

NSW Higher Education Strategy 2021-2025: Strategy on a page

Vision: NSW Government is partnering with universities and other higher education providers in bold and innovative ways to address social, economic and environmental challenges, both locally and globally.

Priority Areas	Develop and broaden post-school options to foster lifelong learning	Ensure wider participation in quality higher education	Drive job growth, skills and innovation	Strengthen collaborations to bolster research outcomes	Position NSW globally by reinvigorating and diversifying international education and engagement
Desired Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The higher education sector is delivering the education and training sought by the people, industries and economy of NSW. NSW Government, higher education, VET and industry partnerships are effectively addressing skills shortages, and providing seamless transitions and learning pathways for students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regardless of background, the people of NSW have access to quality post-school education There are sufficient Commonwealth-funded domestic student places to meet the needs of population growth areas, under-represented cohorts and skills gaps. Aboriginal peoples have a voice in all areas of the higher education sector and are actively involved in decision-making. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NSW Government partnering with universities to move towards the goals of the NSW 2040 Economic Blueprint The NSW Government is utilising the knowledge of the higher education sector to address emerging skill gaps and compete in a rapidly changing world. The NSW approach to building and supporting innovation precincts encourages the growth of start-ups and small and medium enterprises. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborations across higher education, industry and government are producing high-quality, interdisciplinary research to address major challenges for the State and the world. Universities are generating research that aligns with State priorities and the Accelerating Research and Development in NSW initiative. The NSW Government is investing in targeted research and development capabilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSW has a sustainable model for international education and engagement, which continues to be central to the State economy. Universities are engaging with diverse research institutions and international industry. NSW leads Australia as the preferred study destination for higher education.
Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Simplify procurement arrangements between NSW Government, universities and TAFE, for example through a pre-qualification scheme or preferred vendor list. Establish protocols to facilitate partnerships between higher education providers, VET (including TAFE) and industry. Support new educational models that combine higher education, VET and TAFE. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NSW Government will partner with universities to champion NSW higher education to the Commonwealth to ensure sufficient funded domestic student places in NSW. Develop and expand collaborative programs between education sectors to increase participation of under-represented regions and equity groups in higher education. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support reskilling and upskilling displaced workers in NSW. Support the higher education and VET sectors as key drivers of multi-sector precincts. Support initiatives and events to showcase or draw upon university expertise to address NSW Government priorities or challenges. Increase opportunities across government for work-integrated learning for university students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leverage the Public Policy Institute and Waratah Research, including the cross-government Network, to invest in collaborative research around government priorities. Review and simplify processes for university research procurement. Collaborate with universities to increase NSW's competitive advantage in accessing Commonwealth and other funding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise the international profile of NSW's higher education and research sector, by using its offshore presence and overseas delegations. Foster a collaborative approach to enhance the experience of international students across NSW. Promote the global contributions of NSW higher education providers beyond their educational offerings. Work in partnership to ensure the safe return of international students to NSW.
Key enablers across the whole Strategy					
Ensure the financial sustainability of the NSW higher education sector.	Adopt a collaborative, whole-of-government approach to engaging with the higher education sector.	Support and promote the work of higher education providers in their regions and communities.	Advocate to the Commonwealth to champion NSW's higher education priorities.	Leverage precincts to foster research collaborations, drive innovation, and link up the higher education sector with industry and governments.	Measure and report on progress towards the Strategy's desired outcomes.

