

# National Centre for Student Equity in Higher Education

Funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations  
Hosted by the University of South Australia

informing **student equity** policy and practice in Australian higher education

**"Ensuring that every Australian, no matter how wealthy or poor, has a fair chance to become a university graduate is one of the most important challenges for Australian universities."**

## NCSEHE objectives:

1. to **produce research and researchers** in the field of student equity in higher education
2. to **disseminate knowledge** about student equity, to researchers, practitioners and policy makers in the higher education sector
3. to **facilitate discussion and debate** on student equity matters among researchers, practitioners and policy makers
4. to **provide advice** to practitioners and policy makers in the field

## The stats

Indigenous people currently constitute 2.2% of the Australian population and yet comprise only 1.3% of all university students.

People from low socioeconomic backgrounds are three times less likely to enter university than those from high socioeconomic backgrounds.

25.4% of Australians live in rural and regional areas, but represent only 18.1% of university students

## Current projects:

- An investigation of Australian universities' **interventions early** in school to increase students' **later participation** in higher education (funded by DEEWR).
- An inquiry into what influences **regional and remote** students' **participation** in higher education (funded by the Thyne Reid Foundation).
- An online community and interactive access to quality resources (the **Student Equity Exchange**) for researchers, practitioners and policy makers in higher education (funded by DEEWR)

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University of South Australia  
GPO Box 2471 Adelaide  
South Australia 5001  
AUSTRALIA

Email: [lalita.mchenry@unisa.edu.au](mailto:lalita.mchenry@unisa.edu.au)  
Ph: +61 8 8302 4082; Fax: +61 8 8302 4848  
[www.unisa.edu.au/hawkeinstitute/nksehe/default.asp](http://www.unisa.edu.au/hawkeinstitute/nksehe/default.asp)