**IMPORTANT**

There are 3 criteria the Board assesses to process these requests, and all 3 of these criteria need to be undisputed by at least 2 Board members. The criteria are:

1. that you ***are*** an Aboriginal person

2. that you are ***recognised by the Whyalla Aboriginal community*** as an Aboriginal person, and

3. that you ***identify and acknowledge yourself*** as an Aboriginal person

If all three of these criteria are not met, the Board will not confirm your Confirmation of Aboriginality, and your form will be returned to you unsigned.

**All parts of the form overleaf need to be filled in completely for your application to be processed.**

You will be notified of the outcome of your application by post, there is no need to ring the office to follow up on your application as quite often the process can take time

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **APPLICANT DECLARATION** | Date: |  |
| I,  |  |  |
| (First Name) | (Surname) |
|  |  |  |  |
| Born on |  | at |  |
| (date of birth) | (Place of Birth) |
|  |  |  |  |
| Now living at |  |
| (Address) |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | **Do solemnly and sincerely declare that I am of Aboriginal descent.** |  |
| **(signature)** |
|  |  |
| My Mother’s name is/was: |  | Aboriginal / TSI |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Yes | No |
|  |  |  |  |
| My Father’s name is/was: |  | Aboriginal / TSI |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Yes | No |
|  |  |  |  |
| My Grandmother’s name is/was: |  | Aboriginal / TSI |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Yes | No |
|  |  |  |  |
| My Grandfather’s name is/was: |  | Aboriginal / TSI |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Yes | No |
|  |  |  |  |
| My language group and /or home community is: |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | ***I have provided additional information, eg: birth certificate*** |

**I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the statements contained in this declaration to be true and correct**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Applicant Signature** |  | **Date** |
|  |

office use only

**It is hereby confirmed that the above named applicant is of an Aboriginal descent, identifies as an Aboriginal person and is accepted as such by the community in which he / she\* lives.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| meeting date: |  | Venue: |  |
|  |  |  |
| Moved By: |  |  |  |
| print name | signature |
|  |  |
| Seconded By: |  |  |  |
| print name | signature |
|  |  |
|  | RESOLUTION NUMBER: |  |
|  |  |
|  |
|  |  |

**Family History Resources**

**Nunkuwarrin Yunti of South Australia**

Link Up provide family tracing, reunion and counselling services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their *families who have been separated under the past policies and practices of the Australian Government*. Assistance is also provided to people over the age of 18 years who have been adopted, fostered or raised in institutions.

The program is not funded to provide genealogy assistance, to locate missing persons or to find family members that have been separated due to family break downs.

Please note that priority is given to 1st generation clients.

Link-Up provides:

* Client contact and assessment
* Client and family support
* Research of client files and other relevant information
* Counselling support
* Financially contributing to reunions according to need
* Initial family contact and/or approach
* Ongoing support for clients and family following reunion
* Public awareness
* Privacy, trust and [confidentiality](https://orginformation.com/)

Email: link-upSA@nunku.org.au

Website: [www.nunku.org.au](http://www.nunku.org.au)

**Births, Deaths and Marriages**

Level 2, Chesser House

9197 Grenfell Street

Adelaide, SA, 5000

GPO Box 1351, Adelaide, SA, 5001

Phone: 08 8204 9599

Fax: 08 8204 9605

Web: [SA.GOV.AU - Researching your family history (www.sa.gov.au)](https://www.sa.gov.au/topics/family-and-community/births-deaths-and-marriages/family-research)

**Genealogy SA**

Genealogy SA is the leading resource for South Australian family history information.

Web: [www.saghs.org.au/](http://www.saghs.org.au/)

**SA Museum**

The South Australian Museum makes archival information available to local and international communities through publication, promotion, education and exhibitions. The specialised knowledge contained in the Museum’s archives contributes to a better understanding of First Nation cultures, geological diversity and biodiversity.

Email: samii@sau.gov.au

Web: www.samuseum.sa.gov.au

**National Archives of Australia**

Whether you are interested in your family history, sourcing historical files from a government agency or researching Australia's past, the National Archives of Australia can help you find what you need

Email: refsa@naa.gov.au

Web: [www.naa.gov.au](http://www.naa.gov.au)

**State Records of SA**

Web: <https://www.archives.sa.gov.au/>

**State Library of South Australia**

The State Library's archival collection contains a substantial amount of unpublished South Australian material, including material that is relevant to Aboriginal people, including oral histories, including the Mountford-Sheard Collection, which was inscribed on the UNESCO Australian Memory of the World register

Web: <https://www.slsa.sa.gov.au/>

**Why would I need a confirmation?**

Your Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage is something that is personal and you don’t need a ‘letter of confirmation’ to identify as an Indigenous person. However, you may be asked to provide a confirmation of Aboriginality and, or Torres Strait Islander form or letter when applying for Indigenous specific services or programs such as:

* Special needs housing
* Grants
* University Courses
* Centrelink
* Employment
* School programs
* TAFE

**Why is it so involved?**

These services and programs are intended to address the social, health and educational issues that Indigenous people often face as the result of past removal policies and inadequate educational, employment and health services. Requesting proof of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander heritage from applicants helps to make sure that this intention is honoured.

**How do I obtain proof of my Aboriginality?**

**1. Gather as much information about your family history and heritage as possible**

When applying for confirmation of your Aboriginality from an Indigenous organisation, you are likely to be requested to explain your heritage to their committee. For this reason, it is often useful to gather as much information about your family history as you can before you contact them. This is particularly important if you or your ancestors have been displaced from your heritage.

Examples of useful information include birth, death and marriage certificates that trace your family to a particular Aboriginal station or reserve, oral history stories and photographs. There is a list of organisations attached that can help with tracing family history.

**2. Contact an Indigenous organisation**

A ‘Confirmation of Aboriginality’ is usually obtained from an incorporated Indigenous organisation and must be stamped with their common seal. It is useful to ***contact an organisation where your family originates,*** if possible, as someone in the community might know of or remember your family.