2019 LEAP – Partnership Engagement Grant Scheme

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Pro Vice-Chancellor (Programs and Pathways) has allocated $200,000 for the 2019 LEAP – Partnership Engagement Grant Scheme, under the Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program (HEPPP). LEAP PEGS seeks to encourage initiatives that focus on undergraduate low – Socio Economic Status (SES) students by encouraging their entry to university or supporting their retention, success and completion.

WIDENING PARTICIPATION (WP)

The term widening participation is used around the world to describe initiatives that support students from groups that have long been under-represented in higher education.

As a university of service and engagement that aspires to be a destination of choice for students who share our values and who want to contribute towards a better world, widening participation is a core element of Macquarie’s strategic direction.

Through widening participation initiatives, the University demonstrates its strategic direction in action, via its commitment to inclusiveness, and to offering experiences that change the lives of students.

WORKING COLLABORATIVELY

The University’s Widening Participation Unit seeks to create opportunities for those who have previously been denied opportunity to access and participate in higher education. What matters is where a student finishes, not where they start.

With a strong focus on coordination and building enduring relationships with all stakeholders, we invite expressions of interest for the 2019 LEAP – Partnership Engagement Grant Scheme (PEGS).

Further to helping achieve a high level of student inclusiveness, the grant will also expand and enhance collaborative networks across the University.

EXAMPLES OF CURRENT PROJECTS

LEAP – Macquarie Mentoring (Refugee Mentoring) Program - A unique mentoring program for high school students of refugee background. The program encourages students to explore and navigate future education and career pathways, with the support of Macquarie University student mentor volunteers.

Create Your Future Program – Providing career exploration activities for first year University students from low – SES backgrounds to enable them to develop employability skills, while studying at Macquarie University. The program also supports final year students, from low –SES backgrounds, to assess their work-ready skills.

Macquarie Undergraduate Research Internship (MURI) - The MURI program provides undergraduate students from low SES backgrounds with the opportunity to design a project, or partake in an existing research project, under the guidance of a Macquarie University academic.

Special Broadcasting Service (SBS) and National Indigenous Television (NITV) Media Mentorship Program - A longitudinal program delivered in partnership with the Ethnic Communities’ Council of NSW and SBS, to provide media industry professional development opportunities for students from low – SES backgrounds and Non-English speaking backgrounds (NESB), and low- SES and Indigenous students.
HEPPP FUNDING

The 2019 LEAP – Partnership Engagement Grant Scheme is funded by the Australian Government’s Higher Education Participation and Partnerships Program (HEPPP). HEPPP funding is available for projects that offer innovative and targeted support for students from low – SES backgrounds, to promote their access and participation in higher education.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Staff interested in applying will first need to consult with their Head of Department /Unit to obtain endorsement
- Endorsed project ideas (1-page max) must submit an electronic expression of interest via email to sonal.singh@mq.edu.au by no later than 25th February, 2019
- Applicants will pitch their ideas (5 mins max) to a Widening Participation panel on March 6th, 2019.
- Panel supported applications will be asked to submit a full application, including itemised budget and project evaluation plan by March 15th, 2019.
- Project budget should be between $10,000 - $50,000
- Annual progress and financial reports will be required to meet Commonwealth HEPPP reporting requirements of the grant
- All funding given for the 2019 LEAP – Partnership Engagement Grant Scheme must be spent by December 2019.

WP 2019 PILOT PRIORITY AREAS

Listed below are areas of priority as identified the by HEPPP guidelines.

- Initiatives that can demonstrate positive influence upon the aspiration, engagement and preparedness of low – SES prospective students, who may not otherwise consider university as a viable choice;
- Initiatives that enhance the transition and retention of undergraduate low – SES students at Macquarie University; and
- Initiatives that enhance the success rate of undergraduate low – SES students at Macquarie University.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Expressions of Interest due February 25th, 2019
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FIND OUT MORE
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