

ACDE AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF DEANS OF EDUCATION INC.

Strategic Plan 2025 - 2027

The Australian Council of Deans of Education (ACDE) was founded in 1991 as the peak body representing universities and some private colleges that offer initial teacher education degrees across all sectors of education - from early childhood and schooling through to vocational, adult and community education, post-graduate study, education research and teacher professional learning.

Our Ethical Foundations

- *We acknowledge the histories, cultures and continuing connection to Country of First Nations peoples and are committed to engagement with Traditional Owners across all areas of our work.*
- *We manage resources transparently and responsibly, ensuring that all spending supports our strategic priorities and delivers clear value to members.*
- *We seek collaborations with aligned organisations to support impactful and meaningful research and advocacy.*
- *We uphold our responsibility to foster equity, inclusion and justice in everything we do.*

Our Commitment to Quality Governance

- *We are committed to transparent and responsible governance across all ACDE activities.*
- *We uphold strong processes for Board oversight of strategy, risk, finance and legal compliance.*
- *We maintain governance processes consistent with best practice operations of national associations, peak bodies and higher education networks.*
- *We seek and respect the guidance of First Nations people to inform our work.*

1 Champion Teacher Education and the Teaching Profession

Our Aim

- A positive and informed public perception of teaching and teacher education.
- Stronger support for pre-service teachers from enrolment through to employment.
- Continuous improvement in the quality of teacher education programs.
- A more diverse, representative and supported teaching workforce.

Our Work

- Contribute to national efforts to improve initial teacher education standards and enhance the experiences of pre-service teachers through preparation and transition into the profession.
- Advocate for refinements to national standards, accreditation processes and core curricula.
- Develop mechanisms to amplify the voices of Deans of Education as expert commentators.
- Undertake targeted communication with media, public and government to promote a positive narrative about teaching and teacher education.

3 Promote Research that Shapes Education Policy and Practice

Our Aim

- Enhanced national and international reputation of Australian education research.
- Increased use of evidence in education policy-making and debate.
- Broader recognition of diverse research methodologies and perspectives in education.
- Visible alignment between policy needs and research outputs.

Our Work

- Collaborate with leading education research organisations to support, direct and lead high-quality research that informs policy and practice.
- Commission systematic reviews aligned with emerging priorities in education.
- Produce discussion papers, opinion pieces and research summaries as part of a broader media and advocacy strategy.
- Support dissemination and translation of research into policy and professional contexts.

2 Influence Education Policy through National Engagement

Our Aim

- Constructive and sustained engagement with governments and policy influencers.
- ACDE members actively shaping national education reforms and frameworks.
- Increased representation of Deans and ACDE affiliates on panels, advisory boards and national initiatives.
- Greater recognition of ACDE as a national thought leader in education.

Our Work

- Operate as a trusted conduit between government, universities, industry, research bodies and Indigenous leaders.
- Strengthen relationships with key stakeholders and policymakers.
- Increase visibility and influence of Deans of Education in public and policy discussions.
- Host forums and events to engage with policy agendas and share sector insights.

4 Strengthen Leadership and Member Collaboration

Our Aim

- A well-supported and connected community of education leaders.
- Increased collaboration and innovation across ACDE's networks.
- Strong strategic leadership capacity within member institutions.
- A vibrant and forward-thinking association that is responsive to sector needs.

Our Work

- Strengthen national collaboration by linking expertise and shared initiatives.
- Build strong communities of practice across ACDE's Networks.
- Foster connections and support for new Deans of Education through collegial forums and shared knowledge.
- Recognise and share excellence in education leadership, research, teaching and external engagement.