



Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of Transport



**DRIVING**  
ACCESS & EQUITY PROGRAM

# Driving Access and Equity Program

## *First year evaluation - highlights summary*



# Driving Access and Equity Program - first year data

**\$3.5 million** →

Grant agreements signed May 2022

## 12 grant organisations

Ashburton Aboriginal Corporation, Bloodwood Tree Association Inc, Kullarri Regional Communities Indigenous Corporation, Mowanjum Aboriginal Corporation, Nirrumbuk Aboriginal Corporation, Ngarliyarndu Bindirri Aboriginal Corporation, Robe River Kuruma Aboriginal Corporation, Shire of East Pilbara, WA PCYC Broome, Winun Ngari Aboriginal Corporation, Wunan Foundation and Youth Involvement Council.

**46 SERVICE LOCATIONS** across the Kimberley and Pilbara regions

## Goals and targets until May 2023:

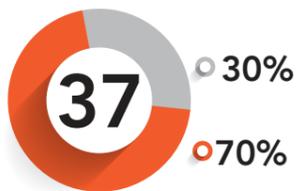
### Assist 1000 people to navigate the licensing process

	number	% towards goal
Organisation reported currently assisting	1320	132%
Department of Transport validated participants	1088	109%

### Issue 500 driver's licences, 650 learner's permits

	number	% towards goal
Driver's licences issued	243	49%
Learner's permits issued	409	63%
Supervised/instructed driving hours	4034	-

## Driving Instructors

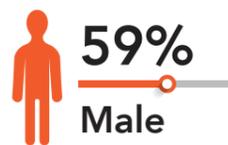
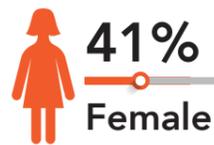


Out of 37 people trained to become driving instructors, 26 instructor licences have been issued resulting in a 70% conversion rate.

## 22 cars purchased as requested



September 2022

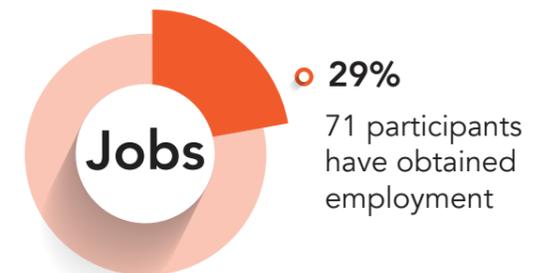
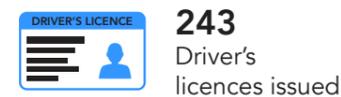
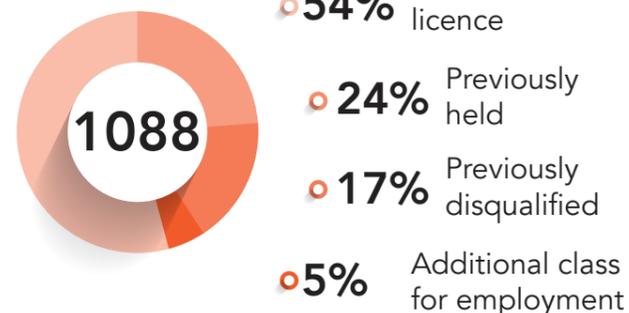
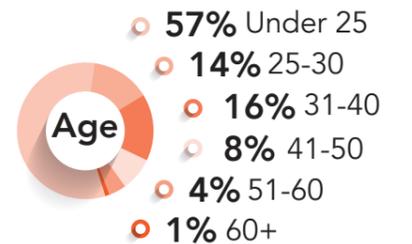


**4034**  
supervised and professional driving hours conducted

**1320**  
total participants reported by organisations

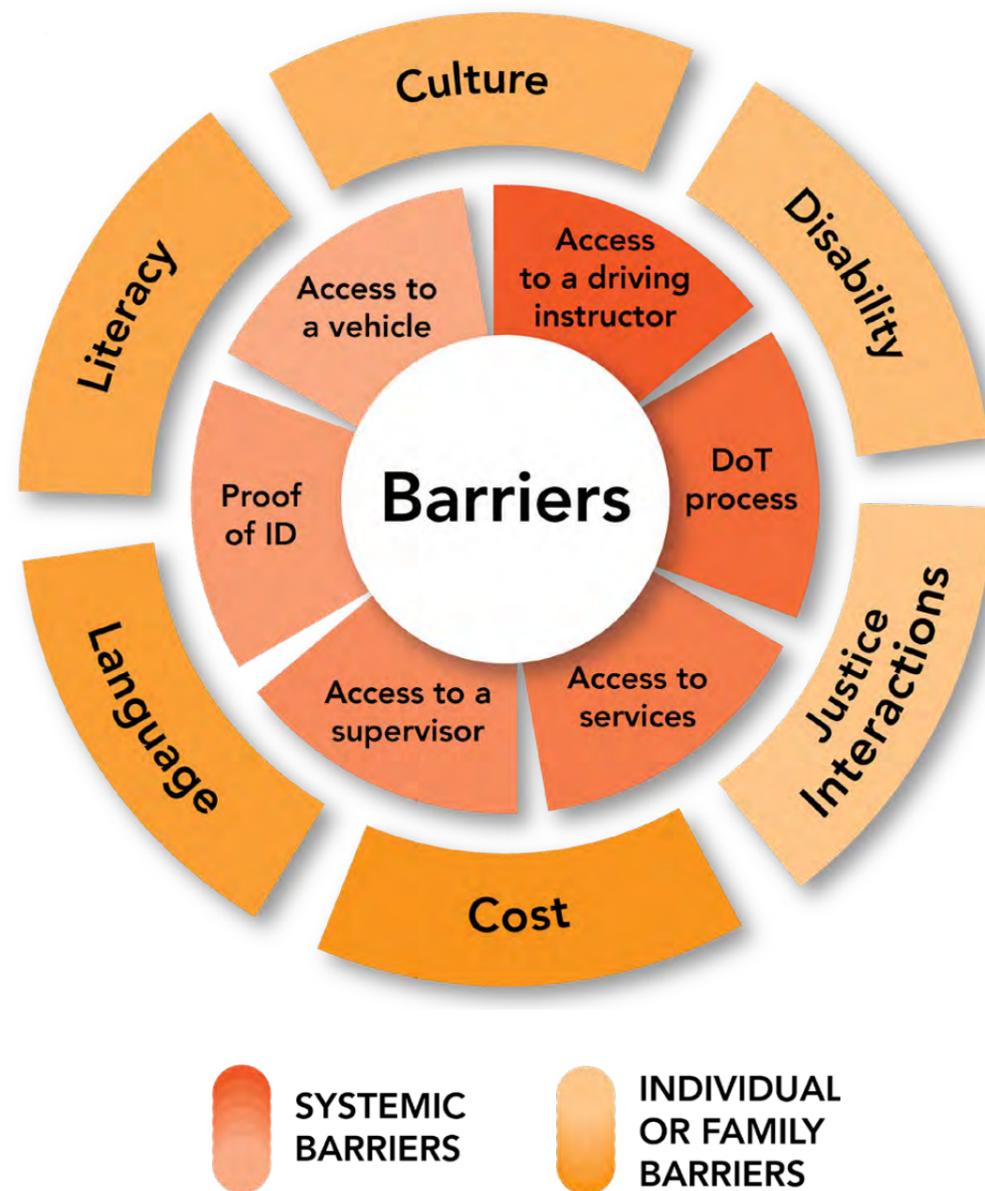
**1088** →  
participants validated in Transport database

## Participant data



# Barriers

The Department of Transport (DoT) identified and, through extensive consultation, confirmed the barriers some people may face and need to overcome when attempting to obtain a driver's licence.



# Process

WA uses a Graduated Driver Training and Licensing (GDT&L) system. The GDT&L requires all first time applicants to complete the following stages to obtain a driver's licence.



# Evaluation

A comprehensive evaluation has been undertaken by DoT to assess the success and outcomes of the first year of delivering the Driving Access and Equity Program (DAEP) to disadvantaged learner drivers in the Kimberley and Pilbara regions.

## Key findings from the evaluation include:

- DAEP participant engagement rates and overwhelmingly positive response from participants, providers and stakeholders suggest it is addressing very real social issues and impacting positively on individuals engaged, as well as their broader social networks.
- DAEP is strongly contributing to its objectives of helping disadvantaged people become safe and employable drivers by supporting them to enter and participate in the licensing process and exit with a driver's licence.
- DAEP addresses the high concentration of disadvantaged learner drivers in regions where remoteness and limited access to licensed vehicles and driving supervisors is a known barrier.

## Key elements of DAEP's approach were identified as crucial to its success, including:

- DAEP's design provides a unique ability to: respond to participants' needs; work with participants to overcome many of their challenges; sustain their engagement; and, thereby, realise the goal of obtaining a driver's licence.
- The case management approach to supporting participants throughout their driver's licence journey; and
- The funding of local organisations to design and deliver the driver's licence programs which avoids a 'one size fits all' approach and leads to both targeted and more holistic outcomes.

# Benefits

## The following program benefits were identified:

### Short-term benefits

- Participants developing confidence and strengthened self-esteem and self-belief.
- Participants developing the belief that they can work towards a range of other goals that they once thought were not achievable.
- Flow-on effects into other programs and aspects of people's lives that are important enablers of a range of outcomes and benefits.
- Potential for long-term intergenerational and transformational impacts due to increased mobility and independence and associated positive economic and social participation outcomes.

### Wider benefits and outcomes

- Creation of career pathways for licensed drivers in the transport and logistics sector that would otherwise not be available.
- Diversion from justice system-related areas through fines for driving without a licence, including applications for spent convictions where possible.
- Improved access to employment and social assistance programs as DAEP grant organisations are often able to provide additional services to participants when rapport has been established.
- Ability to obtain, often for the first time, identification documents, including a birth certification through registration of birth.
- Improvement in driver personal safety, by not being reliant on others for mobility.

# Stories of change

“

## Kullarri Regional Communities Indigenous Corporation

“A young mum was very shy and had barriers in literacy, language and numeracy and was very unsure about getting in a car to do supervised training, but she really wanted her licence as this was going to help her get around, build independence and she had also signed up for a study course to help her with her learning difficulties.

“She started driving supervision with our female staff member and her first session was very shaky and difficult for her, but with some encouragement she did a few more sessions on the same week.

“This helped her gain confidence and want to do the sessions regularly.”

”

## Nirrumbuk Aboriginal Corporation

Leilani successfully gained her P plates after failing her first practical driving assessment (PDA), which she arranged on her own. Leilani decided to sign up for driver training program through Nirrumbuk Aboriginal Corporation, to gain the support she needed to ensure she was successful on her second attempt.

“With the assistance and support provided by the driving instructors, this has given me a greater confidence to have a second attempt at completing the PDA,” said Leilani.

“As a young mum, I am able to take my kids to school and for outings and be able to drive to work.”



## Western Australia Police and Community Youth Centres Broome

“I never thought I would be able to get my licence. Especially not manual,” said David.

“I’m so happy I didn’t give up on myself and kept trying.

“I look forward to helping my dad out by giving lifts for my family.”

## Robe River Kuruma Aboriginal Corporation

“Thank you so much Faime, you’ve done so much for me.

“All I needed was someone to say I’m coming to pick you up and get me motivated. I’ve had my learner’s for six years!

“It’s so weird I feel more independent already, I feel like a better person, a proper Aussie citizen. This is great. It’s crazy I woke up this morning, and was like; I can’t do this, I was so nervous. I still can’t believe this!

“If Pilbara RYDE wasn’t around, I’d just keep driving around until I was picked up.”

- Program participant





**DRIVING**  
ACCESS & EQUITY PROGRAM