



Young Indigenous Women's STEM Academy

Frequently Asked Questions for students

How do I join the Academy?

- Log on to the website listed below, navigate to the 'Join the Academy' page, download and complete your application – you will need your parent or carer's permission before you apply. You will also need a scanned copy of your most recent school report.
- To be eligible to join the Academy you will need to be passing Maths, English and Science at school and attending school in one of the places listed on the website.

Why should I join the Academy?

- By joining the Academy, you will have the opportunity to be mentored by a dedicated CSIRO Academic Coordinator and undertake activities to help you work towards a career in the exciting field of STEM. You will receive support and resources throughout high school through to university and graduate employment. There is no cost to participate in the Academy.

What will I do in the Academy?

- The Academy will offer a range of activities including:
 - A STEM Camp for Year 8 students
 - An opportunity to participate in the Creativity in Research, Engineering, Science and Technology ([CREST](#)) Awards
 - A personalised plan that is tailored to your interests and goals
 - Access to STEM camps and activities throughout high school
 - Regular catchups with your Academic Coordinator or Student Advisor to make sure you're getting the support you need
 - Work placements in STEM organisations
 - Access to leadership programs
 - Regular online experiences where you will be able to talk to other students, Indigenous and non-Indigenous women working in STEM and students studying STEM at university
 - Help to make sure you have access to the resources you need to finish high school and university



Australian Government
National Indigenous Australians Agency

- Assistance to make decisions about school subjects and university courses

What will be expected of me if I join the Academy?

- Work hard at school and university
- Graduate Year 12 and consider a university degree
- Attend Academy events and activities
- Respond to emails and phone calls from Academy staff
- Provide information to Academy staff in a timely manner
- Treat your fellow Academy participants with respect and courtesy
- Let your Academic Coordinator or Student Advisor know if you need help
- Do your best to succeed

What if I fail maths or science in high school after joining the Academy?

- Your Academic Coordinator will work with you to get extra help

What about my family/carers? What do they need to do?

- Your family or carers will need to support you – this means helping you get to events or activities, providing information to your Academic Coordinator to help plan camps and other activities and attending any activities that they are invited to

Will my school know about the Academy?

- Yes, when you apply to join the Academy, we will ask you to give us the name of a teacher at your school that you would like to work with
- We will contact your school to let them know you are part of the Academy
- We will make sure that you don't miss any school to participate in Academy activities

What if I want to leave the Academy?

- You can leave the Academy at any time; however, you may not be able to re-join the program if you change your mind later

What if I don't want to go to University?

- The Academy is for young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women who are interested in going to university and studying or working in STEM
- If you are a part of the Academy, you will have the opportunity to see what it's like to go to University
- If you don't want to go to University, there are other programs available that Academy staff can give you information about

Will I get help at university?

- Yes, CareerTrackers are partners with CSIRO in the Academy program. When you start university a CareerTrackers Advisor will work with you and guide you through the program. You will be

provided with world-class training throughout your academic career and be connected with a global network of like-minded Indigenous professionals.

For more information or to apply:

Young Indigenous Women's STEM Academy

(07) 3833 5660 or yiwsa@csiro.au

<https://www.csiro.au/en/Education/Programs/Young-Indigenous-Womens-STEM-Academy>