Indigenous Enriched Support Program

General Information
The Indigenous Enriched Support Program (IESP) is designed for First Nations (status & non-status), Métis, and Inuit learners who wish to pursue post-secondary education. Students attend three credits with regularly-admitted students and are graded according to the same standards, while benefiting from a supportive environment of peer mentors, academic coaches, academic advising, and personalized seminars. Upon completion of the program, students will qualify and be supported in the process of applying for a degree program.

The Indigenous Enriched Support Program is ideal for students who do not meet the full criteria for a degree program, are unsure about what program they wish to pursue, who are returning to school after some time away, or are simply looking for additional support during the transition to post-secondary education.

All currently registered and prospective IESP students (see Student Classification, below) should contact the CII for application and registration information.

Admission to the IESP
Students wishing to apply for admission to the IESP should contact the CII directly. For details and an application form, visit carleton.ca/indigenous/cii/iesp/registration/.

IESP Student Classification
IESP students fall under the Special Student designation at Carleton University. Special students are those who have not been admitted to a degree program but who are taking degree-credit courses to qualify for admission.

IESP Students
Under the Special Student designation, IESP students enrol in the same courses and meet the same course requirements as students in degree programs. IESP students choose their credits from a specific selection of IESP-supported courses.

Registrarial services for IESP students are provided by the Centre for Indigenous Initiatives and the Registrar’s Office. IESP students are also encouraged to consult the appropriate Faculty regulations for information about degree programs they intend to apply for upon successful completion of the IESP.

Proficiency in English
Since the instructional language of the University is English, applicants to the IESP must be able to understand and be understood in both written and oral English. See Section 4, English Language Proficiency in the General Admissions Requirements and Procedures for the statement of policy governing applicants whose first language is not English.

Course Load and Course Selection
Normally, IESP students may enrol in a maximum of 3.0 credits per academic session (fall/winter) and no more than the equivalent of 1.5 credits (e.g. three half-credit courses) in any one term. Course selection is limited to IESP-designated courses, many of which emphasize reading and writing skills, and are selected in consultation with an IESP academic advisor. For two of these courses, students also attend regular weekly small-group seminars, where they are given extra support and guidance in dealing with the course material. These seminars are designed to develop the skills and strategies necessary for university-level critical thinking, analysis, reading, and writing.

Students wishing to be admitted to a degree upon completion of the IESP are advised to note the specific Faculty requirements for course selection and the admission requirements as they are listed in this Calendar. Individuals seeking admission who need further information should inquire at Admissions Services or consult an IESP academic advisor.

Course Change and Course Withdrawal
Students must contact an IESP academic advisor for assistance with course changes and withdrawals.

Deferred Final Examinations
Please consult Section 4.3 of the Academic Regulations of the University in this Calendar.

Financial Assistance
IESP students interested in obtaining financial assistance are advised to contact the Student Awards Office at carleton.ca/awards.

Admission to a Degree Program upon Completion of IESP
IESP students are subject to the same admission requirements as Special Students. These requirements are outlined in Section 15, Special Studies (Non-Degree) in the General Admission Requirements and Procedures.