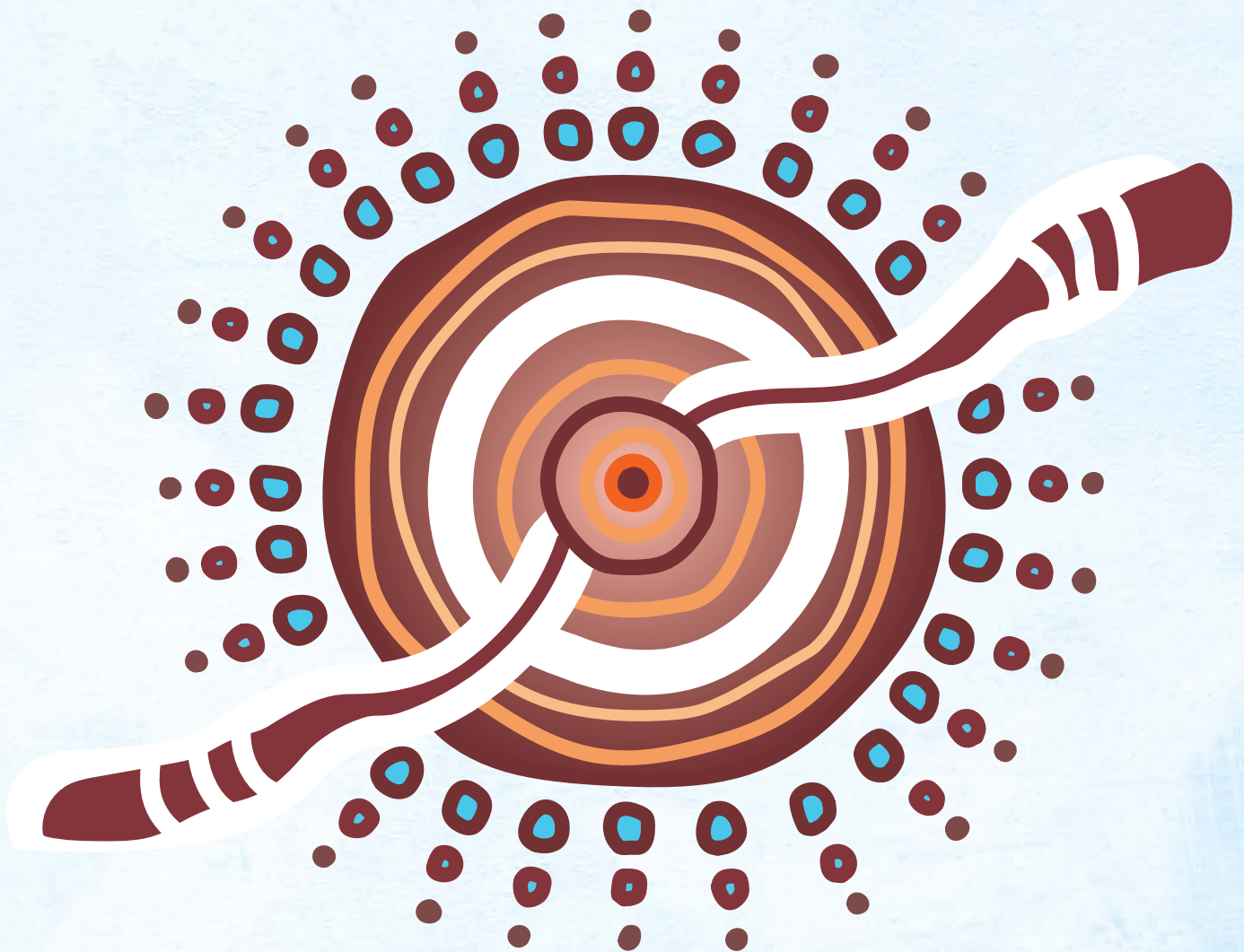


Northern Territory Stolen Wages Class Action Settlement

Up to \$202 million for the Northern Territory
Stolen Wages Class Action

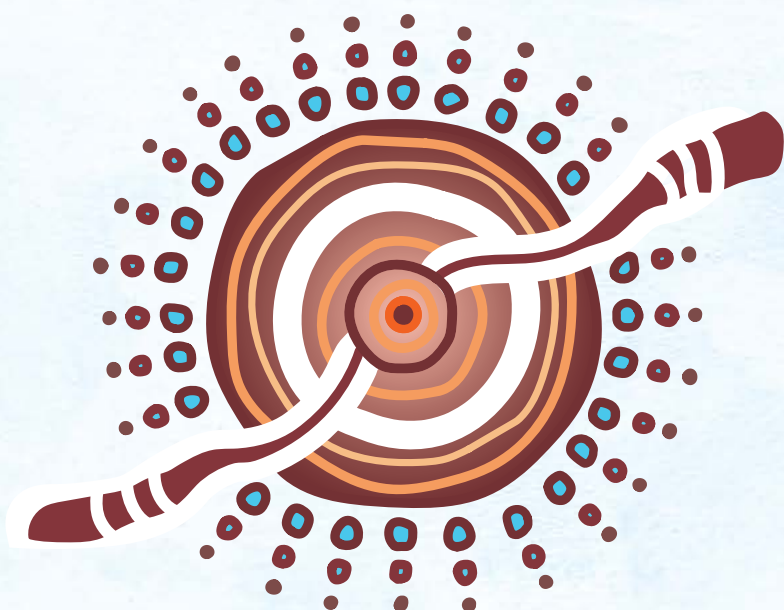


1800 860 378 shine.com.au/stolenwagesnt

 SHINE LAWYERS

Some important things you should know:

- The Northern Territory Stolen Wages Class Action was brought against the Commonwealth Government on behalf of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (including people who have died) who worked in the Northern Territory between 1933 and 1971 and were paid little or no wages.
- The class action has settled, but the Federal Court has to approve the settlement before compensation can be paid to eligible people.
- If you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person who worked between 1933 and 1971 in the Northern Territory you may be eligible to receive a payment from the settlement, but **YOU MUST REGISTER BY 31 August 2025** with Shine Lawyers.
- You can also register for your spouse (married or de facto) and/or your parents, if they worked during that time for little or no wages and have passed away.
- To register you must fill in a Registration Form, either on paper, online or by calling Shine Lawyers.
- Shine Lawyers will be travelling throughout the Northern Territory over the next **11 months** to hold information meetings and help people register.
- If you have already spoken to Shine Lawyers to register your claim, you should get a text or call from them for more information so that you can get compensation.
- The Court hearing to decide whether the settlement should be approved is going to be held on **7 November 2024**, in **Alice Springs**. If you don't agree with the settlement you should tell the Court, and you should contact Shine Lawyers to find out how.



1 What is the settlement?

The Commonwealth Government has agreed to pay up to \$202 million including costs to settle the Northern Territory Stolen Wages Class Action.

The Commonwealth Government has agreed to pay into a settlement fund \$18,000 for each eligible claimant up to a maximum of \$180 million.

This does not mean each person who registers will get \$18,000. The Court will work out how much eligible claimants will get paid from the settlement, according to what it thinks is fair and reasonable.

The Commonwealth Government has also agreed to pay some separate amounts:

- (a) up to \$15 million as a contribution to legal costs;
- (b) up to \$6 million as a contribution to the costs of the independent administrator (who will be in charge of assessing eligibility and paying people);
- (c) up to \$1 million as a contribution to the costs of a costs assessor (who will make sure the legal costs and costs of the administrator are reasonable).

The settlement is a compromise with the Commonwealth Government to avoid the risk that the applicant and group members could lose the case if it went to hearing and get nothing.

The settlement agreement will not take effect unless it is approved by the Federal Court. If it is approved then group members will receive a share of the amount paid by the Commonwealth Government, **only if they register** using the registration form and have eligible claims.

2 Who can get compensation money?

You can register for compensation money if:

- A. you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person;
 - B. you were born before to 12 November 1961; and
 - C. you worked in the Northern Territory between 1 June 1933 and 12 November 1971 for little or no wages;
- OR**
- D. you are the spouse or the child of a deceased person who fits the description above.

As long as they **register** and provide the necessary information, every living person who fits the description in A, B and C above will be eligible to receive a payment from the settlement.

Spouses who register and provide the necessary information will be eligible to receive the payment their deceased spouse would have received. When we say “spouse” we mean husbands, wives and partners of the deceased person – whether legally married, traditionally married, or de facto.

Children can register for one or both deceased parents who fit the description in A, B and C above. If no living spouse is eligible, children who register and provide the necessary information will be eligible to receive the payment that the deceased parent would have received. If more than one child registers, all registered eligible children will share the payment that their deceased parent would have been entitled to.

If you are eligible **and** your deceased spouse or parent would also have been eligible, you should register for both your own claim and theirs.

3 How do you register?

If you think you are eligible to make a claim in the class action, you should complete the **Registration Form**. You can do this by:

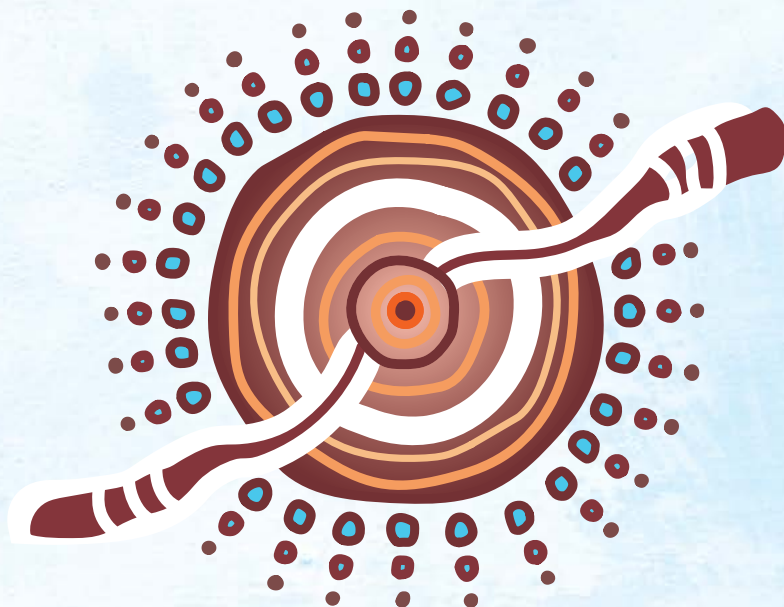
- (a) completing the hardcopy Registration Form that comes with this Notice and sending it back to Shine Lawyers;
- (b) completing the Registration Form on the Shine Lawyers website; or
- (c) calling Shine Lawyers to complete the registration form over the phone.

You must complete, sign and send the Registration Form to Shine Lawyers before the deadline of 31 August 2025. If you haven't registered already, or haven't registered for your deceased spouse or parents, you should complete and send a registration form in before **31 August 2025**.

If you have already spoken to Shine Lawyers to register your claim, you should get a text or call from them for more information so that you can get compensation.

If you aren't sure if you have registered, please contact Shine Lawyers.

As part of the **Registration Form**, some information and ID documents need to be provided so that claims can be checked by the Independent Administrator. Shine Lawyers will be available to help you register claims on your own behalf, or on behalf of your deceased parents or spouse (married or de facto).



4 How much will eligible claimants receive

The Court will work out how much eligible claimants get paid from the settlement, according to what it thinks is fair and reasonable. The Court might approve more money to go some people (for example, older people who worked for a longer time in the claim period for little or no wages).

Although we are not sure, we hope that at least \$10,000 will end up being paid to each Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person who worked in the Northern Territory between 1 June 1933 and 12 November 1971 for little or no wages (or to their surviving spouse or shared between their surviving children).

The Court will also be asked to check and say yes to the amounts of money that might be paid to other people for the costs and expenses of bringing the class action. These costs and expenses will be paid before payments are made to eligible claimants, but will only be deducted if the Court says they are fair and reasonable:

- (1) First, a litigation funder called “Litigation Lending Services” or “LLS” paid for a lot of the legal costs and carried other financial risks of bringing the class action. The Court will be asked to approve a commission payment to the funder of 20% of the amount the Commonwealth pays under the settlement. That means that if the Commonwealth pays the maximum settlement payment of \$202 million, then the 20% commission payment would be \$40.4 million. In addition to its commission, LLS will also be seeking payment of \$1,045,000 for the cost of insurance. If the Court is satisfied that such deductions are fair and reasonable, they will be deducted from the settlement fund.
- (2) Second, the legal costs which were spent in bringing the case. A lot of that amount will come from the separate amount of \$15 million that the Commonwealth Government has agreed to pay for legal costs, but this will not cover all the legal costs of bringing the case, doing the registration process and asking the Court to approve the settlement. The total amount is not yet known. The Court will appoint an independent person to assess the Applicant’s reasonable costs and report to the Court. The Court will only allow a deduction of the costs it considers fair and reasonable.
- (3) Third, extra payments to the lead applicant and the five sample group members for the time they spent running the case on behalf of everyone else. Those payments are proposed to be \$70,000 in total. If the Court is satisfied that such a deduction is fair and reasonable, it will be deducted from the settlement fund.
- (4) Fourth, the cost of the independent person who administers the settlement fund (this cost is presently not known as quotes have to be obtained). It is expected that this cost will be partly covered from interest earned on the settlement and the balance from the payment of up to \$6 million for these costs by the Commonwealth. If the Court is satisfied that such a deduction is fair and reasonable, it will be deducted from the settlement fund.
- (5) Fifth, the cost of the independent person who will assess and report to the Court on the reasonableness of any legal costs and administrator costs that are deducted from the settlement fund. It is expected that this cost will be covered by the payment of up to \$1 million for these costs by the Commonwealth.

If you register, you will be told if you are eligible or not. If you are eligible, you will only get told exactly how much you will receive for your claim, or your deceased spouse or parent’s claim, when it has been worked out following the Court approval hearing, and the checks that the independent administrator has to do before it pays anyone.

5 When will people get paid?

If the settlement is approved, the Court will try to make sure that payments are made as quickly as possible. It is expected that older people who worked in the Northern Territory in the period and are still living will get paid first.

Your claim will be checked by the independent administrator of the settlement. The independent administrator may contact you if they need more information to confirm that you are eligible.

6 Legal effect of the settlement

If the settlement is approved by the Court then it will be 'binding' on everyone who fits the definition of a 'group member' even if a person does not register. Being 'bound' means that you will not be able to bring your own case for the same or similar or related issues against the Commonwealth Government (including its officers), and your legal rights are replaced by the rights given to you under the settlement.

If the Court approves the settlement but you do not **register** your own claim or a claim for your parents who have died or a spouse (married or defacto) who has died, those rights will be lost, and you will receive no money.

7 What if you don't agree with the settlement?

People who are part of the class action have the right to tell the Court that they do not agree with and do not want the Court to approve the settlement (or parts of it). This is called "objecting" to the settlement.

If you want to object to the settlement, you need to ask Shine Lawyers for an objection form, using the details at the bottom of this notice. You then need to return that form to Shine Lawyers or the Victorian Federal Court Registry before **7 November 2024**.

If you object to the settlement, you should fill out the registration form anyway. That way, if the Court ends up approving the settlement, you will still be able to receive compensation money if you are eligible – even if you have objected.

If you want to attend the Court hearing to decide whether the settlement should be approved, you should speak to Shine Lawyers (using the contact details below) and they will give you information on how you can attend.

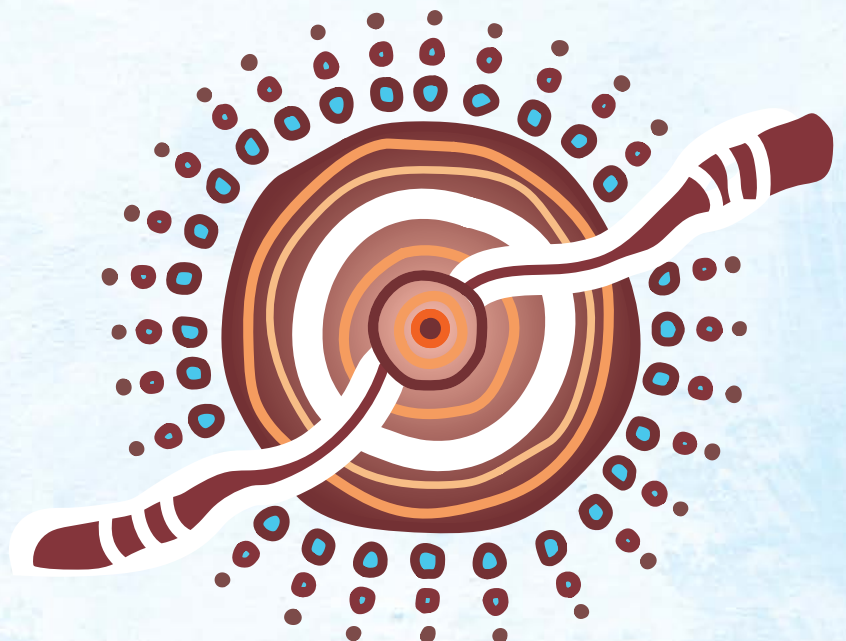
8 Get help or more information

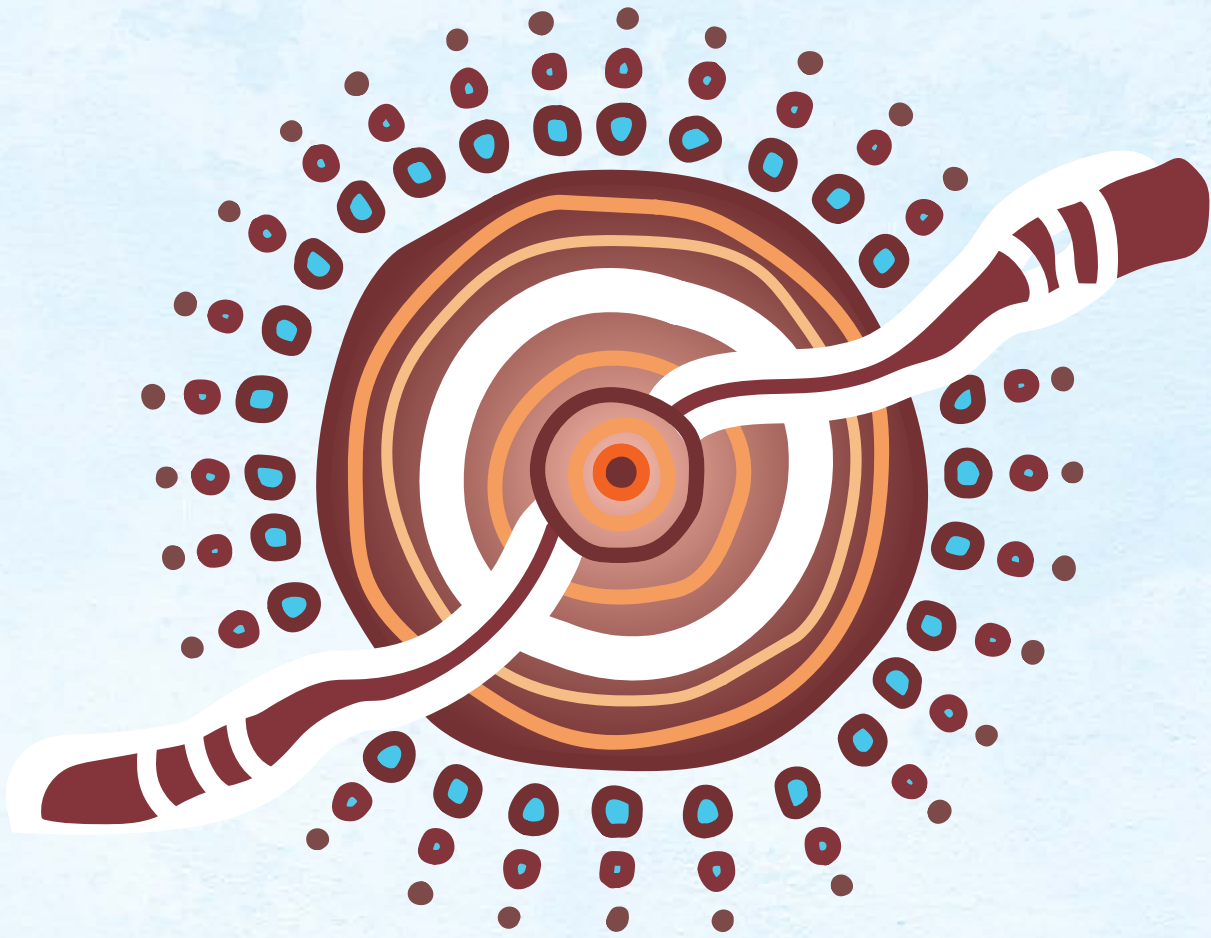
If you do not understand something or you are not sure what to do, you should speak to someone you trust and get their help. You might have your own lawyer, but you can also contact Shine Lawyers for more information and help.

- email them at ntstolenwages@shine.com.au
OR
- telephone them on free call **1800 860 378**

If you need to speak to someone in your own language, you need to find a way to contact Shine Lawyers by email or telephone and they will organise a free interpreter service to help you.

If you want to find out more about the case, the settlement agreement, or ask for a registration form, you can go to shine.com.au/stolenwagesnt, call **1800 860 378** or scan the QR code below.

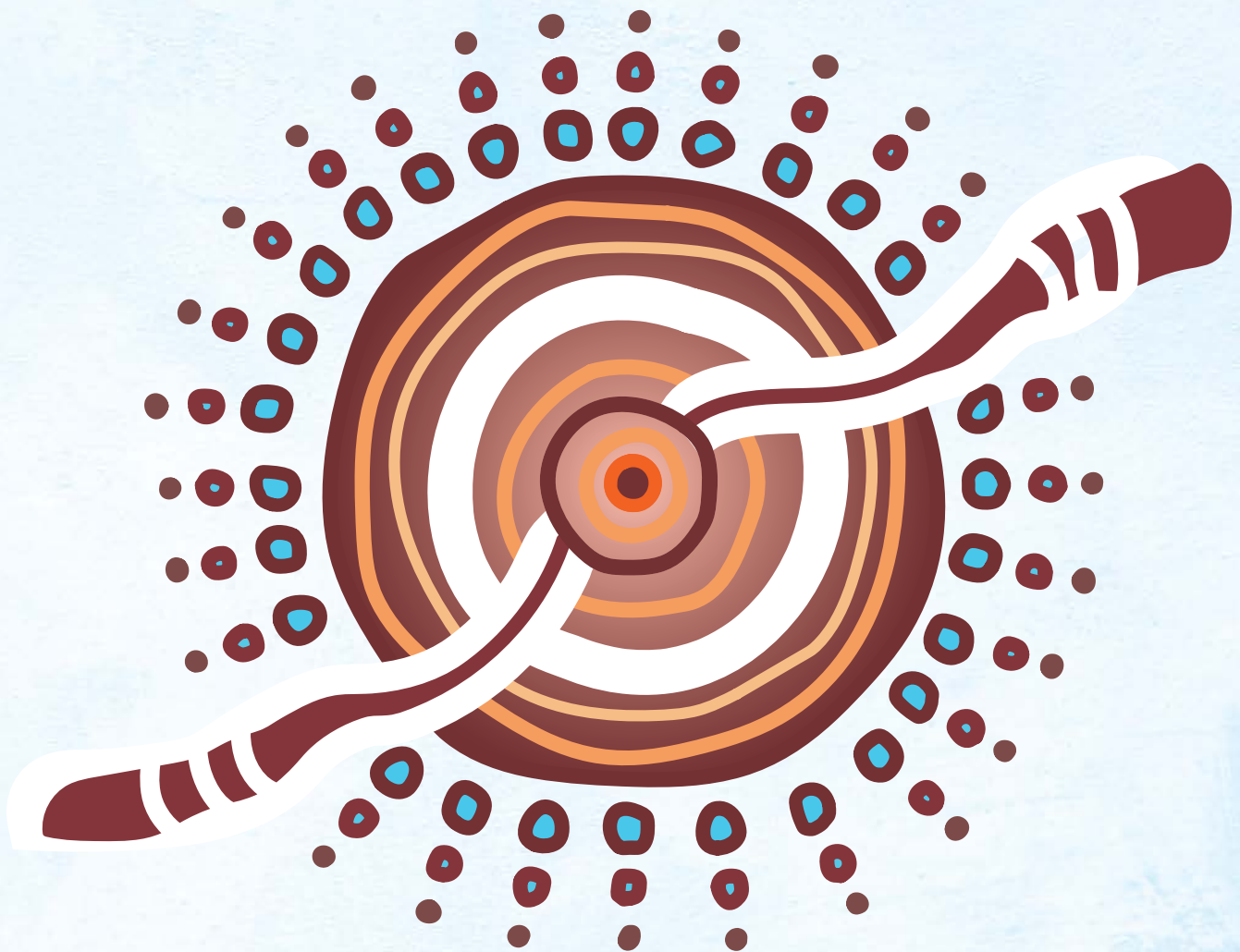




Northern Territory Stolen Wages Class Action **REGISTRATION FORM**

Tell us your information in this form to register for compensation money

If you need help, call us for free on 1800 860 378.



Registration Form

You must complete this Registration Form to 'register' with Shine Lawyers if you think you are eligible to be considered for compensation money.

If you think you may have already registered, you should contact Shine Lawyers to confirm your registration and update your details.

You can register one or more of the following types of claims:

1 Claim For Yourself: You are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person who worked in the Northern Territory between 1 June 1933 and 12 November 1971 for little or no wages.

>> Complete Part 3 of this form.

2 Claim For Your Spouse (husband/wife/partner – married or de facto): Your spouse was an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person who worked in the Northern Territory between 1 June 1933 and 12 November 1971 for little or no wages and has passed away.

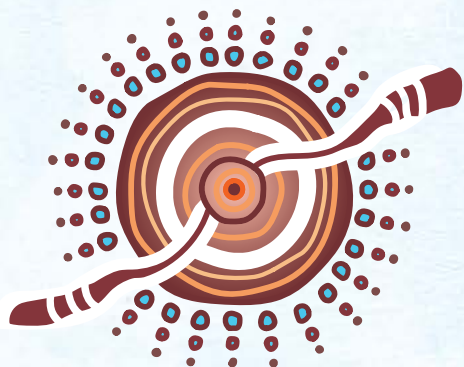
>> Complete Part 4 of this form.

3 Claim For Your Parent: Your mother, father or person who adopted you (either legally or under Aboriginal custom) was an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person who worked in the Northern Territory between 1 June 1933 and 12 November 1971 for little or no wages but has passed away.

>> Complete Part 5 of this form.

YOU SHOULD REGISTER ALL THE CLAIMS THAT YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO MAKE. This may mean that you complete more than one claim. For example, you may complete a Claim For Yourself, a Claim For Your Spouse for your deceased spouse, and a Claim For Your Parent for each of your deceased parents.

There is space in this form for you to complete one Claim For Yourself, one Claim For Your Spouse and one Claim For Your Parent. If you need to complete more than one Claim For Your Spouse or Claim For Your Parent, please use more forms.



How can you complete this Registration Form?

You can complete this Registration Form by doing one of the following:



online

Complete this Registration Form online at shine.com.au/ntstolenwagesregister



by email

Email the completed Registration Form and any supporting documents to ntstolenwages@shine.com.au



by phone

Telephone Shine Lawyers on **1800 860 378** and register over the phone



by post

Post the completed Registration Form and any supporting documents to:

Shine Lawyers
Class Actions – NT Stolen Wages Class Action
PO BOX 12011, George Street QLD 4000

If you don't know the answer to any of the questions in this form you should keep going and send it to us with as many questions answered as you can. We will call you if we need more information. You might also be asked for more information later by the independent administrator.

Last Date for Registration

You must register by completing and signing the Registration Form, and returning it to Shine Lawyers in any of the above ways by **31 August 2025**. If you are posting your completed Registration Form and supporting documents to Shine Lawyers, you will need to post these documents before this date so they are received by Shine Lawyers by **31 August 2025**. You must complete and sign your registration by **31 August 2025** to be considered to receive compensation. If you need assistance, please contact Shine Lawyers as soon as possible.

Support Services

We know that completing this Registration Form might be difficult for you. Shine Lawyers cannot give you counselling or crisis support, but we encourage you to contact the following organisations for support (24 hours a day, 7 days a week):

- 13YARN (specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples): call 13 92 76
- Lifeline: call 13 11 14
- Beyond Blue: call 1300 224 636
- NT Mental Health Line: 1800 682 288
- MensLine Australia (for men only): 1300 789 978

If your life is in immediate danger, call 000.

WHO IS FILLING OUT THIS FORM?

You are allowed to have help filling out this form. If someone is helping you, that person needs to provide their details below.

1. Are you completing this form by yourself or is someone helping you?

- Yourself – skip this section and go to Part 1
 Someone is assisting you – complete questions 2 to 5 below

2. If you are helping to fill out this form for someone else, how do you know them?

3. Your first and last name:

4. Your phone number:

5. Your email address:

In the rest of the form, when we ask about “you”, we are asking about the person completing the registration form (claimant) and not the person helping them.

PART 1: CLAIMANT’S DETAILS

1. Your first name:

2. Your last name:

**3. Your skin name:
(if you have one)**

**4. Any other names:
(e.g. maiden names)**

5. Your date of birth:

(If you do not know your exact date of birth, you can give us an approximate date of birth or an approximate year of birth)

6. Your place of birth:

(If you do not know your exact place of birth, you can give us an approximate place of birth)

7. Your mother’s name (if known):

8. Your father’s name (if known):

9. The names of your brothers and sisters (if known, and if you have any):

10. Your home address:

11. Your postal address (if different to your home address):

**12. Your phone number:
(if you have one)**

**13. Your email address:
(if you have one)**

14. Are you Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?

Yes No

15. How do you want to be contacted:

Phone Email Post

PART 1: CLAIMANT'S DETAILS (continued)

16. If we cannot contact you directly, is there a support person (for example, a family member, friend or community contact) we can contact to speak with you?

If you do not have any contact details, you **must** give us a contact for a support person so we can contact you.

- Yes – the same person who helped you fill out this form
 Yes – a different person – complete question 17
 No

17. Support person's details:

Full name:

Phone number:

Email address:

Postal address:

How you know your support person:

18. Do you agree to Shine Lawyers giving information and asking for information about your registration/s in this form to your support person:

Yes No

19. What language do you or your support person want to talk to us in:

- English
 Language:
Community:

PART 2: YOUR ID

20. Do you have photo ID?

For example, a Driver's Licence (including Learner's Permit), Photo Card (Evidence of Age Card), or Passport. You can give photo ID which is current or has expired within the last five (5) years

- Yes
 No, and I am not able to give any – complete question 21

If Yes, please **attach** a copy of the photo ID to this Registration Form (do not send the original).

21. If you do not have photo ID, do you have two types of other ID?

For example, copies of a Birth Certificate, Marriage Certificate, Medicare Card, Concession Card, Health Care Card, Bank Card (Key Card), bank account statement, electricity bill, or Tenancy Agreement.

- Yes
 No – continue with the form and contact Shine Lawyers to talk about other ID you can give

If Yes, please **attach** copies of your two forms of ID to this Registration Form (do not send the originals), or you can send your ID by text message, email or post (see below).

Sending Your ID

You can send also your ID to Shine Lawyers by:

- Taking a photo and texting it to 0461 364 522;
 - Taking a photo and emailing it to ntstolenwages@shine.com.au;
- OR

- Taking a copy and posting it to:

Shine Lawyers

Class Actions – NT Stolen Wages Class Action
PO BOX 12011, George Street QLD 4000

If you need to speak to Shine Lawyers, please call them on **1800 860 378**, not the mobile phone number.

PART 4: CLAIM FOR YOUR SPOUSE

Only complete this section if you are **registering for your Spouse (husband, wife or partner – married or defacto), who has passed away** (referred to as the “deceased person”).

26. At the time of the deceased person passing were you:

in a legal or customary marriage with the deceased person and that relationship had not ended?

OR

in a defacto relationship with the deceased person where you lived together as a couple for a period of at least two (2) years in a relationship, and the relationship had not ended?

If you are claiming for more than one deceased spouse, please fill in separate registration forms for each spouse.

27. What was the first and last name of the deceased person?

28. What was the maiden name (last name before they got married to you) of the deceased person (if applicable)?

29. What was the skin name of the deceased person (if you know, and if they had one)?

30. Did the deceased person have any other name(s)?

31. Was the deceased person Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?

Yes No

32. What was the deceased person’s date of birth to the best of your knowledge?

If you do not know their exact date of birth, you can give us an approximate date of birth or an approximate year of birth.

33. What was the deceased person’s place of birth to the best of your knowledge?

If you do not know their exact place of birth, you can give us an approximate place of birth.

34. What was the date the deceased person passed away?

If you do not know the exact date, you can put the approximate date or year the deceased person passed away.

35. What was the deceased person’s language group (if you know)?

36. Do you have any documents showing the date of birth or date of death of the deceased person, or your relationship?

(i.e. birth or death certificate for the deceased person; or your marriage certificate; or a letter showing both of your names)

Yes – if so, please attach **copies** of these documents to the Registration Form (do not attach original documents) or text message, email or post them to us (see Part 2 for contact details).

No

37. When did you and the deceased person get married (if married) or start living together (if in a defacto relationship)?

If you do not know the exact date, you can put an approximate date or year.

38. For defacto relationships only: where did you and the deceased person live together?

39. What was the name of the deceased person’s mother (if known)?

40. What was the name of the deceased person’s father (if known)?

PART 5: CLAIM FOR YOUR PARENT

Only complete this section if you are **registering for a parent (mother, father, person who adopted you legally or person considered to be your parent under Aboriginal custom) who has passed away** (referred to as the “deceased person”).

49. At the time of the deceased person passing were you:

the biological child (i.e. related by blood) of the deceased person?

OR

a legally adopted child of the deceased person?

OR

considered to be the child of the deceased person under or according to the customs and traditions of your Community or Group?

If you are claiming for more than one deceased parent, fill in separate registration forms.

50. What was the first and last name of the deceased person?

51. What was the maiden name (last name before they got married) of the deceased person (if applicable)?

52. What was the skin name of the deceased person (if you know, and if they had one)?

53. Was the deceased person known by any other name(s)?

54. Was the deceased person Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?

Yes No

55. What was the deceased person’s date of birth to the best of your knowledge?

If you do not know their exact date of birth, you can give us an approximate date of birth or an approximate year of birth.

56. What was the deceased person’s place of birth to the best of your knowledge?

If you do not know their exact place of birth, you can give us an approximate place of birth.

57. What was the date the deceased person passed away?

If you do not know the exact date, you can put the approximate date or year the deceased person passed away.

58. What was the deceased person’s language group (if you know)?

59. Do you have any documents confirming the identity of the deceased person, or your relationship to them:

(i.e. birth, marriage or death certificate for the deceased person; or your birth certificate if it has the deceased person on it; or your adoption papers)

Yes – if so, please attach **copies** of these documents to the Registration Form (do not attach original documents) or text message, email or post them to us (see Part 2 for contact detail)

No

60. Only complete this question if you are the legally adopted child of the deceased person:

Tell us any information you can about your adoption:

PART 5: CLAIM FOR YOUR PARENT (continued)

61. Only complete this question if you were considered to be the child of the deceased person under the customs and traditions of your Community or Group:

Tell us any information you can about how you are considered to be a child of the deceased person under the customs and traditions of your Community or Group:

62. What was the name of the deceased person's mother (if known)?

63. What was the name of the deceased person's father (if known)?

64. What were the names of the deceased person's siblings (brothers and sisters) (if known)?

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65. Did the deceased person work in the Northern Territory between 1 June 1933 and 12 November 1971: Yes No

66. Please tell us information about the deceased person's work in the Northern Territory in the table below. For example, you can talk about the work they did at a station, a settlement or a mission (or more than one place).

Place of work For example, the name of the station, mission, institution, settlement, or other. If you do not know the name, please provide as much information as possible about where they worked. e.g. Wave Hill Station e.g. Santa Teresa Mission e.g. Warrabri Settlement	Location of work For example, the town or area where the work was done. e.g. Alice Springs e.g. East Arnhem e.g. Barkly Tableland	When work was done This can be the approximate year, range of years or decade. e.g. 1955 e.g. 1955-1965 e.g. 1950s	Type of work performed For example, station work, domestic work, other. e.g. Station work e.g. Domestic work e.g. Cooking and cleaning

If you need more space to tell us about their work, please use Part 10.

67. Did the deceased person receive little or no wages for their work (above)? Yes No

PART 5: CLAIM FOR YOUR PARENT (continued)

68. How do you know this information about the deceased person's work:

- You saw it The deceased person told you Someone who knew the deceased person told you
 You have seen documents Other:

69. Do you have any records about the deceased persons' work: Yes No

If Yes, please **attach** copies of these documents (do not send the originals) or text message, email or post them to us (see Part 2 for contact details). You do not have to give us documents, but any documents you have may help with your registration and payment of compensation money to you.

PART 6: YOUR BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

Do you have a bank account in your name? Yes No

If yes, please complete your bank details below. If no, please contact Shine Lawyers to tell them how you would like any compensation money to be paid to you.

Bank Account Details

Bank:

Account Name:

BSB:

Account Number:

Note: If your bank details change, you need to tell us as soon as possible.

PART 7: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Is there anything else you would like to tell us? Yes No

If yes, please provide this information in the space provided at the back of this form.

PART 8: AUTHORISATION

I agree that the Administrator can use the information provided in this Registration Form to decide if I have an eligible claim, including by sharing this information with other persons and bodies. Yes No

If you do not agree to the Administrator using and sharing the information in this form, this may mean the Administrator is unable to decide if you are eligible to receive a payment.

PART 9: SIGNATURE

I promise that the information provided in this Registration Form (including attachments) is true and I understand that lying may be a criminal offence. Yes

Signature:

Date:

