

AHO Eligibility for Services Statutory Declaration form



**Aboriginal
Housing
Office**



The purpose of this form:

This form is to be used as a last option for applicants who can demonstrate that they have attempted to obtain Confirmation of Aboriginality from either a Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC), Registered Aboriginal Organisation (RAO), Stolen Generations Organisation (SGO), or Torres Strait Islander Organisation (TSIO) and have been unsuccessful. Applicants will need to prove why they have been unsuccessful and what steps they will be taking to resolve the matter.

Evidence requirement table:

You will need to supply the below documents to support your application. Please refer to the AHO Eligibility for Services policy and guidelines for further information.

Definition of Aboriginality - criteria	What evidence do I need?	Documentation
Identifies as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	You will need to complete the AHO Eligibility for Services Statutory Declaration form with the below information: - an explanation as to why a confirmation from a LALC, RAO, SGO or TSIO organisation could not be obtained and - details of the Aboriginal family ties and kinship connection. Names and where you are from (land) and/or what you have done (to date) to find family details/history, and - a statement that you identify as an Aboriginal person and/or Torres Strait Islander.	AHO Eligibility for Services Statutory Declaration form
Member of the Aboriginal race of Australia	You can visit one of the following organisations via their websites. These organisations can assist you in accessing your family history: Link-Up Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Find & connect aka the Aborigines Welfare Board National Archives of Australia - Military service records National Library of Australia - Police gazettes, court and jail records NSW Justice Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages - Births, deaths and marriages records - Burial and cemetery records State Archives and Records Authority NSW - Land and Pastoral station records - Mission and reserve records State Library of New South Wales - Police gazettes, court, and jail records This is not an exhaustive list. There may be other organisations in other states/territories that are not listed here.	- Births, deaths and marriages records - Burial and cemetery records - Records about adoption, fostering and institutions - Military service records - Mission and reserve records - Electoral rolls and voter records - Police gazettes, court and jail records - Land and pastoral station records
Is accepted by the Aboriginal community as an Aboriginal person	You will be required to obtain a letter of support from: - a Registered Aboriginal Organisation where the person is known and received Aboriginal-specific services or - a government organisation where the person is known and has been identified and confirmed Aboriginal for young people exiting Out-of-Home Care. Individuals in receipt of support from the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), who have a disability that would reasonably prevent them from confirming Aboriginality via LALC, RAO, SGO or TSIO can instead request a letter from an Aboriginal Health and Medical Service (AHMS) that they receive care from. In addition to supplying a letter of support, the individual will have to explain how they identify as an Aboriginal and their connection to their land and kinship.	Letter of support from: - A Registered Aboriginal Organisation on their letterhead (confirming the person is known as an Aboriginal person, is accepted by the community and is actively involved in the community). - Aboriginal Health and Medical Service (specific circumstances only). - Clients exiting out-of-home-care can provide a letter from a government department where they access and receive Aboriginal specific services.

AHO Eligibility for Services Statutory Declaration Form

Please print in BLOCK LETTERS with a black or blue pen

This form does not replace or substitute confirmation of Aboriginality. For applicants seeking to obtain Confirmation of Aboriginality please refer to your Local Aboriginal Land Council.

This form is to be used as a last option for applicants who can demonstrate that they have attempted to obtain Confirmation of Aboriginality from either a LALC, RAO, SGO or TSIO and have been unsuccessful. Applicants will need to prove why they have been unsuccessful and what steps they have and are taking to resolve the matter.

Once you have completed the Declaration, you need to sign it in front of a person authorised to witness a Statutory Declaration under the *Oaths Act 1900* and supply supporting evidence to your Housing Provider. Persons found to have made a false statement may be subject to penalties for making a false Statutory Declaration and refused access to AHO services. The AHO reserves the right to pursue people who make false statements.

I, the undersigned (provide full details)

Title			
Mr, Mrs, Ms, Miss, Mx			
Last name or family name			
Given name (s)			
Date of Birth	DD / MM / YYYY		
Unit/House number			
Street/Avenue			
Town /Suburb		Postcode	
Contact number			
Email			

do hereby solemnly and sincerely declare that:

Include a statement confirming that you identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person, that you are accepted as such by your Community and that you are a member of the Aboriginal race and/or a Torres Strait Islander race of Australia. You will need to demonstrate your kinship connection, where you are from and your connection to Country.

You will need to include an explanation as to why you have been unable to obtain confirmation from either a Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC), Registered Aboriginal Organisation (RAO) Stolen Generations Organisation (SGO) or Torres Strait Islander Organisation (TSIO) and what steps you have and are taking to resolve this matter. You may wish to also provide other documentation to support your statement.

 Attach a letter of support as outlined in the evidence requirement table on page 1.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the *Oaths Act 1900*.

Penalties for false Statutory Declaration

The *Oaths Amendment Act 1996* provides that if a Statutory Declaration is made to gain material benefit and the offence is dealt with by indictment the penalty is up to 7 years imprisonment. If dealt with summarily then the penalty is up to 2 years imprisonment and/or a fine of 100 penalty units (\$11,000). If the offence is swearing a false declaration that does not involve material benefit, the penalty is up to 12 months imprisonment and/or a fine of 50 penalty units (\$5,500).

I confirm (Please initial here _____) I have read the above Oath and understand that if I am found to have given false or misleading information I may be refused services and pursued under the *Oaths Amendment Act 1996* by the AHO.

☐

Yes

☐

No

Declaration

Declared at:

Place

Declarant's name (please print)

Signature

Date

In the presence of an authorised witness, who states:

I, _____, a _____
[name of authorised witness] *[qualification of authorised witness]*

certify the following matters concerning the making of this statutory declaration by the person who made it.
[please cross out any text that does not apply].

1. *I saw the face of the person OR *I did not see the face of the person because the person was wearing a face covering, but I am satisfied that the person had special justification for not removing the covering, and;
2. *I have known the person for at least 12 months OR *I have not known the person for at least 12 months, but I have confirmed the person's identity using an identification document and the document I relied on, was:

..... *[describe identification document relied on]*

Signature

DD / MM / YYYY

Justice of the Peace (JP)/Solicitor
(please print)

Contact number

Justice of the Peace (JP)/Solicitor Registration
Number

Justice of the Peace (JP)/Solicitor's signature

Date