



WEHI DeadlyScience Pathways

Expression of Interest

The WEHI DeadlyScience Pathways Program (DSPP) for 2024 is scheduled for 22-24 October 2024.

The Program invites Expressions of Interest from schools with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander secondary students in Years 9-10 to take part in a three-day biomedical immersive experience at WEHI (Walter and Eliza Hall Institute for Medical Research) in Melbourne.

The immersion experience will equip students with skills and insights in biomedical science, which can support pathways into healthcare and public health. Overall, the experience will provide Indigenous students with a range of tours, lab-based activities, and presentations from scientists and other WEHI and DeadlyScience staff to increase overall knowledge, awareness, engagement and understanding of pathways into science education and employment, as well as biomedical research practices and processes.

1. School or organisation contact person.
2. School or organisation you are representing.
3. Applicant school or organisation's primary website.
4. Current position held within the school or organisation.
5. Please provide your email Address.
6. Please supply your best contact number.
7. Why are you interested in participating in the WEHI DeadlyScience Pathways Program?

8. What is the number of potential students you would bring to the Program?
9. Can your school provide a supervising teacher from Oct 21-25?
10. Do you require any additional supports such as travel, accommodation, meals, etc.?
11. Please provide any further information you would like us to consider.

Expressions of Interest close 9 June 2024, please note places are limited. We will notify successful applicants by email and then continue to work with schools until the program launch date.

We thank all schools for their consideration and look forward to welcoming a new cohort of First Nations students in 2024.

Please see below for program FAQs. If you have any questions, please contact pathways@wehi.edu.au

FAQ's

Do schools have to attend all three days?

In planning and implementing the best program we would require schools to attend all three days. Interested schools should be aware that by committing to the program, they are committing to the full duration of the program. For schools who require interstate and regional travel, this may include the full week with Monday and Friday being allocated travel days.

Must students from each school participating be accompanied by a teacher?

We strongly encourage that school groups are accompanied by a teacher with a nationally recognised teaching accreditation. However, we understand that the WEHI DeadlyScience Pathways Program is also an invaluable opportunity for Indigenous Education Workers (IEW) (i.e., School Officers) to learn about First Nations science pathways and to connect on deeper levels with their students, and therefore we also encourage the participation of an IEW, and all accompanying staff members will be fully supported by WEHI. Students therefore must be supported by their accompanying staff member/s for the duration of the program, including outside program hours.

Are students required to have a high level of achievement in the area of science to attend?

This program is suited to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in Years 9-10, and while it is not a requirement that students are *high-achieving* or *high-performing* academically in the area of science, students with *high-engagement* and *high-interest* in science should be considered eligible to participate by their school leaders. It should be noted, that some activities will require a basic level of understanding of scientific concepts, but this will not be a barrier to broader participation in the Program.

Can WEHI support with relief teaching funds for participating schools?

We acknowledge that several schools within the DeadlyScience school community are located in regions and areas where relief teaching support can be a barrier to effective participation and teacher professional development. Therefore, we are happy to consider supporting schools in funding relief teaching positions so that teachers may attend the full Program and support their students appropriately. Please indicate if this is something that your school would like to discuss in further detail by contacting the Program Manager.

Does this Program align with the Australian curriculum?

While the Program has not been designed in correspondence with ACARA, several elements of the Program will elaborate on scientific concepts that may support teachers in meeting the achievement standards within the science curriculum. However, the WEHI DeadlyScience Pathways Program is primarily designed as a practical immersive experience to increase engagement and participation in the area of biomedical science, and to enhance student understandings regarding potential employment and education-related pathways and to support the next generation of First Nations scientists.

How will schools' information be handled?

Any information collected through the EOI process will be handled in accordance WEHI's Privacy Policy. As an institute, we are committed to protecting privacy and personal

information in accordance with state policies and national legislation. We also acknowledge the historical misuse and mistreatment of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander personal information and cultural knowledges by outside organisations in the past and seek to do our part to upholding Indigenous peoples' rights to Data Sovereignty, dignity and integrity, including promotion of full ownership and control over their own personal and cultural information collected by WEHI. Please contact us if you have any concerns or questions regarding the recording and collection of personal information.

What happens after I submit the Expressions of Interest form?

Once applications are received, we will assess them based on suitability. We will consider the location of the school, ICSEA rating, feasibility, and overall impact. EOIs will remain open to all secondary schools until **Sunday 9 June 2024**. Schools will be notified of their successful application via email by Sunday 31 July 2024.

If you have any further questions or queries, please contact us at pathways@wehi.edu.au