Confirmation of Aboriginality

Factsheet

All applicants for Aboriginal-targeted teaching scholarships and Aboriginal-identified positions must provide confirmation of their Aboriginality

To ensure that all applicants for Aboriginal-targeted teaching scholarships and Aboriginal-identified positions are of Aboriginal descent, identify as Aboriginal and are accepted in their community as Aboriginal, the department requires that all of these applicants provide Confirmation of their Aboriginality.

Complete the department’s statutory declaration

Each applicant or employee must complete the statutory declaration, which requires the applicant to state that he or she is an Aboriginal person. For the department’s purposes, Aboriginal person means a person who is:

(a) A member of the Aboriginal race of Australia, meaning one or both of their parents are Aboriginal; and

(b) Identifies as an Aboriginal person; and

(c) Is accepted by the Aboriginal community as an Aboriginal person.

Note: It is an offence punishable by imprisonment or fine for a person/s to make a statement to a NSW Government entity in a document knowing that statement to be false or misleading.

Obtain confirmation of Aboriginality from a recognised organisation

Once the applicant or employee has completed the statutory declaration he or she must find a suitable organisation to complete a resolution confirming his or her Aboriginality. A template for the resolution is available. The organisation must be either:

a) an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander association incorporated under the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006 (CATSI Act), or

b) an incorporated community organisation where all the members of the governing body are Aboriginal persons or Torres Strait Islanders or both.

A register of organisations incorporated under the CATSI Act is available at Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations

Note: An organisation must not provide Confirmation of Aboriginality unless it is satisfied that an applicant is Aboriginal and that he or she identifies as Aboriginal, and is recognised as Aboriginal in the community.

Once the resolution has been completed and confirmed with the organisation’s common seal, the organisation provides the original resolution to the applicant or employee.

Providing your Confirmation of Aboriginality documents to the department

Applicants and employees are required to provide original documents (at interview for identified positions) and certified copies as part of application for employment or for targeted teacher training scholarships.

Employees must provide either the original documents or certified copies to the department’s Aboriginal Employment Unit.

Existing employees of the department

This factsheet does not apply to existing Aboriginal employees of the department. These employees are covered by the previous eligibility criteria, for both current and future roles with the department.

For more information refer to the Confirmation of Aboriginality Guideline or contact the Aboriginal Employment Unit via 7814 3833 or aboriginal.employment@det.nsw.edu.au