

CONFIRMATION OF ABORIGINALITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

Successful applicants must provide acceptable and satisfactory evidence of their Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent.

To confirm your status as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person, you must obtain confirmation in written form, in your name, from an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander organisation. The organisation must be within the community you are from, in which you live, or have previously lived and be able to confirm your connection, family and identity.

Community organisations able to provide acceptable confirmation will usually be:

- an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander association incorporated under Part IV of the *Aboriginal Councils and Associations Act 1976* or
- an incorporated community organisation where the majority of the governing body are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander persons.

Confirmation from a community organisation related to an academic institution or a non-Indigenous organisation **will not** be accepted.

Confirmation letters from organisations that are signed only by one person **will not** be accepted. These letters require community validation of lineage and heritage endorsement.

Confirmations in another family member's name will only be accepted if you can show evidence demonstrating your relationship to that person and their parentage, lineage and heritage (e.g. a birth certificate).

The Confirmation of Aboriginality must be signed by two office bearers, or one office bearer and must have the organisation's common seal affixed.

You do not have to provide a confirmation document at the time of application. If your application is successful, you will be required to provide a certified copy of this document with the Acceptance pack.

If you do not currently have a Confirmation of Aboriginality document, IAHA recommends that you commence the process of obtaining this as soon as possible, as this can sometimes take some time.

The attached 'Confirmation of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Descent' form has been developed for use if you do not currently have a Confirmation of Aboriginality that fulfils the Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarship Scheme requirements.

CONFIRMATION OF ABORIGINAL AND/OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER DESCENT FORM

This Confirmation of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Descent Form must be completed by the applicant and a recognised incorporated Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander organisation as part of the eligibility criteria of the scholarship scheme. Indigenous Allied Health Australia (IAHA) recognises that there may be some circumstances

where it is difficult for people to obtain confirmation of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent. If this applies, for assistance or advice, please contact the scholarships team via email at phmss@iaha.com.au or call 1800 413 933.

SECTION 1 – to be completed by the applicant

I, _____ also known as _____
 (full name) (maiden, community or traditional name)
 Of _____ (address)

Make the following declaration (tick all statements that apply):

- I am of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent.
- I identify as a person of such descent.
- I am accepted as such by the _____ community where I am from
 This community is my traditional area or the area where my ancestors lived for the last _____ years.

Or
 I am accepted as such by the _____ community where I currently live, or formerly lived for _____ years.

Applicants' signature _____ Date _____

SECTION 2 – to be completed by a recognised Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander organisation

It is hereby confirmed that the above-named applicant has provided sufficient evidence to indicate that he/she is recognised as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent.

Name of organisation: _____

Resolution number: _____ Date of meeting: _____

Signature: _____ (authorised signatory)

Print name: _____

Signature: _____ (authorised signatory)

Print name: _____



BOTH SECTIONS 1 & 2 MUST BE COMPLETED

GUIDELINES FOR RECOGNISING ORGANISATIONS

Community organisations will be responsible to ensure that only people who are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent receive benefits to which they are entitled. Community organisations should therefore consider carefully whether to certify the Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent of an applicant who is seeking a scholarship. Community organisations able to provide acceptable confirmation will usually be:

- an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander association incorporated under Part IV of the *Aboriginal Councils and Associations Act 1976* or
- an incorporated community organisation where the majority of the governing body are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander persons.

Indigenous organisations may include Aboriginal Medical Services or Local Land Councils. Confirmation from a community organisation related to an academic institution or non-Indigenous organisation **will not** be accepted.