Legal information for Aboriginal people [1]

Find information about the law for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Aboriginal Legal Service

The Aboriginal Legal Service [2] (ALS) is an Aboriginal community organisation giving information, referral, legal advice, and court representation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men, women and children across NSW and the ACT.

ALS works in criminal law, children's care and protection law, and family law, and provides information and referral for civil law. They also assist with Work and Development Orders, and their Custody Notification Service provides early legal advice for Aboriginal people taken into police custody.

ALS videos

The ALS has a series of videos [3] on a wide range of topics including knowing your rights, criminal law, the removal of children, getting your kids back, police questioning, and going to court.

Legal Aid NSW

Legal Aid NSW has a range of pamphlets and fact sheets designed specifically for Aboriginal people [4].

Topics covered include fines, caring for children, kids in care, family law, and wills.

Law handbook
Your Practical Guide to the Law in NSW

THE LAW HANDBOOK

14th Edition

The Law handbook: your practical guide to the law in NSW [5] is the single most important plain English guide to the law in NSW. It provides a practical guide to 40 legal topics – legal issues which affect people in their everyday
lives.

Read chapter 2: Aboriginal people and the law [6]

This book is also available in every public library [7] in NSW.

Aboriginal planning ahead

NSW Trustee and Guardian has published two guides to Aboriginal planning ahead [8]. The Aboriginal wills handbook and its companion booklet Taking care of business enable Aboriginal people to make culturally appropriate planning ahead documents.

They give specific information to help in the preparation of an Aboriginal person's will, eg how to provide for kinship, burial, and secret knowledge.

LawAccess NSW

LawAccess NSW is a free service that provides legal information, advice and referrals for people who have a legal problem in NSW.

They have Aboriginal staff who can talk to you about your legal problem and also connect you with other services, including Aboriginal Legal Services, if you need more help.

Find contact details, how LawAccess can help, and what types of legal problems they can help you with on their A?re you Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and Need Legal Help? [9] page.

Tenants NSW

For information about your rights as an Aboriginal tenant, you can call your local Aboriginal Tenants Advice and Advocacy Service [10].

On the Aboriginal renters [11] page you will find news, resources and fact sheets covering topics including the rental bond, when you start renting, repairs, avoiding problems when renting, if your landlord wants to end your agreement, and the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT).

Fair Trading NSW

Fair Trading NSW has information for Aboriginal consumers and traders [12].

Financial Rights Legal Centre - Aboriginal Advice Service

The Aboriginal Advice Service [13] is a free legal advice service about money matters for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from anywhere in Australia. They specialise in the law about consumer loans (like credit cards, pay day loans, car loans and home loans), banking, debt recovery and insurance (like car, home, travel, life, funeral, pet insurance).

Anti-Discrimination Board of NSW

The Anti-Discrimination Board of NSW has an Outreach Program [14] staffed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people which provides a culturally appropriate service for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

MoneySmart
ASIC’s MoneySmart [15] website has information for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including videos and Indigenous money tips.

**Centrelink**

Centrelink [16] provides payments and support to help Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.


**Links**