ABOUT THE IPROWD PROGRAM

IPROWD started in Dubbo in 2008, as an initiative between TAFE Western and the NSW Police Western Region command.

The aim of the IPROWD program is to provide opportunities for Aboriginal people to gain the skills and confidence to succeed in joining the NSW Police Force.

The success of the initial IPROWD programs, conducted in 2008/2009, resulted in a 2 year partnership with the Australian Government, the NSW Police Force and TAFE NSW to provide IPROWD courses across NSW.

The state-wide IPROWD project was launched in November 2010 and 9 IPROWD teams were formed, consisting of staff from TAFE NSW Institutes and the NSW Police Force. 9 IPROWD Courses were delivered in Casino, Dubbo, Macquarie Fields, Maitland, Mount Druitt, Nowra, Orange, Redfern and Tamworth in 2010/2011 with 119 student commencements.

In February 2012, 86 students commenced the IPROWD program in 7 locations across NSW – Broken Hill, Dubbo, Maitland, Mount Druitt, Nowra, Redfern and Tamworth. Three additional courses are due to start later in 2012.

A SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIP

IPROWD is an excellent example of a collaborative and effective partnership between the NSW Government, through the NSW Police Force – and TAFE NSW and the Australian Government, through the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

Other agencies such as the NSW Aboriginal Housing Office and Charles Sturt University also play an active role in supporting the project. These partnerships are a key part of the success of the IPROWD program.

The Hon Julie Collins MP – Minister for Indigenous Employment and Economic Development

“IPROWD is an innovative partnership between the Federal Government, TAFE NSW and the NSW Police Force, aimed at creating employment opportunities for Indigenous Australians in the NSW Police Force. The Gillard Government has shown its commitment to Indigenous Australians and IPROWD by investing $2.9 million in the program. IPROWD has already helped Indigenous Australians from all over NSW develop the skills and academic qualifications needed for a career in the NSW Police Force.”

Pam Christie – Deputy Director-General, TAFE and Community Education

“TAFE NSW is proud to be a part of this important initiative to provide pathways for Aboriginal people to enter careers in the NSW Police Force. We value the opportunity to work with our partners in this initiative and we are committed to continuing to work with Aboriginal communities to build on its success in the future.”

Catherine Burn – Deputy Commissioner NSW Police Force

“The IPROWD program has proven to be highly successful, with a large number of students planning to submit an application to the NSW Police College, in Goulburn, for the January, May and August 2012 Intake. As an organisation, the NSW Police Force aims to reflect the community we represent and the IPROWD program is a way to assist potential Indigenous recruits reach their goal of joining the NSW Police Force.”
SUCCESSFUL OUTCOMES FOR THE IPROWD STUDENTS

The IPROWD program is very focused on ensuring all students can achieve their goals and current outcomes include:

- 9 IPROWD courses were delivered in 2010/2011 and 7 new courses have commenced in 2012, a further 3 courses are to start later in 2012
- 119 students have commenced IPROWD courses in 2010/2011 and 86 students have commenced the first of their 2012 courses
- 104 students successfully completed the Certificate III in Vocational and Study Pathways which gained students academic entry to Charles Sturt University for the Associate Degree in Policing Studies
- 60% of students who complete the IPROWD course are progressing with applications to join the NSW Police Force
- 17 students will have commenced at the NSW Police College, at Goulburn, by Monday 16th January
- 20 students are progressing with applications to the NSW Police Academy, aiming for the May 2012 intake
- 16 students are progressing with applications to NSW Police College, at Goulburn, aiming for the August 2012 Intake
- 1 student graduated from NSW Police College and commenced employment on Monday 19th December as a Probationary Constable
- 2 students are currently in Session 2 of the Associate Degree in Policing Studies at the NSW Police College and will be graduating in May 2012
- 39 students have gained part-time or full-time employment since completing the IPROWD program
- 6 students have completed other higher level national qualifications with TAFE NSW since completing the IPROWD program
- 2 students have progressed to other tertiary courses at University
- On completing the IPROWD program all students are provided with intensive support to gain employment or progress with applications to the NSW Police College
- 86 students have commenced the 2012 courses being held in Broken Hill, Dubbo, Maitland, Mount Druitt, Nowra, Tamworth and Redfern

Image Left: Chelsi Rolton – at the Attestation Parade on 16 December – now employed as a Probationary Constable in the NSW Police Force

Image Right: Dakoda Bradford, Gary Pereira and Brent Hignett – 3 of the 14 IPROWD Students who commenced at the NSW Police Academy in January 2012. These students were part of the Orange IPROWD class which graduated September 2011
IPROWD GRADUATIONS

9 IPROWD courses were conducted in 2010/2011 and graduations were held to celebrate the students’ success.
BUILDING CAPACITY TO DELIVER IPROWD IN NSW

The IPROWD program is now being offered in a range of locations across NSW to ensure accessibility for Aboriginal people. TAFE NSW Institutes and the NSW Police Local Area Commands have built strong teams in all locations and the support from the Aboriginal community has been outstanding.

Planning has now commenced to build a long-term, sustainable funding model for delivery of IPROWD until 2015. It is also hoped that the IPROWD program may expand, in the future, to include a school-based traineeship program for Aboriginal school students across NSW.

SUPPORT FOR IPROWD STUDENTS

One of the strengths of the IPROWD program is the flexible, creative and individualised support provided to each student, to assist them to reach their goals of joining the NSW Police Force.

Examples of support provided to IPROWD students in 2010/2011 include:

- 39 students from regional and remote communities, who needed to travel long distances to attend the IPROWD program, were supported with accommodation through partnerships with the NSW Aboriginal Housing Office, the IyMP program and Charles Sturt University
- 70 students received financial assistance to cover the medical costs associated with applying to the NSW Police Force
- 12 students have received financial assistance to undertake and complete driving lessons and gain their Drivers Licences
- 25 students from regional and remote locations received financial assistance to cover the travel costs associated with travelling to Sydney, for testing procedures, to join the NSW Police Force
- 35 students attended the Indigenous Leadership Program in December 2011 with funding provided by FACHSIA
- 115 Students were supported to participate in a one-week residential field trip to the NSW Police College in Goulburn
- All students were provided with 26 weeks post-course support and mentoring, after the completion of the IPROWD program, to assist them to gain employment and to complete applications for joining the NSW Police Force College

For more information about IPROWD
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Applications for 2013 courses commence from July 2012