**Pathfinders National Aboriginal Birth Certificate Program**

**Critical Information for Service Providers and Applicants**

Pathfinders are proud to work in partnership with local service providers to provide this great opportunity to Aboriginal children and young people.

We endeavour to make this happen as smoothly and efficiently for both our partner agencies and the clients. With this in mind it is critical that everyone understands the eligibility criteria and what is required on the ‘sign up’ days.

**PROGRAM OUTCOMES**

* Getting children into school
* Improving education outcomes including attainment of Year 12
* Improving youth transition to vocational and higher education and work
* Supporting families to give children a good start in life through improved early childhood development, care, educational outcomes and youth transitions
* Strengthen community involvement in school and educational outcomes
* Improve youth transitions, access to traineeships, school retention rates and casual employment opportunities,
* Promote school enrolment, attendance, educational transitions and retentions
* Provide proof- of age documents to help enrol children into preschools and schools

**ELIGIBILITY**

* Children and young people must be between 0 – 21 years old
* Only **one** parent/carer is eligible to get a birth cert when applying for their child
* Young people 16 yrs and over can apply for their own birth certificate
* Young people 18 yrs and over **MUST** apply for their own birth certificate
* The need for a birth certificate must be for education and or employment purposes e.g. Drivers Lic., school/study enrolment

**CLIENTS *MUST* BRING THE FOLLOWING TO ‘SIGN UP’**

* Identification, examples such as: **at least 3-4 of the following**
	+ - Drivers Lic.
		- Passport
		- Medicare card
		- Centrelink card
		- Health care card
		- ATM card
		- Proof of Age card
		- Centrelink Statement of who benefit is for (NOT THE INCOME STATEMENT)
		- Firearms Lic.
		- Copy of rental lease
		- Letter from GP, School, FaCS, Support Agency
		- Certificate of Aboriginality
		- Certificate of Marriage
		- Copies of Phone, electricity and or gas bills
* All identification **must** be current. Expired cards are **not** accepted.
* The child’s name **must** **appear** on at least ONE piece of ID with the parent/carer e.g. Medicare or Centrelink card.
* If no card available then a letter from GP, School, FaCS etc. stating who is the Primary Carer of the child

**EXEMPTIONS**

‘Stolen Children’ can apply for a birth certificate through the program but still need to provide as much identification as possible.

**PLEASE NOTE**

APPLICANTS BORN IN QUEENSLAND & VICTORIA:-

* **Photocopy of Identification Documentation ‘MUST’ be signed by a ‘JP’.**