



**Aboriginal
Health Council
of Western Australia**

Birak 2026

AHCWA Newsletter



January on Whadjuk Noongar Boodja, the land AHCWA operates from, means Birak; the Season of the Young, characterised by long hot days, and afternoon sea breezes. Here's some of what we're up to to kick off the year:

**Partner with AHCWA for the 2026
WA Aboriginal Community Controlled
Health Sector Conference**



AHCWA's flagship WA ACCHS Conference 2026 is just around the corner, happening from Monday, 18 – Thursday, 21 May at the Pan Pacific Perth. Bringing together 300+ exhibitors, presenters, and delegates, the Conference shares insights, showcases programs and exchanges ideas that advance the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal people across the state.

We invite your organisation to grow in strength with us by supporting these transformative events:

WA Aboriginal Youth Conference: Monday, 18 May 2026

AHCWA Members Forum: Tuesday, 19 May 2026

WA ACCHS Conference: Wednesday, 20 and Thursday, 21 May 2026

[Download the WA ACCHS prospectus here to find out more about partnering with AHCWA](#)

[Register your interest as a 2026 Conference Sponsor / Exhibitor here](#)



Support the Ngalla Bidi Bursary Fund in 2026



AHCWA has launched a bursary to empower WA Indigenous medical students through connection with culture. The Ngalla Bidi Bursary Fund was launched in 2024 by AHCWA as part of its work to increase the number of Aboriginal doctors delivering healthcare to Aboriginal people in the state.

The Bursary aims to send Aboriginal medical students to the Pacific Region Indigenous Doctors Congress in Taiwan in December 2026. This Indigenous-led space fosters knowledge sharing, mentorship and community for Aboriginal medical students, and seeks to increase culturally safe healthcare for Aboriginal people in WA.

The benefit that attending PRIDoC has for Aboriginal medical students ripples into benefits for Aboriginal patients and communities. The Bursary offers recipients a life-changing opportunity to attend PRIDoC and embrace global Aboriginal cultures and the spirit of connection, form lifelong friendships, and empower each other through shared learning and experiences of Aboriginal medicine.

Statistics reveal a scarcity of Aboriginal doctors, with fewer than 600 practising nationwide and 4,000 Aboriginal doctors required to reach population parity. PRIDoC provides a supportive space for the Indigenous faculty to unite, foster community and develop skills to navigate an academic career successfully. We hope this Bursary will help improve care and outcomes and ultimately increase culturally safe healthcare for Aboriginal people in Western Australia.

Donations to the Ngalla Bidi Bursary Fund will give more Western Australian Aboriginal medical students the opportunity to experience PRIDoC in 2026.

Click [here](#) to find out more and make a difference by donating today.

New Workforce Development and Training Capacity Announced for 2026



The Aboriginal Health Council of Western Australia and the Council of Aboriginal Services Western Australia will grow in 2026 to encompass new workforce development and training functions, adding new positions and key work in a first of its kind government agreement to develop skilled

sector workforces and increase capacity for WA's Aboriginal Community Controlled training sector.

Read more [here](#).

Thank you to our 2026 State Sector Conference Platinum Sponsor

We are proud to recognise the **Aboriginal Health Policy Directorate | WA Department of Health** as a Platinum Sponsor of this year's conference.

Their commitment to our Sector helps us bring together the brightest minds and boldest ideas, and facilitate the most impactful conversations. Thank you, WA Department of Health, for your leadership and dedication to advancing the work that we do.



Department of
Health

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To Find Out More](#)

Employment Opportunities at AHCWA

AHCWA is currently advertising for new positions, including:

- [Graphic Designer \(50 D\)](#)

Find the full list of AHCWA's current vacancies [here](#).

AHCWA Courses and Training Programs

Actively responding to the needs of our Member Services, AHCWA offers a series of courses and training opportunities.

The following courses and training opportunities are currently available:

- [Ear Health Training](#)
- [Immunisation Training](#)
- [The Birds and the BBVs](#)
- [Young Leaders Training](#)
- [Eldercare Support Program](#)

Call **(08) 9227 1631** to book or click [here](#) to find out more.

Compliments & Suggestions

Do you have feedback you'd like to share with us? Compliments, suggestions, and complaints can be submitted directly to our Quality and Compliance Officer [here](#), or through the feedback tab on the contact section of our website [here](#).

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450 Beaufort, Highgate, Western Australia 6003

Ph: (08) 9227 1631 | Fax: (08) 9228 1099

www.ahcwa.org.au



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