

QUEENSLAND TOURISM INDUSTRY COUNCIL

The Voice of Tourism

# Year of Indigenous Tourism Event Subsidy Guidelines February 2021

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## Contents

3ACKGROUND
GUIDELINES
Eligible Events
Eligibility Criteria4
SUBSIDY PROCESS
VALUATION
IMELINE
COMMUNICATION PLAN

## BACKGROUND

As part of the Year of Indigenous Tourism, the Queensland Government has supported the Queensland Tourism Industry Council (QTIC) to establish and manage a \$10,000 event subsidy program to cover the registration fees for eligible First Nations operators/individuals to attend a number of tourism trade events throughout 2021.

This subsidy falls under the Queensland Government contract that QTIC has leadership on and which focuses on training and events. The contract states that QTIC is to provide a subsidy to the value of \$10,000 to support First Nations People to attend new events and grow their networks by engaging with potential partners, investors and business operators alike.

Intended objectives of the subsidy include:

• Increase engagement with Queensland First Nations people with significant events.

The event subsidy aims to provide:

- Attendees with the opportunity to gain knowledge and new insights from industry leaders
- Opportunities for attendees to form new connections and partnerships

#### **GUIDELINES**

#### **Eligible Events**

Subsidy of registration fees is available for the following events (in order of occurrence):

- World Indigenous Tourism Summit, 31 Oct 4 Nov 2021, Perth
- Destination IQ, 10 Nov 2021, Brisbane
- Destination Q, 11 Nov 2021, Brisbane

As the World Indigenous Tourism Summit is a major event costing up to \$800 to register, the number of attendees supported by this program is capped. QTIC will only support three applicants from three separate, eligible organisations/businesses to attend the World Indigenous Tourism Summit. All other mentioned events will be allocated by interest and eligibility.

Consideration will be given to additional events that fall within a specialist tourism category (i.e. ecotourism, arts, culinary etc,) and are relevant to your business.

The program will cease by 12 November 2021, or when all available funds are exhausted.

#### **Eligibility Criteria**

The event subsidies are only available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who reside in Queensland and are actively engaged in the tourism sector.

Applicants must also meet at least 2 of the following criteria to qualify for the subsidy:

- Be a member of QTIC
- Be a member of a Regional Tourism Organisation
- Be a member of a Prescribed Body Corporate
- Be gaining relevant specialised knowledge at the conference
- Be presenting at the conference

Within the submission, the applicant must also briefly explain why the conference will be beneficial for you professionally, and as a business.

You are not eligible if you meet any of the following criteria:

- A non-Indigenous person
- Located in NSW, ACT, VIC, TAS, WA, SA or NT
- Not employed in tourism or a tourism business

## SUBSIDY PROCESS

To ensure fairness and equity, QTIC will cover registration costs only. The intention is to approve as many applications as the budget will allow.

QTIC will register on behalf of successful applicants to ensure a simple process and reduce opportunity for misuse of any allocated money.

Where possible QTIC will speak with the event organisers to reserve a number of tickets to the events for successful subsidy recipients.

The steps in the process are:

- Step 1: Applicant to submit application form to QTIC via email
- Step 2: QTIC/Evaluator to assess applications
- Step 3: QTIC to notify individuals on the outcome of their application
- Step 4: QTIC to register on behalf of successful recipient/s\*

4

\*Please note it is the responsibility of the recipient to organise their own travel and accommodation arrangements.

QTIC will acknowledge all applications upon receipt.

### **EVALUATION**

Applicants must complete the application form to be considered. Applicants must meet at least two of the established criteria.

An evaluation committee will be established to verify the outcome of applications to ensure a fair and non-biased decision.

An evaluation committee will comprise of:

- A representative from the Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport
- Member or observer of the First Nations Tourism Working Group or Champions Network
- QTIC Project Officer

#### TIMELINE

Applications for subsidy funding will open when ticketing opens for an event and will close two weeks prior to the event date. This will allow enough time for individuals to submit applications and for QTIC to evaluate and provide results to applicants.

Any applications received after the specified date for the nominated event will not be considered.

## **COMMUNICATION PLAN**

This subsidy will be distributed to Queensland First Nations Tourism Operators via email and social media. QTIC will utilise existing networks, along with the networks of DTIS and Tourism and Events Queensland to expand our reach and ensure effective information dissemination.

Applicants will receive a follow up email to confirm the status of the submission.

For more information, please contact Rhonda Appo at Queensland Tourism Industry Council on 3236 1445 or <u>Rhonda.appo@qtic.com.au</u>