

Bail: what you need to know

This factsheet is for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who've just been given bail or are already on bail. It's important to understand what bail means, how it works, and the steps you can take to keep strong and safe in the community.

Bail means you can stay in the community while waiting for court instead of being locked up. You promise to:

- go to court when asked to
- follow your bail conditions.

If you break these rules, police can arrest you and you might lose bail.

Bail conditions

Your bail conditions are the rules you must stick to. They might include:

- living at a certain address
- reporting to the police station regularly
- staying home at night (curfew)
- not drinking alcohol or using drugs
- not contacting certain people or going to certain places.

The court, or the police officer who grants you bail, will give you a copy of your bail conditions. Keep it safe and read it carefully to make sure you understand what this means for you.

Sometimes life happens – you might need to travel for cultural obligations, attend Sorry Business or care for family.

Talk to your lawyer first so the court can consider these responsibilities.

Who can help you?

Aboriginal Legal Service (ALS)

Free legal help for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in NSW and ACT, including:

- the [Front Up service](#) if you have an outstanding warrant or haven't followed your bail conditions
- the [Ngurrambai Bail Support](#) program, which provides cultural support and guidance if you are on or applying for bail.

Call **1800 765 767** or visit www.alsnswact.org.au

Legal Aid ACT

Free legal advice and help with bail applications or changes.

Call **1300 654 314** (Mon–Thu 8:30am–7pm, Fri 8:30am–5pm) or visit www.legalaidact.org.au

Victim Support ACT

If you're a victim of crime or worried about someone who is, Victim Support ACT offers free counselling, advocacy, and court support in a safe and supportive way.

Call **1800 822 272** or visit www.hrc.act.gov.au/victim-support

If you need help, don't wait – reach out to ALS or Legal Aid.