

# LODGING AN ABORIGINAL LAND CLAIM WITH ORALRA

## A land claim may be lodged by the NSW Aboriginal Land Council (NSWALC) or a Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC)

A land claim may only be lodged by NSWALC or a LALC on land in NSW.

An ALC may be lodged over any land but will only be granted if the claimed land is claimable Crown land as defined in section 36, Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 (NSW) (ALRA).

## Who can lodge a land claim?

- NSWALC can lodge a land claim on its own behalf or on behalf of a LALC
- A LALC may lodge a land claim over land within its boundary
- A LALC may lodge a land claim outside its boundary with the approval of the Registrar
- Individuals (LALC members, staff, board members) cannot lodge a land claim

The land claim form [Land Claim for Land Pursuant to Aboriginal Land rights Act 1983 \(NSW\) Section 36, 37](https://www.oralra.nsw.gov.au/forms/land-claim-form/index.html) can be downloaded from the ORALRA website:  
<https://www.oralra.nsw.gov.au/forms/land-claim-form/index.html>

## Requirements for lodgement of a land claim

This table sets out the requirements for registration of a land claim:

Information required for registration of a land claim	Further details
Contact details for claimant LALC	Include a contact name, current LALC email address, postal address and telephone number
A description of the claimed land	Include Lot, DP, SP, or other descriptor. If the land claimed is a part lot, a map and/or the coordinates of the land claimed must be included with the claim. If the land claimed is unidentified, provide the descriptor/s of the land using the largest adjacent boundary/boundaries to the claimed land
Location of the claimed land	The relevant parish, county and LGA can be identified in a Cadastral Records Enquiry (CRE) which is available on the NSW Land Registry Service (LRS) online: <a href="https://online.nswlrs.com.au/wps/portal/six/find-records/lut/p/z1/04_Sj9CPykssy0xPLMnMz0vMAfjjo8ziLQMMMLQydLjy8DAwtLAwcvQOdTIKM3AwNLMz0w8EKnN0dPUzMfQwMDEwsjAw8XZw8XMwtfQ0MPM30o4jRb4AD0BoQpx-Pgjj8xofrR4GV4PMBITMKckNDIwwyHQHCfquM/dz/">https://online.nswlrs.com.au/wps/portal/six/find-records/lut/p/z1/04_Sj9CPykssy0xPLMnMz0vMAfjjo8ziLQMMMLQydLjy8DAwtLAwcvQOdTIKM3AwNLMz0w8EKnN0dPUzMfQwMDEwsjAw8XZw8XMwtfQ0MPM30o4jRb4AD0BoQpx-Pgjj8xofrR4GV4PMBITMKckNDIwwyHQHCfquM/dz/</a>
Local Government Area (LGA)	
Parish	
County	
LALC area	The LALC boundary can be checked using the NSW Planning Portal Spatial Viewer: <a href="https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/spatialviewer/#/find-a-property/lot">https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/spatialviewer/#/find-a-property/lot</a>
Signature of LALC Chairperson, CEO or delegate	The board of a LALC (or an authorised delegate) needs to approve the making of a claim

### What to do next

Email the completed form and other documentation to ORALRA at [alc@orlara.nsw.gov.au](mailto:alc@orlara.nsw.gov.au). Email is the preferred delivery for all forms sent to ORALRA because an email is timestamped. The timestamp will be the lodgement date for assessment of the land claim. The lodgement date is the date the Crown Lands Minister uses when determining the claim.

### What ORALRA will do next

When a land claim is received, ORALRA will conduct a preliminary check to ensure the claim document provides information required to register the claim. The claim will be returned to the claimant if further information required in the claim. When the claim document meets the information requirements, the claim is allocated a unique claim number (ALC number) and the land claim is registered. The stamped land claim and a letter informing the Crown Lands Minister of the registration of the land claim is then referred to the Minister, with a copy sent to the claimant.

### What ORALRA does not do

ORALRA does not provide information on claimable land  
ORALRA does not engage in any land dealings such as managing, buying or selling land  
ORALRA does not determine land claims

**Note:** the content of this fact sheet is intended for information purposes only. It is not intended as legal advice and should not be relied upon as legal advice. The Office of the Registrar ALRA Lodging an Aboriginal Land claim fact sheet prepared 09/04/2026