



Emerging Directors Program Application Guide: Understanding the Selection Criteria

We want to ensure every applicant understands what we are looking for and can put their best foot forward. Below is an explanation of the key criteria we will use to assess your application. Use this guide to help you provide the information we need to understand your passion, experience, and potential.

1. Identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander

- The applicant must identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.
 - Applicants may be required to provide supporting documentation or a statement of recognition from a community leader, Elder, or other recognised representative
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2. Motivation & Commitment

We want to understand why this program matters to you and how it aligns with your goals.

What this means: Share why you're interested in Indigenous governance and leadership, and why this program appeals to you. What motivates you to grow as a leader or director?

Tips for your application:

- Explain your personal reasons for applying and how this program fits into your future plans.
- Highlight skills or knowledge you hope to gain.
- Demonstrate how you'll prioritise the program and balance other commitments.

Support: If needed, AIGI can provide written documentation for conversations with employers or other obligations.



3. Leadership and Growth Potential

We are looking for individuals eager to develop governance and leadership skills and contribute to their community or profession.

What we're looking for:

- Evidence of leadership potential, including the ability to inspire, a commitment to learning, and a desire to grow.
- A clear vision for personal growth and the impact you want to make.
- Formal leadership or governance experience isn't required. We value initiative, decision-making, and the ability to motivate others.

4. Community Involvement

Applicants should be passionate about making a positive impact in their community and advancing Indigenous self-determination through effective governance practices.

Applicants must articulate how they are involved in their community and how they intend to use the skills and knowledge gained from the program to benefit their community, organisation or broader Indigenous governance sector.

What this means: Tell us about how you've been involved in your community or connected to your culture. This could include volunteering, helping others, participating in cultural activities, or being a role model.

5. Other Relevant Skills or Experience

We are looking for skills and experiences that will help you succeed in this program.



What this means: This could include communication, teamwork, problem-solving, or any other skill that shows you're ready to participate and learn.

Tips for your application:

- Think broadly about your experiences—this might include school, work, volunteering, or hobbies.
- Share examples that show you can work well with others or take on responsibility.
- Don't worry if you don't have formal experience—skills like being a good listener or helping out in your family are also important.

Age and Career Stage

- The program is aimed at **emerging directors**, those that are early in their governance journey, who are looking to take on board or leadership roles in the future.
- Applicants do not need prior governance or leadership experience but must show drive and passion to build their knowledge, experience, and skillset.
- Applicants must be **18 years or older** and at a stage in their career where the program will support their development and future governance and leadership roles.