

Application Form

CONFIRMATION OF ABORIGINALITY AND MEMBERSHIP (optional)

The Mallee District Aboriginal Services (MDAS) Board takes the responsibility of confirming Aboriginality seriously. The board considers cases where the applicant and their family heritage are known to the Board, and where they meet all eligibility requirements. This position is because these requests are generally for the purpose of seeking eligibility to services and opportunities that are exclusively for the benefit of Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander people.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Aboriginality eligibility - to meet this criterion, you must be able to satisfy all three-parts of the following definition:

- **descent - the individual can prove that a parent is of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent (family tree required)**
- **self-identification - the individual identifies as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander**
- **community recognition - the individual is accepted as such by the Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander community in which they live (two written references required). Include the numbers of years that you have live in our community.**

2. Locational eligibility - to meet this criterion, you must:

- **be from the Mallee District and currently living in the Mallee District; or**
- **be from the Mallee District or have lived the majority of your life in the Mallee Region, but you are currently living elsewhere; or**
- **have been born and/or raised in the Mallee District; regardless of where your family is from; or**
- **be from a community outside of the Mallee District, but you have lived the majority of your life in the Mallee District; or at least the past 5 years.**

3. MDAS Membership Eligibility - to meet this criterion, you must:

Agree to comply with the MDAS Constitution and support its purposes. You must be at least 18 years old, of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent and ordinarily reside within the Mallee Region, being the shire of Mildura Rural City Council, Swan Hill Rural Council, Gannawarra Shire Council, and Buloke Shire Council. There is **no charge for MDAS Membership** and Associate Membership of MDAS is available to people who reside outside the Mallee Region.

COMPLETING THE FORM

This application must be correctly and fully completed. It is your responsibility to provide the necessary documentation to prove that you meet the Confirmation of Aboriginality criteria. If you do not provide sufficient documentation, then your application will not be considered by the MDAS Board and will be returned to you for completion. Despite an application being complete, if the MDAS Board does not have sufficient knowledge of the applicant or their family heritage, they may not be able to approve the Confirmation of Aboriginality.

APPLICANT DETAILS

Given Name _____ Surname _____

Date of Birth ___/___/___ Place of Birth _____

Street Address _____

Suburb _____ Postcode _____

Phone Number _____ Mobile _____

Email _____

Is your application for:

- Certificate of Aboriginality Only** **Certificate of Aboriginality and Membership**

Please check one of the following to indicate your descent:

- Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander

Why do you need a Confirmation of Aboriginality?

1. Aboriginality eligibility

- **Family Tree attached demonstrating your family heritage and clearly indicating which parent/s or grandparent/s are Indigenous (mandatory for all applicants).**
- **Two written references attached confirming your descent, self-identification, and community recognition (mandatory for all applicants).**
- **Link-Up documentation attached (only for Applicants who are from the Stolen Generation or who are disconnected from their family).**

2. Location eligibility

Please provide your history, details, and connection to the Mallee District:

Are you a member of any other community organisation? Yes No

If yes, which community organisation are you a member of: _____

3. MDAS Membership eligibility (Member or Associate Member)

Which MDAS Membership do you wish to apply for (Members must be aged over 18). Please leave blank if you do NOT wish to apply for membership

- Full Membership (Mallee Residents)** **Associate Membership (If you live outside the Mallee)**


Signature

Signature _____ Date ___/___/___

APPLICANT DETAILS

FAMILY TREE OF APPLICANT

Please draw your family tree ensuring you clearly mark which parent/s or grandparent/s are Indigenous – an example is provided on the following page.

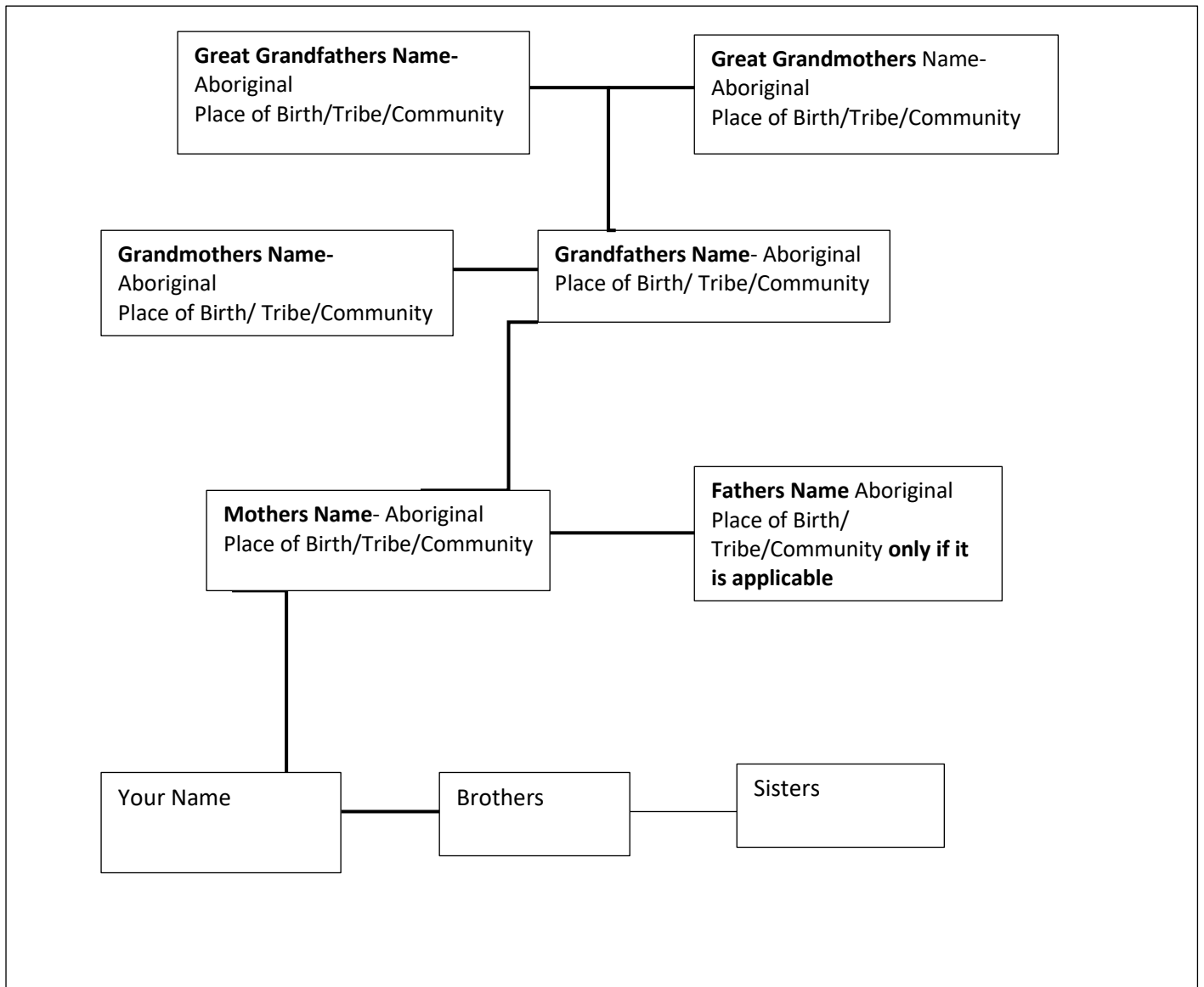


Important - please attach a form of photo identification to this application (i.e., Driver licence, passport, etc).

Any other additional family information you wish to provide:

APPLICANT DETAILS

SAMPLE ONLY - Family Tree



Further Information

If you would like further information about Confirmation of Aboriginality you can visit the following:

[Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Fact Sheet 12: Proof of Aboriginality](#)

If your application for Confirmation of Aboriginality is not approved by the MDAS Board, then you can approach the MDAS Bringing Them Home (BTH) team for more help with your application.

APPLICANT DETAILS

OFFICE USE ONLY:

COA	MEMBERSHIP
Board Meeting	Board Meeting:
Resolution No:	Resolution No:

BRINGING THEM HOME

Details: