as possible through the JMP clinical schools to help me when I return to the Territory and train to become a GP."

"The opportunity to meet with other students was a valuable part of the weekend."

"We now understand each other's needs better and can offer help in a crisis within family or with study. This sort of thing makes a big difference to my ability to enjoy and succeed in my study."

"I enjoy learning about how the body works, but being able to apply it to real patients in a practical setting early in your studies is a great advantage."

Indigenous Medical Entry Program

Bachelor of Medicine – Joint Medical Program



For more information:

University of Newcastle

The Wollotuka Institute
P 02 4921 6863
E wollotuka@newcastle.edu.au

Discipline of Indigenous Medical Education

P 02 4921 8743
E deadlydocs@newcastle.edu.au

University of New England

Oorala Aboriginal Centre
P 02 6773 3034
E oorala@une.edu.au

School of Rural Medicine

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HUNTER NEW ENGLAND
NSW HEALTH

NORTHERN SYDNEY
CENTRAL COAST
NSW HEALTH



Joint Medical Program (JMP)

The University of Newcastle and the University of New England jointly offer the Bachelor of Medicine as a five-year undergraduate degree.

The JMP is an expansion of the highly successful University of Newcastle Bachelor of Medicine program in partnership with the University of New England, Hunter New England Health and Northern Sydney Central Coast Health. The JMP is a great opportunity to study a program of international standing and obtain early and broad clinical experience through this unique partnership.

Why choose us?

The Joint Medical Program is committed to training Indigenous doctors and dedicates up to 16 places each year for Indigenous Australians to study in either Newcastle or Armidale.

With a program of academic support through the discipline of Indigenous Medical Education running alongside social and cultural support from The Wollotuka Institute in Newcastle and the Oorala Aboriginal Centre at UNE, students are well cared for.

The University of Newcastle has graduated almost half of Australia's national total of Indigenous doctors. There have been 53 graduates since its Indigenous support program began in 1985 and numbers continue to increase. Its renowned support program is offered to JMP students studying at either campus.

Support services

Making your choices easier

If you are thinking of studying medicine we can give you the information, insight and learning opportunities you need to make the right choices. Moving through these options will help you decide if medicine is the degree for you. Make the most of:

- visits to schools by Indigenous health professionals and university teaching staff to find out what it is like to study and work in medicine
- the chance to 'shadow' a medical student for a day to see what its like to study medicine
- academic support programs for people who haven't completed secondary study or need to rebuild their academic skills.

Getting in to Uni

Both universities offer academic support programs to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to develop academic skills required for undergraduate study.

These programs are for school leavers and mature aged students who want to build their own knowledge base and prepare themselves for study at university.

On completion of the program students will be eligible to apply for entry to the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP. Students can choose to study through the Yapug program at the University of Newcastle or the TRACKS program at the University of New England.

Prospective Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students can apply for admission to the Bachelor of Medicine – JMP through the Indigenous Medical Entry Program. Under this scheme students must submit a UAC application, but are not required to sit UMAT or lodge a direct university application. For further information concerning this program as well as selection and application requirements visit www.newcastle.edu.au/jmp/indigenous-students



While you study

Once on campus, at either Newcastle or Armidale, you are not alone. Before your semester starts you have the opportunity to build social networks with other Indigenous students studying medicine and meet your Indigenous tutors who will be supporting your academic progress. This support continues throughout the first two years of your degree where the majority of your learning is on campus. As an Indigenous medical student you can look forward to:

- a five day Pre-Med program at the start of your first year
- attending the annual Australian Indigenous Doctors Association (AIDA) symposium
- participating in cultural camps
- receiving one-on-one academic support from Indigenous academics
- weekly tutorials designed to meet the needs of Indigenous medical students
- learning from Indigenous doctors tutoring in the medical program
- a strong focus on Indigenous health in the curriculum
- access to qualified tutors through the Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme (ITAS).

Where can I find help?

The JMP provides a range of support to students to help them complete the medical program successfully. Indigenous staff based on both campuses provide academic support helping students deal with course workload, choosing electives and mentoring. They also provide the social and cultural support many students need as a result of leaving their homes to attend university. Visit their websites to find out about the full range of facilities and services available.

Discipline of Indigenous Medical Education
www.newcastle.edu.au/school/medicine-public-health/about/disciplines

The Wollotuka Institute
www.newcastle.edu.au/institute/wollotuka

Oorala Aboriginal Centre
www.une.edu.au/oorala

Accommodation

Living on campus is not only about making new friends and having loads of fun. It also provides easy access to the facilities that the University provides.

There are four residential colleges on the Newcastle campus or you may think about living off campus and renting a unit or apartment with some friends.

In addition to the mainstream on and off campus accommodation, Indigenous students studying in Newcastle can choose to stay at the Durungaling Aboriginal Hostel. It offers comfortable, affordable accommodation with meals included and is handy to shops and transport.

UNE's residential college system offers personal and academic support, giving you the best chance of success, combined with friendships and memories that will stay with you for life.

You will have your own single, fully furnished, centrally heated accommodation and each room has a phone and internet connection. With all your cleaning and cooking done for you – you can spend more time enjoying the UNE experience. Off campus, it can be much easier to get rental accommodation in Armidale than if you were looking in a metropolitan area.

Newcastle
www.newcastle.edu.au/service/accommodation

Accommodation Officer (Wollotuka)
T 02 4349 4501
E Kelly.Staines@newcastle.edu.au

Armidale
www.une.edu.au/about/living

If you need financial help

Here is a collection of scholarships particularly relevant to Indigenous Australians. For a full list of scholarships visit the scholarship pages on each Universities website.

New students

- Medical Rural Bonded Scholarship (MRBS)
www.health.gov.au/mrbscholarships
- Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarship
www.rcna.org.au/scholarships/puggy_hunter

- National Indigenous Cadetship Program
www.ics.deewr.gov.au
- David Beer Undergraduate Scholarship – University of Newcastle
webapps.newcastle.edu.au/scholarships

- Max Schroder UNE Scholarship - University of New England
www.une.edu.au/scholarships/undergraduate
- CWA/Earle Page College Equity Scholarship – University of New England
www.une.edu.au/scholarships/undergraduate

Continuing students

- Rotary Indigenous Health Scholarship
www.australianrotaryhealth.org.au/Information-About/Programs/Indigenous-Health-Scholarship.aspx
- Indigenous People's Medical Scholarship
www.ama.com.au/node/5198
- Jack Doherty Undergraduate Scholarship – University of Newcastle
webapps.newcastle.edu.au/scholarships
- Max Schroder UNE Scholarship
www.une.edu.au/scholarships/undergraduate

