



Evaluation and Finance Support

Fact Sheet

HEPPP AND WIDENING PARTICIPATION AGENDA

Since 2011, the Government's widening participation agenda has focused on enhancing the access of domestic undergraduate students from Low Socio-Economic (LSES) backgrounds to participate in higher education. This has been primarily pursued via the Higher Education Partners and Participation Program (HEPPP).

HEPPP funding is allocated on a 12-month calendar basis, distributed across higher education providers based on the number of enrolled domestic undergraduate students identified as LSES. Macquarie University develops and delivers initiatives that target the most underrepresented students in our community.

HEPPP FUNDING

The government's HEPPP funding is not guaranteed to be continuous. The national widening participation agenda seeks to encourage greater awareness and practice of equity by sustainably growing the number of stakeholders involved. HEPPP funded program leaders (including successful 2020 LEAP PEGS candidates) should not regard current year HEPPP funding allocated to their initiatives as indicative or continuous for future years.

HEPPP FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

HEPPP funded project leaders should note the following regarding funding for their projects:

- 1) A detailed budget forecasting the allocation of HEPPP funding across the complete timeline of the project must be submitted to WPU's Finance Officer
- 2) All HEPPP funds must be spent before the end of the calendar year
- 3) HEPPP funds are not able to be rolled forward into subsequent years
- 4) HEPPP funds unable to be spent as forecasted will be clawed back for redistribution to other projects

WPU's Finance Officer will be in close communication with HEPPP funded program leaders throughout the year to provide support around HEPPP financial queries and management of the University's HEPPP financial reporting commitments.

IMPACT REPORTING

Each year universities are required to report on the effectiveness and impact of initiatives delivered to LSES students using HEPPP funding. The Widening Participation Unit (WPU) coordinates this function to meet the University's commitment to the government.

WPU liaises with program leaders delivering HEPPP funded programs to ensure two reporting activities are completed:

- Mid-year financial update – to help programs remain on track to be delivered within budget in the calendar year
- End of year final financial and project reports – these detail program's full financial expenditure and review how programs were delivered and their impact

Once received, WPU compile the information into a single high-level government report that is signed by the VC and attests to the University's commitment to the national widening participation agenda.

WPU EVALUATION SUPPORT

WPU reporting focuses on understanding the holistic, overarching impact that programs have on LSES students. Based on this, our team can assist HEPPP funded program leaders with the following evaluations support:

- Survey design and review (for program leaders who manage the distribution and analysis of feedback for their own surveys)
- Design and distribution of online surveys which are delivered back to program leaders with an analysis of feedback
- End of year program focus groups

We are unable to offer evaluations on specific activities that are run within programs (or workshops).

CONTACT DETAILS

General Enquiries: wpu@mq.edu.au

WPU Finance Officer: Joy Hou joy.hou@mq.edu.au

WPU Senior Evaluations Officer: Carolina Morison
carolina.morison@mq.edu.au

FIND OUT MORE

Macquarie University NSW 2109 Australia
T: +61 (2) 9850 1933
wpu@mq.edu.au

ABN 90 952 801 237
CRICOS Provider 00002J

