# LET THE JOURNEY BEGIN!

Being able to drive is something that many of us take for granted, but for some getting a licence is fraught with multiple barriers...



**Provider Name**ACE Community Colleges

## Contact

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## Program

Part qualification in FSK

#### **Target Group**

ATSI, Low Income/Commonwealth welfare recipient

#### **Details**

2hr per week x 8 weeks

Active learning strategies

**Key points of difference**Detailed enrolment interview,
Community Liaison Officer,
Culturally sensitive,





Simon, an Aboriginal man in Northern NSW, is in his 40s, married with 3 children and is the career for his 60 year old uncle. Simon and his family live 23kms from town with limited public transport, so not having a licence meant he could not take his uncle for critical medical checks.

The Learner Driver Knowledge Test Program has been running for over 10 years and is now funded under CSO funding. Students do 2 hours per week over 8 weeks to achieve a part qualification in Foundation Skills focused on communication skills and reading skills contextualized to the learner driver handbook.

The program has a high success rate in achieving the goal of getting the Learner Driver's Licence, students then go on to accruing their practical driving hours and doing the Driver's Licence Test.

On completion of the program some students have gone on to further training and others are referred back to the Job Active provider with enhanced employment options.

Perhaps a better measure of success is to consider personal achievements and outcomes for the wider community and family of the learner. Having a licence enables the learner to provide support and take on roles of responsibility within their community. It is truly the start of a journey with endless possibilities.

Students are referred from a variety of services including Job Active providers, Court orders, Aboriginal Justice Circles, Land Councils and Disability service providers.

The college employs a Community Liaison Officer and an Aboriginal Driving Instructor. The LLN trainers and college staff are culturally aware and respectful and each student starts with an interview with the LLN trainer to establish their individual needs.

The course is fun, active and engaging involving lots of group discussion and games to address communication skills and numeracy skills such measuring and estimating distances.

The trainer is sensitive to the fact that many of the students have had poor previous experience of schooling and ensures there is no shaming in the group.

**Photo (Left):** Simon and Fred at the Learner Driver Knowledge Test

This training is subsidised by the NSW Government.