

Minister's Approval for Discovery Indigenous for Funding Commencing in 2023 Schedule

Approved Organisation, Leader of Approved Research Program (Columns 1 and 2)	Approved Research Program (Column 3)	Estimated and Approved Expenditure (\$)			Indicative Funding (\$)			Total (\$)
		2022-23 (Column 4)	2023-24 (Column 5)	2024-25 (Column 6)	2025-26* (Column 7)	2026-27* (Column 8)	2027-28* (Column 9)	(Column 10)
Australian Capital Territory								
The Australian National University								
IN230100053	Indigenous mathematical transforms	140,000.00	280,500.00	281,000.00	140,500.00	0.00	0.00	842,000.00
Ball, Dr Rowena	<p>A class of mathematical transforms, or systematic conversions between related spaces or objects, was practised by some Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups. Such transforms from ground to night sky were used in long-distance route-recording and wayfinding techniques. This project aims to elucidate these transforms, and to use this knowledge to extend the mathematical framework and applications of Fourier analysis. There is significant potential for new mathematics to emerge at this exciting interface of Indigenous/non-Indigenous knowledge. Expected outcomes are interdisciplinary research training for Indigenous students and new understanding of Indigenous sciences. Emerging big data technologies such as holography may benefit.</p> <p>National Interest Test Statement</p> <p>Indigenous Australian ancestors developed significant mathematical knowledge to help them understand star songlines and navigate land and sea over long distances. However, this knowledge and its relationship to European approaches is little understood. This project will unify the Indigenous mathematics that produced sophisticated 'star maps' with the European-based mathematics that underpins today's signal and image analysis. To do so, the project will resolve and quantify the Indigenous methodologies used to code overland routes into the night sky using named stars; trace common origins of European and Australian ideas using statistical methods; and apply this new knowledge to extend mathematical theory and generate new methods for its application in digital pattern analysis. Sharing these insights with communities who will use them for cultural education, the project will benefit Australia's reconciliation efforts, Indigenous and non-Indigenous students' education about our cultural and scientific heritage, and lead international breakthroughs at the interface of Indigenous and non-Indigenous science.</p>							
	The Australian National University	140,000.00	280,500.00	281,000.00	140,500.00	0.00	0.00	842,000.00
	Australian Capital Territory	140,000.00	280,500.00	281,000.00	140,500.00	0.00	0.00	842,000.00

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New South Wales

University of Technology Sydney

IN230100071	Governing Aboriginal self-determination in NSW: 1980-2025	104,509.50	185,408.50	164,576.00	83,677.00	0.00	0.00	538,171.00
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Norman, Prof Heidi R

This project aims to examine how Aboriginal affairs governance in NSW has operated in the era of self-determination since 1980 to today. Using an ethnographic approach to study political power through time, it can develop a new understanding of the real practice of self-determination as policy. It expects to investigate whether governance processes have enabled improvements in the lives of Aboriginal people in NSW. Today, as policymakers negotiate co-design and partnership in Aboriginal affairs, this project can create new knowledge on the potential of resetting relationships between government and Aboriginal people. This will provide a significant contribution to crucial debates on advancing Aboriginal self-determination today.

National Interest Test Statement

This project will document the administration of NSW Aboriginal Affairs starting from the announcement of Aboriginal self-determination as a policy in 1980 to the present significant juncture in Indigenous affairs policy. Using an ethnographic approach to study political power through time, the project draws on archival research and oral history techniques to focus on those in positions of power – politicians, their advisors and senior bureaucrats – to shed new insights into how the NSW government has managed its relationship with Indigenous peoples. Today, government agencies and Indigenous peoples continue to search for ways to transform their relationship to one based on partnership and shared decision-making. This project will deliver social, economic and cultural impact by generating a vital account of government policy processes, producing actionable insights on effective policy-making that can be debated and adopted by both government agencies and Indigenous peoples.

University of Technology Sydney	104,509.50	185,408.50	164,576.00	83,677.00	0.00	0.00	538,171.00
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New South Wales	104,509.50	185,408.50	164,576.00	83,677.00	0.00	0.00	538,171.00
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Queensland								
Bond University								
IN230100002	Utilising Simulation to develop culturally responsive social workers	98,842.00	300,811.00	276,956.00	74,987.00	0.00	0.00	751,596.00
Bennett, A/Prof Bindi M	<p>This project aims to increase cultural responsive practitioners by co-designing a culturally informed simulation centred curriculum program for social work students and field educators focusing on rural and remote experiential learning, a first in Australia. Significance may include increased effective cross-cultural practice; reduced costs of Field Practicum across Australia and increased graduates preparedness. The expected outcome of the project includes decreased burden for Aboriginal communities. Benefits may include enhanced ability of social work graduates to demonstrated knowledge, skills, and values required for culturally responsive social work practice and decreased disparity for Aboriginal Peoples.</p> <p>National Interest Test Statement</p> <p>This project will design strengths-based, community-led, co-designed curriculum resources informed by Aboriginal ways of knowing, doing and being. Enhancing the skills of social work and allied health graduates to be culturally responsive, the resources will engage students in an Aboriginal-based virtual reality program including rural and remote scenarios. By 2027 the social work workforce is expected to reach 34,600, highlighting the need for a cost-efficient response to creating culturally responsive graduates with the capacity to contribute to effective service delivery in areas where Aboriginal peoples are statistically overrepresented such as child protection, health, disability, mental health and corrections. Engaging effectively and efficiently with Aboriginal communities is of major relevance to Australia's national interest, given the Australian Government's Closing the Gap priorities. Producing co-designed virtual reality curriculum resources is a world first and allows Australia to lead by demonstration, with potential for expansion to international First Nations contexts.</p>							
	Bond University	98,842.00	300,811.00	276,956.00	74,987.00	0.00	0.00	751,596.00
Queensland University of Technology								
IN230100047	Co-designing a Food Sovereignty Model with Indigenous Communities	114,570.00	238,060.00	236,258.00	176,754.00	63,986.00	0.00	829,628.00
Duthie, A/Prof Debbie L	<p>Food sovereignty asserts the rights of people and communities to healthy and culturally appropriate foods through determination of their own food and agriculture systems. With food insecurity higher among Indigenous households; a food sovereignty approach offers the potential for sustainable long-term solutions that maintain human dignity and reinvigorate knowledge systems. Drawing on national and international perspectives and using Indigenous research methodologies, this project aims to co-design a food sovereignty model that will enable Indigenous communities to effectively address food insecurity according to their local contexts. Both the process and solutions will contribute to improvements in physical, mental and social wellbeing.</p> <p>National Interest Test Statement</p> <p>This project will be led by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to develop food systems that create and enhance connections to land, community, traditional knowledge and language. Food systems and programs will be developed in collaboration with Elders, community leaders, community members, and young people that prioritise Indigenous sovereignty and ownership of food systems that care for the environment, draw on local resources and priorities, produce healthy, culturally appropriate food, are affordable, and lead to long-term change. This approach has social and cultural benefits by supporting health, wellbeing, connectedness and development of foodways as artefacts of land and identity. Expected outcomes include revival of cultural food knowledge; development of socially and environmentally sustainable food ecosystems; ownership of food practices as artefacts of identity; and the preservation of language for future generations. The project will develop a Food Sovereignty Model that can be applied in other settings to develop practical local solutions to ensure dignified access to healthy food.</p>							
	Queensland University of Technology	114,570.00	238,060.00	236,258.00	176,754.00	63,986.00	0.00	829,628.00

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The University of Queensland								
IN230100065	The past, present and future of Indigenous ethnobotanical knowledge	155,559.00	313,092.50	316,725.50	159,192.00	0.00	0.00	944,569.00
Marrie, Hon Prof Henrietta	This project aims to resolve the interrelated and compounding problems that Indigenous Australians face in relation to their ethnobotanical knowledge, such as biopiracy, loss of biodiversity, knowledge, and opportunity. This Indigenous-led project aims to build community-based databases to protect, preserve and facilitate community controlled use of ethnobotanical knowledge. This will support and promote Indigenous economic self-sufficiency and sustainability which will be of direct benefit to the partner communities. In addition to providing direct benefits to the communities involved in the research, the project is designed to be replicated across Australia, bringing benefits to Indigenous communities throughout the country.							
	National Interest Test Statement							
	Over the last few decades, many Indigenous Australian communities have begun to develop an Indigenous-led native foods industry. While some progress has been made, uncertainty about whether Communities are able to wild harvest plants, how they are to prevent third parties from appropriating Indigenous knowledge, and meet the necessary legal requirements has hampered the growth of this emerging industry. This research will develop appropriate legal mechanisms to address these problems. This will result in significant economic, commercial, environmental, social, and cultural benefits for Australia and for Indigenous communities in particular. Benefits will include promotion and preservation of knowledge about plants in Indigenous communities, fostering interest in plant science and technology research amongst Indigenous youth, preservation of Australian native plants, and growing a sustainable Indigenous-led native foods industry that provides economic growth and employment opportunities for Indigenous communities.							
	The University of Queensland	155,559.00	313,092.50	316,725.50	159,192.00	0.00	0.00	944,569.00
	Queensland	368,971.00	851,963.50	829,939.50	410,933.00	63,986.00	0.00	2,525,793.00

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South Australia								
The University of Adelaide								
IN230100005	Fine Tuning: A Reconciliation of Indigenous and Western Musical Traditions	172,450.00	336,700.00	344,000.00	179,750.00	0.00	0.00	1,032,900.00
Crismani, Dr Dylan J	Focusing on central Australian song lines, the project strengthens our knowledge, understanding and application of the intricate tuning systems that underpin traditional Indigenous musical practices. Employing a unique methodology that combines Indigenous and contemporary Western musical performance practices with cutting-edge digital technologies, the project will show how the highly nuanced and sophisticated tunings at the heart of Indigenous music-making can be preserved when transposed to contemporary Western art music contexts. In so doing, the case is made for a more genuine, equitable dialogue between Indigenous and non-Indigenous music-makers, to the mutual benefit of musicians, audiences, and society at large.							
	National Interest Test Statement							
	The project reconnects three Central Australian communities with their traditional song lines. It will redress the cultural power imbalance between Indigenous and Western musical traditions and ensure a more prominent role for Indigenous music in Australia's national voice. The research addresses Closing the Gap outcome areas 14 and 16, enhancing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures using digital technologies to reconnect communities with their intangible cultural heritage, thereby strengthening social and emotional well-being in community. In strengthening our unique Indigenous cultures the project will enhance Australia's global competitiveness in the arts, entertainment, and tourism markets providing both cultural and economic benefit to the nation. The project builds on the international reputation of Australian research through its innovative and inclusive design which facilitates a deeper dialogue between Indigenous and non-Indigenous musical traditions by developing a new accessible musical language that places improved representation of Indigenous culture at its core.							
	The University of Adelaide	172,450.00	336,700.00	344,000.00	179,750.00	0.00	0.00	1,032,900.00
	South Australia	172,450.00	336,700.00	344,000.00	179,750.00	0.00	0.00	1,032,900.00

* Note - Indicative funding for approved projects will be made available through a funding variation under section 54 of the ARC Act

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Victoria								
Monash University								
IN230100003	Achieving true representation of Indigenous people in nursing and midwifery	96,714.50	210,757.00	266,330.50	306,360.50	154,072.50	0.00	1,034,235.00
Adams, Prof Karen E	<p>This project aims to address an absence of true representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and knowledges in nursing and midwifery. Significantly it intends to co-create an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nurse and midwife theory and principles for practice. An anticipated goal of the research is to better understand how the theory and practice can be implemented in nurse and midwifery education (inclusive of clinical settings) in regional and urban areas. The intended outcome is to provide improved cultural safety in nursing and midwifery, greater cultural safety for health consumers and; stronger recruitment and retention of Indigenous nurses and midwives.</p> <p>National Interest Test Statement</p> <p>This project seeks to improve representation of Aboriginal and Torre Strait Islander peoples in the professions of nursing and midwifery, where they are currently underrepresented. The project will create an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nursing and midwifery theory and principles for practice which addresses a vital gap in current healthcare provision. The outcomes will contribute to improved cultural safety for patients engaging with healthcare in urban and regional areas. The research will complement and intensify current nurse and midwifery student and workforce retention and recruitment strategies. This will build boost healthcare engagement preventing likelihood and progression of, as well as complications from, illness. Ultimately this will contribute to cost savings for the health system but also impact positively on healthcare workforces' wellbeing.</p>							
	Monash University	96,714.50	210,757.00	266,330.50	306,360.50	154,072.50	0.00	1,034,235.00
RMIT University								
IN230100031	Plant-mediated arsenic-iron mineral transformations	90,471.00	172,833.50	161,168.00	78,805.50	0.00	0.00	503,278.00
Lamb, Dr Dane T	<p>The project goals are to advance our understanding of molecular-level iron-arsenic transformations induced at plant-mineral-atmosphere interfaces as influenced by remediation actions and future environmental change. The project aims for this to be achieved through an innovative experimental infrastructure combined with isotopic, spectroscopic and advanced synchrotron-based tools. Intended outcomes and benefits are the generation of new knowledge, which will improve current understanding of arsenic and iron fate impacted by remediation actions, plant growth and planetary changes induced via the atmosphere-plant-soil interface.</p> <p>National Interest Test Statement</p> <p>Arsenic contamination of the environment is a critical issue globally. It is estimated that in excess of 200 million people suffer from excessive arsenic exposure, with an estimated 20 million hectares of contaminated land. In Australia, arsenic contamination has serious effects on human health, land productivity and value that impact local communities, including landowners, farmers, mining operators and remote indigenous communities. Little is known about how plants and climate change influence the leaching of arsenic from contaminated land. This project aims to understand the role that different plants and climate change play in influencing arsenic leaching and its subsequent environmental impacts. The new knowledge generated can be used to improve remediation policies used by landowners, regulatory agencies, and technical service providers to improve management of arsenic contaminated landscapes in Australia through selection of appropriate trees, shrubs and grasses for planting.</p>							
	RMIT University	90,471.00	172,833.50	161,168.00	78,805.50	0.00	0.00	503,278.00
	Victoria	187,185.50	383,590.50	427,498.50	385,166.00	154,072.50	0.00	1,537,513.00

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Western Australia								
Curtin University								
IN230100094 Gower, A/Prof Graeme C	Transition of Indigenous people into, and graduating from, higher education This research focuses on the learning experiences of Indigenous students in WA as they move from high school into university, and from university graduation to the workplace – key educational transition points. Most recent research on Indigenous academic persistence and outcomes (i.e, factors that enable or act as barriers to higher education), is quantitative. Hence this project will document, in-depth, qualitative understandings of students' learning journeys. This will provide an opportunity for them to have a voice about their experiences. The outcomes of this project will also provide important directions to the students and to universities to help improve the learning experiences, potentially leading to improved academic outcomes.	46,882.00	93,411.00	93,724.00	47,195.00	0.00	0.00	281,212.00
	National Interest Test Statement While Indigenous student numbers have increased in schools in recent years, there has only been a slight improvement in higher education enrolments, and graduation numbers remain very low in comparison to non-Indigenous Australians. This needs to be examined at a deeper level - giving voice to First Nations people so we can better understand the situation from their perspectives. This research will extend our existing understandings about their educational experiences, especially beyond school, by focussing on key transition points - namely into university and then upon graduation into the workforce. The findings of this research will provide important data necessary to support the development of effective interventions and policies, giving clear indications about what works or does not, and what should be changed at a system level to facilitate success. Therefore, uptake of these findings will contribute to creating a framework for more effective support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, tertiary education students in particular, and improve their educational and employment outcomes.							
	Curtin University	46,882.00	93,411.00	93,724.00	47,195.00	0.00	0.00	281,212.00
The University of Western Australia								
IN230100037 Milroy, Prof Helen	A parenting program to improve Aboriginal parent and child wellbeing This project aims to develop and implement a culturally safe, trauma-informed parenting program that can interrupt the intergenerational transmission of trauma and help improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing, parenting, and parent-child relationships. There is a lack of parenting programs that address the issue, and the project will bring light to that. The expected outcomes are to encourage the connection to culture for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families. This program can provide a positive shift in parenting, with significant implications in improving life outcomes for indigenous communities in Australia and internationally who also deal with the impact of intergenerational trauma.	117,008.00	248,567.00	271,880.00	140,321.00	0.00	0.00	777,776.00
	National Interest Test Statement Few parenting programs are developed for and by Aboriginal people and based on Aboriginal ways of knowing, being and doing. This project partners with communities to design and implement a parenting program that integrates an understanding of the trauma experienced by Aboriginal people. The program aims to improve social and emotional wellbeing in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and their families. The program will reduce the effect of trauma experienced by parents and grandparents on children, and reduce future risks of poor health and social outcomes (e.g. substance abuse, imprisonment, domestic violence). Effective parenting programs will improve childhood wellbeing, resulting in lifelong emotional, behavioural, educational, economic, and cultural benefits. Because communities will be involved from the beginning, this project can be rolled out widely once it is shown to work. This work can also be translated and adopted through our links with Closing the Gap and other initiatives.							
	The University of Western Australia	117,008.00	248,567.00	271,880.00	140,321.00	0.00	0.00	777,776.00

* Note - Indicative funding for approved projects will be made available through a funding variation under section 54 of the ARC Act

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	Western Australia	163,890.00	341,978.00	365,604.00	187,516.00	0.00	0.00	1,058,988.00
		1,137,006.00	2,380,140.50	2,412,618.00	1,387,542.00	218,058.50	0.00	7,535,365.00

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