STEPS

Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP)

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2025



STEPS clients and team enjoy NAIDOC Week celebrations

STEPS celebrates community and culture for NAIDOC Week

STEPS marked NAIDOC Week 2025 with heartfelt and community-driven celebrations. This year's theme, "*The Next Generation: Strength, Vision, Legacy*", inspired reflection and connection across our STEPS sites.

In Palmerston, our team and clients partnered with *Helping People Achieve* and *Life Without Barriers* for a relaxed afternoon at the Harvest Corner Community Garden. They enjoyed a BBQ lunch, basket weaving, pot painting and planting mini gardens.

For many STEPS clients, it was their first time at a NAIDOC event, and the joy on their faces said it all as they enjoyed cultural performances, games, and conversations with local Elders.

NAIDOC Week is a celebration of community, culture, and the strength in shared stories and wisdom. We are proud to embrace these values every day at STEPS, recognising and honouring the cultural backgrounds of our clients and team members.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the 2025 NAIDOC Week celebrations!

AMEP
Adult Migrant English Program
An Australian Government Initiative

Ready for Work helps new migrants like Tina enter the workforce

Tina joined STEPS Casuarina through the Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) with the goal of improving her English language skills and connecting with her new community. With her dedicated and warm, friendly nature, she quickly impressed both her teachers and peers.

Ready to take the next step towards her goals, Tina enrolled in the Ready for Work SLPET (Settlement Language Pathways to Employment and Training) Program. Ready for Work helps migrants and refugees develop their confidence and English language skills and access real work opportunities.

As part of her Ready for Work journey, STEPS assisted Tina with finding and organising a 40-hour placement with Wizard Pharmacy in Casuarina. She approached every shift with enthusiasm and quickly became a valued member of the team.

Recognising her commitment and customer service skills, Wizard Pharmacy offered Tina permanent part-time employment.

For Jamie Lewis, the STEPS Community Development Officer in Casuarina, Tina's success is a shining example of what's possible when education, opportunity and community come together.



Tina in uniform for her new job

"This is what our programs are all about," Jamie said. "Helping people feel empowered and confident. Tina's story shows just how much can change when someone is given the right support and when they believe in themselves."

Congratulations, Tina! The STEPS Casuarina team is proud of you and can't wait to see where this job takes you.

The next Ready for Work Program begins 29 September. Give our friendly team a call on 1300 131 965 for more information on how to apply.

Get Ready for Work with STEPS AMEP

If you've attended our AMEP Program in the last 12 months and you're looking for employment, Ready for Work is for you!

This short and free full-time course will help you:

- Write a resume and job application
- Prepare for job interviews
- Learn the language used in Australian workplaces
- Understand workplace health and safety rules

Plus, you'll get 2-3 weeks of local work experience!

As part of the Settlement Language Pathways to Employment and Training (SLPET) subprogram, the Ready for Work course collaborates with real employers in your community to prepare you for the Australian workplace and give you the skills you need for a successful job search.

Our friendly team is here to help you get started! Reach out to us today and apply.

training@stepsgroup.com.au | 1300 131 965



Amila

Teacher profile

What do you teach AMEP clients?

I teach English language classes and I also teach digital literacy to support our clients' everyday communication and confidence.

What do your clients teach you?

Over the past seven and a half years, I've had the privilege of teaching clients from a wide range of cultural and educational backgrounds, from people who have never been to school to those with PhDs.

Every client brings something unique. Their courage, resilience, and generosity inspire me every day and as a migrant myself, I feel a deep sense of connection and gratitude to share this journey with them.

What has been a highlight?

Client success stories are always a highlight. One of my clients, Karima, started in a Level 1 English language class and is now working in childcare while studying. Seeing them gain confidence and enter the workforce is incredibly rewarding.

What is the most valuable thing you've learned?

Patience, empathy and creativity. Every client is different, and I've learned how to adapt my teaching to meet their diverse needs while creating a safe and encouraging space for learning and making mistakes.

What makes STEPS AMEP special?

STEPS AMEP goes beyond language learning. It's a supportive and inclusive space where clients connect with community services, access helpful resources and build beautiful friendships. The team is diverse, caring and committed to helping our clients feel welcomed and empowered.

What advice would you give to someone thinking about joining STEPS AMEP?

STEPS AMEP is more than an English class. It's a place where you'll find confidence, support and community. You'll find opportunities to grow and thrive in your new life in Australia, and there's nowhere I'd rather be spending my days than here with my team and clients.

Ferishta finds a fresh start in Alice Springs

When Ferishta and her young daughter arrived in Australia in late 2024, it marked the beginning of a safer and more hopeful chapter.

After years of uncertainty in her home country and long periods spent apart from her husband, who had been living in Australia, her family is now joyfully reunited in Alice Springs.

Australia has offered Ferishta more than just security. With renewed confidence, she is pursuing an education through the Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) and setting her sights on starting her own food business, hoping to share the flavours of her homeland with her new community.



Ferishta making pancakes in class

As part of her learning journey, Ferishta recently tried something completely new: pancakes!

Having never heard of or tasted them before, she was excited to give the classic Aussie breakfast a try and she ended up loving it. It's a sweet reminder that even the smallest experiences can become special milestones in a fresh start.

We're proud of Ferishta's strength and the Alice Springs team is excited to continue supporting her and her goals.

STEPS

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Learn English for free with STEPS AMEP

Are you new to Australia and want to improve your English language skills?

The Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) at STEPS offers unlimited hours of free English lessons to eligible migrants and humanitarian entrants.

You'll learn how to use English in everyday situations, like going to the doctor, using public transport, or applying for jobs. You'll also learn about Australian culture, values and systems while connecting with your community and gaining confidence.

Topics include:

- Life skills, culture, family and friends
- Health and safety
- Managing money and banking
- Public transport and driving
- The childcare and education system
- Medical services
- Australian laws

With flexible class times and access to additional supports like one-on-one home tutoring, STEPS AMEP is designed to fit around your life and support your goals.

Free childcare is available for children under school age during your class times, so you can focus on your learning with peace of mind.

Get started today! Contact us to check your eligibility and take the first step toward your future.

STEPS AMEP LOCATIONS

Alice Springs
16 Hartley Street
08 8950 7600

Casuarina
13-18 Scaturchio Street
08 8925 5600

Palmerston
14 Palmerston Circuit
08 7922 7500

Contact us

1300 131 965
training@stepsgroup.com.au
stepsgroup.com.au/AMEP

Scan for more information and to apply

STEP into a world of opportunity

The Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) is funded by the Australian Government Department of Home Affairs.