Australian Government

National Indigenous Australians Agency



Territories Stolen Generations Redress Scheme

# Application for redress coversheet

Use this form to apply for redress under the Territories Stolen Generations Redress Scheme

Applying for redress might bring up difficult memories and feelings. There is immediate 24-hour support available if you need help with the emotional impacts of applying.

- If you or someone you know is in immediate danger, please call 000
- 13YARN 13 92 76
- Lifeline **13 11 14**
- Beyond Blue **1300 224 636**
- Suicide Call Back Service 1300 659 467

## About the Territories Stolen Generations Redress Scheme

The Territories Stolen Generations Redress Scheme is a financial and wellbeing package for Stolen Generations survivors who were removed as children from their families or communities, and whose removal took place in the:

- Northern Territory or the Australian Capital Territory, before self-government, or
- Jervis Bay Territory.

The Scheme seeks to recognise the harm and trauma experienced by Stolen Generations survivors. The Scheme offers a:

- redress payment of up to \$75,000
- healing assistance payment of \$7,000
- Personal Acknowledgement (Direct Personal Response).

A Personal Acknowledgement (Direct Personal Response) involves a senior government person acknowledging your story and the impact your removal from your family or community had on you. Your story can be acknowledged face-to-face, or you can ask for a personal letter, or both.

# Where to get help with your application or for more information Contact the Territories Stolen Generations Redress Scheme

There is a dedicated team to assist people interacting with the Scheme. You can:

- call **1800 566 111**
- email help@territoriesredress.gov.au
- visit territoriesredress.gov.au
- write to us at Territories Stolen Generations Redress Scheme, Reply Paid 83394, CANBERRA ACT 2601.

The Scheme helpline is open between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, Australian Eastern Standard Time, Monday to Friday, excluding National and Canberra public holidays.

If you would like to speak to someone in your language call us on **1800 566 111** or email **help@territoriesredress.gov.au** and we can organise a free interpreter service.

If you are deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment, contact us through the **National Relay Service**:

- **TTY users** (Speak and Read, Type and Listen or Type and Read) Phone **1800 555 677** then ask for or dial the Scheme on **1800 566 111**
- SMS Relay users (Type and Read or Text and Listen) Send an SMS to 0423 677 767 and type the Scheme's number 1800 566 111
- Voice relay users Dial 1300 555 727 or connect with a relay officer using the NRS App and ask for the Scheme on 1800 566 111
- Video relay users Connect with a relay officer using Skype or the NRS App and ask for the Scheme on 1800 566 111

## **Redress nominees**

If you would like to have a person interact with us or to act on your behalf you can ask for them to be your **redress nominee**. To do this, you will need to complete and return a **Redress nominee form**.

If you already have a Centrelink nominee, that person can also be your redress nominee, but you still need to complete this form. There are two types of redress nominees:

- 1 Assistance nominee—a person who interacts with the Scheme if you do not want to interact with us yourself.
- 2 Legal nominee—a person who has authority to make relevant financial, legal or personal decisions on your behalf. For the Scheme to appoint a legal nominee you must have a current legal arrangement in place. This could be a Power of Attorney, Guardianship or Financial Management Order, or Advance Personal Plan.

For more information about what redress nominees can and cannot do on your behalf in relation to the Scheme, contact us.

#### Get help from a free support service

**Link-Up** services are community based services that can provide **free and confidential assistance** to help you throughout the application process. For help finding a Link-Up service near you, contact us.

**Knowmore Legal Service (knowmore)** can provide **free independent legal advice and financial counselling** throughout the application process, including basic information about wills and estates. You can call knowmore on **1800 566 966**. More information is available at **knowmore.org.au** 

# Eligibility

Once you have completed this form and returned it to us, we will assess whether you are eligible for redress. To find you eligible, the National Indigenous Australians Agency's decision-maker must be satisfied that it is 'plausible' that both of the following criteria are met.

1 You are a person of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent, or both, who is a Stolen Generations survivor.

In assessing this, we will consider:

- whether you were removed from your family or community by:
  - a government agency or non-government body, or
  - an officer of such an agency or body, and
- whether you were under the age of 18 at the time you were removed, and
- whether your Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent was a factor in your removal, and
- any other factors that are relevant to determining whether you meet this criterion.
- **2** Your removal took place in the:
  - Northern Territory, before 1 July 1978, or
  - Australian Capital Territory, before 11 May 1989, or
  - Jervis Bay Territory.

This application form will ask you for information to help us assess whether you are eligible. We also encourage you to give us any other information that you think may be relevant at question 16.

You may give the Scheme further information about your eligibility after you have submitted this application form. If you do that verbally, we will make sure that it is recorded and details are confirmed with you before we use the information to help us determine your eligibility.

You can still apply for redress even if you do not have the information to answer some of the questions in this form. You are welcome to give us any documents you think may also be relevant, although this is not a requirement of applying. With your consent the Scheme can perform records searches on your behalf to try to locate information to help determine your eligibility.

If you would like to find out more about the eligibility criteria, visit **territoriesredress.gov.au** or contact us.

# If you disagree with our decision

If you disagree with the outcome of your application, you or your redress nominee can ask for the decision to be reviewed by contacting us.

# Why we ask for proof of your identity

This form asks you to provide copies of your identification documents. We need these to make sure we are engaging with the right person. If we cannot check that you are who you say you are, we may not be able to progress your application.

#### Please do not send your original identity documents.

#### Return your completed application to

 Territories Stolen Generations Redress Scheme, Reply Paid 83394, CANBERRA ACT 2601

or

• help@territoriesredress.gov.au

**Please make a copy** of your application and your **Redress nominee form** (if using one) to keep. If you cannot make a copy, let us know and we will send a copy back to you.

# After you apply

After you have sent us your application, we will contact you and/or your redress nominee to confirm your application has been received and to let you know about the next steps in the application process.

## What you need to know about applying for redress

- You can apply any time between 1 March 2022 and 31 August 2027.
- You do not need to have records about your removal to apply. We may be able to access records to help with your application. When you sign this form, you will give the National Indigenous Australians Agency permission to search for your records on your behalf.
- If you do have any records about your removal or time you were in an institution or home, you can attach these records to your application.
  Please do not send your original records.
- You can only make one application for redress under the Scheme. However, if you make an application but withdraw it before we have made a decision, you can apply again.
- You can apply in your own time and at your own pace.

- Any redress payments you may receive:
  - are exempt from income tax
  - generally do not count as income or taxable income for means-tested Commonwealth payments or benefits, but may affect assets tests
  - will not impact any payments you may receive from the National Redress Scheme for institutional child sexual abuse, as the schemes are for two different purposes.
- If you receive Centrelink payments and you give away any of the redress payment, let Centrelink know, because it could affect your Centrelink payments.
- If you have received other payments for your removal, these will be taken into account and may be deducted from payments under this Scheme.
- You will need to sign an Acceptance Deed before any redress under this Scheme is provided. By signing the Acceptance Deed, you will be releasing the Commonwealth from any future civil liability in relation to your removal. For more information, contact us.
- If we make you an offer of redress under the Scheme, or provide a redress payment or a Personal Acknowledgement (Direct Personal Response), this means we have decided that it is plausible that you meet the Scheme's eligibility criteria. This decision has effect only for the purposes of the Scheme. It is not a:
  - finding of fact or law made by a court, or
  - legal admission of liability for your removal by the Commonwealth or any other person.

For more information about the Scheme, contact us or visit our website.

The National Indigenous Australians Agency will never send you a text message in relation to this application, to verify your information, provide you with application updates or request money from you before a Stolen Generations redress payment can be made. Please do not respond or click on any links about your Stolen Generations Redress Scheme application. You can call us on **1800 566 111** if you are not sure about a message you have received.

#### Applying on behalf of a person who passed away

There is a different application form for people to apply on behalf of a Stolen Generations survivor who passed away after the Scheme was announced on 5 August 2021.

For more information, contact us.

#### Applying from prison

A Stolen Generations survivor can apply from prison. For more information, contact us.

# Tell us if your situation changes

It is important to let us know if you or your nominee have changed your contact details. We can only use the contact details provided.

If you or your nominee have any **other changes to your circumstances after submitting your application**, including receiving other redress payments in relation to your removal (refer to question 18), contact us.

# Privacy and your personal information

This form will ask you to provide personal information to the Scheme. Your personal information is protected by law, including the *Privacy Act* 1988.

## Why we collect your personal information

The National Indigenous Australians Agency is responsible for administering the Scheme, as well as the collection, use and disclosure of your personal information. We will collect your personal information, including your sensitive information, to help us to:

- check your identity
- locate documents and search for records that will help us to determine whether you are eligible for redress including:
  - disclosing your personal information to a record-holding organisation (for example, your name and date of birth), so they can search for relevant records
  - collecting your personal information from a record-holding organisation, when they give us records about your removal
- assess your eligibility for redress
- communicate with other persons and bodies for the purposes of processing your application, including checking whether you have received any relevant prior payments
- provide you with redress (for example, by making a redress payment and/or providing a Personal Acknowledgement (Direct Personal Response))
- acknowledge your application
- administer, report on, evaluate and analyse the Scheme (though we will not include information that identifies you in any public reports or other materials of this kind).

#### Who your personal information is shared with

To do the things listed above, we may need to **disclose** your personal information, including your sensitive information, to third parties.

We may also need to **collect** your personal information, including your sensitive information, from third parties for those same purposes.

We will only do this with your consent, or where the law otherwise allows or requires us to. These third parties may include:

- government agencies (for example, Services Australia, Department of Social Services, Department of Home Affairs, or state and territory agencies)
- non-government organisations that may hold your information (such as record repositories, or institutions that may have been involved in your removal)
- organisations involved in the delivery of the Scheme (such as service providers contracted by the Commonwealth to verify your identity, or provide support to you)
- senior government people who may be involved in providing a Personal Acknowledgement (Direct Personal Response) to you, if requested
- Ministers and their staff responsible for Indigenous Australians who may be involved in acknowledging your application
- your redress nominees (if any).

#### Seeking further consent

There may be circumstances in which we require further consent from you to use or disclose particular information. We will contact you if we need to seek further consent from you.

#### If you do not want to tell us your personal information

You do not have to provide your personal information. If you do not, we may not be able to process your application or provide you with redress.

#### More information about privacy

For more information about how your personal information will be handled, visit **niaa.gov.au/privacy** This sets out our Privacy Policy, which contains information about:

- how you can access personal information that we hold about you, and ask us to correct any errors in that information
- how you can complain about a breach of your privacy, and how we will deal with complaints.

#### Access to information

If you, or your redress nominee, would like to discuss accessing a copy of any information we hold about you, you can contact us.

The information you provide will be protected from unauthorised use and disclosure under the *Privacy Act* 1988.

# **National Redress Scheme**

Depending on your circumstances, you may also be eligible for the National Redress Scheme, for people who have experienced institutional child sexual abuse. Any redress payments you may receive under the National Redress Scheme will not impact any payments you may receive from this Scheme. For more information on the National Redress Scheme you can call **1800 737 377** or visit **nationalredress.gov.au** 

## Keep this coversheet (pages 1 to 8) for your information.



Use this form to apply for redress under the Territories Stolen Generations Redress Scheme

Applying to the Scheme might bring up difficult memories and feelings. There is immediate 24-hour support available if you need help with the emotional impacts of applying.

- If you or someone you know is in immediate danger, please call 000
- 13YARN 13 92 76
- Lifeline 13 11 14
- Beyond Blue **1300 224 636**
- Suicide Call Back Service 1300 659 467

## How to fill in this form

You can complete this form on your computer, print and sign it.

If you have a printed form:

- Use black or blue pen.
- Print in BLOCK LETTERS.
- Please sign and date this form at page 10.

It is OK if you do not know all the answers.

If there is not enough space on the form for you to answer all the questions, you can attach a separate piece of paper with the question number and your answer on it.

**Please make a copy** of your application to keep. If you cannot make a copy, let us know and we will send a copy back to you.

## Your details

1	Your name						
	Title	Mr	Mrs	Miss	Ms	Dr	🗌 No title
		Other	—please g	give detail	S		
	First name						
	Middle name						
	Last name						
	Preferred name						

#### 2 Have you ever been known by other name(s)?

For example: Name at birth, name before marriage, Aboriginal or skin name, adoptive name, foster name.

No

Yes—please give details below	

#### 3 What are your contact details?

Address—line 1					
Address—line 2					
Town/suburb					
State		NSW		WA	
	tas	QLD	NT	SA	Overseas
Postcode					
Country					
Phone					
Mobile phone					
Email					

#### 4 How would you prefer to be contacted?

- Phone
- Mobile phone
- 🗌 Email
- Post

We will always try to contact you in the the way you request, but some Scheme information will need to be provided in writing, by email or post.

#### 5 What is your date of birth?

What is your date of birth that appears on your identity documents, to the best of your knowledge?

Date	1		
(DD MM YYYY)			

Do not know

If there are any other dates of birth that you use, or that might appear in records about you, please write them here.

Date (DD MM YYYY)		
Date (DD MM YYYY)		

#### 6 What is your gender?

- Male
- 🗌 Female
- X Indeterminate/Intersex/Unspecified
- Other
- Prefer not to answer

# 7 Are there any personal circumstances which may affect the urgency of your application?

For example, poor health.

I choose not to answer this question

No
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Yes—please give details below

Briefly describe the relevant circumstances (for example, the nature of your health condition).

#### 8 Is there someone we can contact if we cannot contact you?

This is different to nominating a redress nominee. We are not able to discuss your application with your contact person, they are only to help us get in touch with you if we are having difficulty doing so using the contact information provided.

Please make sure you have this person's permission to give their information to the Scheme, and make sure they know we may contact them if we can't get in touch with you.

No—I do not want you to contact anyone else if you cannot contact me.
Yes—please give details below

Title	Mr	Mrs	Miss	Ms	Dr	🗌 No title
	Other	—please (	give details	6		
Full name						
Relationship						
Address—line 1						
Address—line 2						
Town/suburb						
State		NSW		WA 🗌		
	tas	QLD	□ NT	SA		eas
Postcode						
Country						
Phone						
Mobile phone						
Email						

#### 9 Identity documents

If you are having trouble supplying identity documents, please contact us.

Please provide a **copy** of 2 current Australian identity documents from the list below.

#### Please do not send your original identity documents.

- birth certificate
- passport
- drivers licence (both front and back)
- Medicare card
- Centrelink Health Care Card
- Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card
- Commonwealth Seniors Health Card
- marriage certificate
- change of name certificate.

We will share your identity documents with identity verification providers contracted by the Commonwealth.

## Eligibility

The next questions are about your removal.

We need to ask these questions to help us determine if you are eligible for the Scheme.

Please remember that support is available for you if the questions bring up difficult memories or feelings.

#### 10 Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent or both?

No
Yes

## 11 Were you removed from your family and/or community?

- 🗌 No
- Yes
- Do not know

#### 12 Were you under 18 years of age when you were removed?

- 🗌 No
- Yes
- 🗌 Do not know

#### 13 Were you removed by:

- a government agency or non-government body, or
- an officer of such an agency or body?

No—please give details below

Yes—please give details below

🗌 Do not know

#### 14 In which territory did your removal take place?

- Northern Territory
- Australian Capital Territory
- ☐ Jervis Bay Territory
- 🗌 Do not know
- Other—please give details below

If your removal did not take place in one of the three territories listed above, please contact the Scheme to discuss.

#### 15 When were you removed?

To the best of your knowledge. If you only know the year, you do not need to include the day and the month.

Date			
(DD MM YYYY)			

Do not know

#### 16 Please use this space to provide more detail about your removal.

We encourage you to provide whatever information you can below, and we will consider this in determining eligibility. You can write as little or as much as you want.

We understand this may be difficult. You may not know about a lot of details, but we ask that you write as much as you can about your removal. If you would prefer to provide this information over the phone please contact us.

You could include detail on:

- the family or community you were removed from
- names of your birth parents, brothers or sisters
- details of the place you were taken from
- names of any homes, institutions, missions, dormitories or places you spent time in
- who you understood removed you—this could be organisations or specific people
- how old you were when you were removed
- whether your Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent was a factor in your removal.

If there is not enough space here, more is provided at the end of this form.

A redress nominee is a person who can interact with the Scheme or act on your behalf. For more information about what redress nominees can and cannot do on your behalf in relation to the Scheme, call us on **1800 566 111**, email **help@territoriesredress.gov.au** or visit **territoriesredress.gov.au** 

#### 17 Would you like to appoint a redress nominee who can act on your behalf?

No

Yes—please complete the **Redress nominee form** as well as this application form and return it to the Scheme.

## **Relevant prior payments**

Certain payments (which we call 'relevant prior payments') will be deducted from any redress payment you receive under the Scheme. A 'relevant prior payment' is a payment that you have received in relation to a removal covered by this Scheme. For instance, this might be a prior payment from a state redress scheme, or a payment you received to settle a legal action, to the extent it was made in relation to a removal for which you could receive redress under this Scheme.

It does not include payments relating to any abuse you might have suffered once you were removed. For example, you do not need to tell us about any payments you have received under the National Redress Scheme for institutional child sexual abuse.

Please let us know about any relevant prior payments that you may have received. We will let you know if a relevant prior payment has been deducted from a redress payment you receive under the Scheme.

If you would like to access free legal advice about prior payments, you can call knowmore on **1800 566 966**. More information is available at **knowmore.org.au** 

The consent at the end of this form will also ask you to agree to tell us about any relevant prior payments you receive after you have submitted your application.

#### 18 Have you received any payments in relation to your removal?

No

Yes—please tell us about the amount and nature of the payment, and any other information that you think is relevant to our assessment of the payment. Please provide copies of any documents that relate to these payments.

Do not know

#### Declaration and consent to the handling of my personal information

- I consent to the National Indigenous Australians Agency collecting, using, and disclosing my personal information, including my sensitive information, for the purposes of:
  - checking my identity
  - searching for and accessing records relevant to my application
  - assessing my eligibility for redress
  - processing my application, including checking whether I have received any relevant prior payments
  - making a redress payment
  - providing a Personal Acknowledgement (Direct Personal Response)
  - acknowledging my application
  - administering and reporting on, evaluating and analysing the Scheme (though this will not include information that identifies me in any public reports or other materials of this kind).
- I consent to the National Indigenous Australians Agency collecting my personal information from, and disclosing my personal information, including my sensitive information, to:
  - government agencies (for example, Services Australia, Department of Social Services, Department of Home Affairs or state and territory agencies)
  - non-government organisations that may hold my information (such as record repositories, or institutions that may have been involved in my removal)
  - organisations involved in the delivery of the Scheme (such as identity verification or support service providers contracted by the Commonwealth)
  - senior government people who may be involved in providing a Personal Acknowledgement (Direct Personal Response) to me, if requested
  - Ministers and their staff responsible for Indigenous Australians who may be involved in acknowledging my application, and
  - my redress nominees (if any),

for the purposes outlined above.

I also consent to the persons and bodies listed above disclosing information about me to the National Indigenous Australians Agency for those purposes.

I understand that, if I do not consent to the above, the National Indigenous Australians Agency will not be able to process my application, make a payment to me, or provide me with a Personal Acknowledgement (Direct Personal Response).

I confirm that, where I have given the National Indigenous Australians Agency personal information about another living person, I have that person's permission to do so.

#### Providing information about relevant prior payments

I agree to notify the Scheme within 7 days if I receive a relevant prior payment after submitting my application.

#### Declaration that the information in my application is true and correct

I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge, all of the information I have provided in this application is true and correct.

I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence under the *Criminal Code Act* 1995 (Cth).

#### 19 Acknowledgement and consent

Your signature	
Name	
Date (DD MM YYYY)	

If there is not enough space here, more is provided on the next page. If you have finished writing, make sure you answer questions 17 to 19.

If there is not enough space here, you can attach a separate piece of paper with question 16 written on it.

If you have finished writing, make sure you answer questions 17 to 19.