



Ministry
of Defence

LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme guide

How to apply for a Financial
Recognition Payment

Version 3 (June 2026)



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This guide is to help those wishing to apply for a Financial Recognition Payment.

Who can apply for a Financial Recognition Payment?

The LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme has published eligibility criteria which can be found on GOV.UK:

Veterans of the LGBT Ban: Financial Recognition Scheme
www.gov.uk/government/publications/veterans-of-the-lgbt-ban-financial-recognition-scheme

To be eligible for a Financial Recognition Payment, the applicant has to have:

- served in HM Armed Forces between 27 July 1967 to 11 January 2000
- been affected by the Ban on LGBT personnel serving in HM Armed Forces

There are two types of Financial Recognition Payments:

LGBT Dismissed or Discharged Payment. A payment for those who were dismissed or administratively discharged, including Officers who were ordered or instructed to resign or retire by their respective Service Board, solely on the basis of their actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity during the Ban.

LGBT Impact Payment. A payment for those who fulfil the criteria in one of the levels (Levels 1 to 3) outlined in the Financial Recognition Payment Types and Tariff Table (LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme Rules Annex B). The payment reflects the personal impact which the Ban had on applicants during the period of their service in HM Armed Forces up to the point they left service.

Financial Recognition Payments

LGBT Dismissed or Discharged Payment	£50,000
LGBT Impact Payment – Levels	Financial Recognition Tariff Range
Level 1	£1,000 to £5,000
Level 2	£5,001 to £10,000
Level 3	£10,001 to £20,000

Applying

All applications will be processed in accordance with the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme Rules. You can only apply via the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme App or by using an official LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme hard copy application form. Applicants must have served in HM Armed Forces during the period of the Ban.

Applications should be completed as fully as possible. We will contact you if we have any questions regarding your application or if we need further information from you. Please take your time to complete your application form. The application window will be open for 24 months.

Contacting the Financial Recognition Scheme

The Financial Recognition Scheme can be contacted by:

- Email: **LGBT-FRScheme@mod.gov.uk**
- Post: **Freepost LGBT FR SCHEME**

Please include your service number and current last name in the email subject line or on the letter head. If your last name was different during your service, include it in brackets after your current last name.

The ‘Freepost’ address is for the UK only.

For overseas applicants submitting a hard copy application, a different process is in place. They will receive two envelopes with a designated UK return address, ensuring they do not incur postage costs for submitting their applications.

Supporting documents

You will have to provide supporting documents to prove your personal details. We encourage you to include any supporting documents or evidence for the type of payment you have applied for with your application. If you do not have supporting documents, or choose not to provide them, please include as much detail as possible in your written account of what happened. This will help us assess your application. You will not be called to give any evidence in person.

A copy of your application

After you have submitted your online application, you will receive an automated email to confirm that a copy of your application is available for download or printing from the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme App. You can sign in at any time to access the latest copy of your application. If you make changes within the first 2 weeks after submission, you will be notified when the latest version is available for download or printing. If you are submitting a hard copy application, you are strongly advised to take a copy for your own records.

Providing consent to release information

To process your application, we will require your consent to access personnel files held by the MOD. These files will form the basis of your case file which will be used to process your application for a Financial Recognition Payment. If we require access to your medical files, we will seek your consent separately.

Application window

The Financial Recognition Scheme will be open for applications for 24 months, starting at 9.00 am on 13 December 2024, and closing at 11.59 pm on 12 December 2026. No applications will be accepted before the application window is opened or after it closes.

Changing your application

You can make changes to your online application within 2 weeks of it being submitted. After this period, your application will move to the initial application check phase. The Financial Recognition Scheme will let you know when your application starts undergoing its initial application check. For online or hard copy applicants, if you need to make minor amendments or updates after the application has entered the initial application check phase,

please contact the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme, as soon as possible:

- Email: LGBT-FRScheme@mod.gov.uk
- Post: **Freepost LGBT FR SCHEME**

Terminally ill applicants

The LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme will prioritise applications from applicants who are terminally ill. The applicant will have the opportunity to declare that they have a terminal illness diagnosis when they apply and will need to submit evidence to support this. This could include:

- a letter from your GP, consultant or other suitably qualified medical professional
- confirmation that you are in receipt of DWP Special Rules (SR1) allowance
- a letter from a hospice care provider

We know that this will be a sensitive time for the applicant and their family and friends. The LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme has a medical officer who reviews all evidence related to terminal illness diagnoses. If follow-up questions arise, the medical officer will contact the applicant directly.

If an applicant is diagnosed with a terminal illness after submitting their application, they should contact the Financial Recognition Scheme by email or letter with supporting evidence. This will then be reviewed by the medical officer and the application will be prioritised. If the applicant becomes too unwell to contact the Financial Recognition Scheme themselves, they can appoint a legal representative to do so on their behalf (see Scheme Rules Part 3 at [Veterans of the LGBT Ban: Financial Recognition Scheme](#)).

Applicants who lack capacity

If an applicant lacks capacity or is unable to complete the application form themselves, a legal representative may complete and submit the application on the applicant's behalf. This could be someone who has Power of Attorney (or an overseas equivalent), someone nominated in a letter written by the applicant, or a legal professional such as a solicitor (please note that any legal fees incurred will be the sole responsibility of the individual who engaged the legal services). The legal representative will be required to supply their personal details and evidence of their status as a legal representative (such as a Power of Attorney document, or a letter from the applicant instructing the legal representative to act on their behalf, etc.). Financial Recognition Payments will only be paid to the applicant and not the legal representative.

An applicant represented by a legal representative can apply online. However, if a legal representative is representing more than one applicant, they must use a hard copy application, as the online system cannot process multiple applications under the same representative. See the section below about how to obtain a hard copy application form from the Financial Recognition Scheme.

Changing your legal representative

If an applicant has to change their legal representative, the new legal representative should contact the Financial Recognition Scheme by email or letter explaining the reasons for the change. Guidance will be given about what actions need to be taken to make the change.



How to apply for a Financial Recognition Payment

Online applications

The Financial Recognition Scheme has a dedicated online application which can be accessed through the Defence Gateway Platform. The Financial Recognition Scheme App has been designed so that applicants will be able to check the progress of their application at any time. It is planned that the Financial Recognition Scheme App will be a key part of how we will communicate with applicants. We recommend using the online application process.

Applicants can use any browser to access the Defence Gateway and view their application on the Financial Recognition Scheme App.

There is a two-step process to accessing the online Financial Recognition Scheme App:

Step 1: Online Defence Gateway registration

Note for existing Defence Gateway account holders:

If you already have a Defence Gateway account, you can access the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme App from your existing account. If you attempt to register again, your application will be declined, as a check is performed to confirm existing accounts.

A small cohort of existing Defence Gateway account holders, where their accounts are not associated with a Service or Civil Service number, will find that they will not be able to access the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme App because of the way that the App has been built. These individuals are advised to contact the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme via email (LGBT-FRScheme@mod.gov.uk) where help will be provided.



The LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme App icon features a rainbow design along with the letters LGBT FRS.

You can find a link to start the online application process on the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme page on GOV.UK – [Veterans of the LGBT Ban: Financial Recognition Scheme](#). The link will take you to a Defence Gateway Registration Form where you will be asked to provide information such as your name when in service, your name now (if different), your service number and your email.

The screenshot shows the Ministry of Defence website for the Defence Gateway. At the top left is the Ministry of Defence logo. The main heading is 'DG Defence Gateway' in a dark purple box. Below this is the sub-heading 'LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme'. A welcome message reads: 'Welcome to the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme Defence Gateway registration process.' A note in a light purple box states: 'Please note: You do not have to undertake this step if you already have a Defence Gateway account. You can sign in to the Defence Gateway and access the Financial Recognition Scheme application directly.' Below this is a link to 'Information about how to apply for an LGBT Financial Recognition payment can be found at <http://www.gov.uk/lgbt-veterans>.' The main body of text explains that the registration step provides access to the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme App and allows administrators to verify service identity. It also notes that after submission, users will receive account details and must keep them secure. A final paragraph mentions that legal representatives can apply on behalf of those who lack capacity. At the bottom, there is a green button with the text 'Start registration >' and a purple dot to its right. Below the button is a link to 'Defence Gateway helpdesk'.

This is the first page you will see when you enter the process to request a Defence Gateway Account through the LGBT Registration form process.

Please read the information before you press **Start registration**.

You, or your legal representative on your behalf, will need to complete all the relevant fields in the Defence Gateway Registration Form (some fields are 'optional' but please provide the information if you know it).

The Defence Gateway Registration Form will require you, or your legal representative on your behalf, to confirm consent for the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme to access MOD held personnel records to verify that you served during the period of the Ban.

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Defence Gateway" with a "Back" link. The main heading is "LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme". Below this is a question: "Are you applying for yourself or on behalf of someone else as their Legal Representative?". There are two radio button options: "Myself" (which is selected) and "As a Legal Representative for an Applicant". A green "Continue" button is visible, and a purple progress indicator shows the current step. A link for "Defence Gateway helpdesk" is at the bottom.

If you are a legal representative completing the application on behalf of an applicant who lacks capacity, please make the correct selection.

Consent to the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme accessing your MOD-held personal information

If consent is **not** given to the Financial Recognition Scheme to review records held by the MOD, the Financial Recognition Scheme will be unable to process your application

I consent to the review of records containing my personal information that are in the possession of the MOD or provided to the MOD, including records which may contain medical in confidence information or documents, by the MOD. I agree that these records may be reviewed by any Scheme case manager, Independent Panel or Appeal Board members (or Secretariat Staff working on their behalf) for the purpose of progressing my application for a LGBT Financial Recognition payment(s).

Confirmation that the registrant served in HM Armed Forces during the period of the Ban

If this box is **not** ticked, as a statement of confirmation of service, the Financial Recognition Scheme will be unable to process your registration

I confirm that I served during the period of the Ban between 27 July 1967 and 11 January 2000 inclusive.

Consent has to be given, as well as confirmation of service during the Ban period, in order that the Defence Gateway Registration Form can be submitted.

When you first sign in, you will have to complete a security question check using the answer you provided during registration. Please ensure that you remember the answer to your security question.

Set security question and answer

We will use this to set the password for your Defence Gateway account once your request is approved.

Question

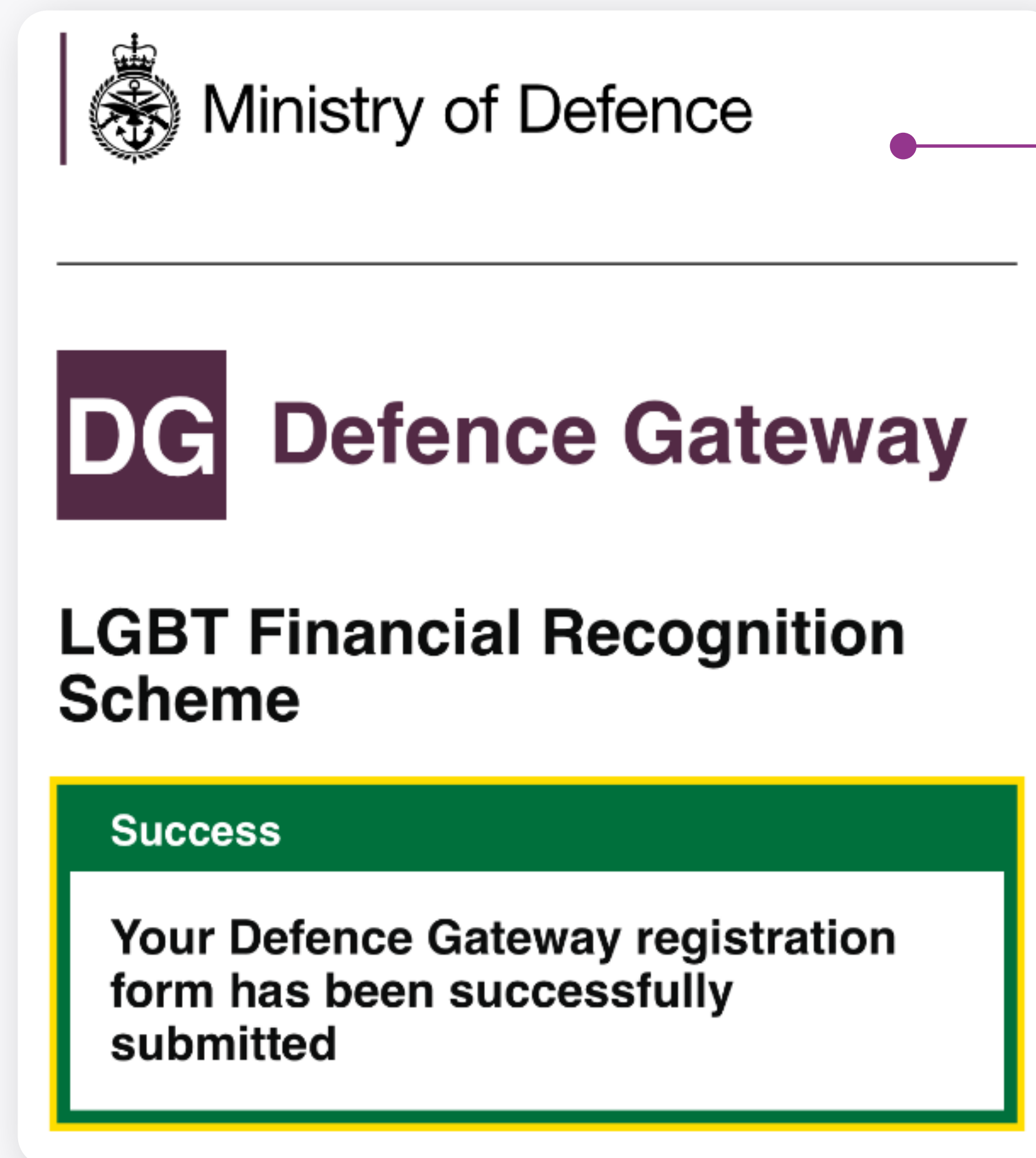
Answer

Submit

[Defence Gateway helpdesk](#)

Press **Submit** to submit your Defence Gateway Registration Form.

Once you have submitted your Defence Gateway Registration Form, **you will need to wait for your Defence Gateway account to be issued** to you, which will then enable you to sign in to the Defence Gateway. This could take up to 10 days.



The screenshot shows the Ministry of Defence logo at the top left, followed by the text "Ministry of Defence". Below this is a horizontal line. The "DG Defence Gateway" logo is prominently displayed in the center. Underneath, the text "LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme" is shown. At the bottom, a green-bordered box contains the message: "Success" followed by "Your Defence Gateway registration form has been successfully submitted".

This screen will appear when you have successfully submitted your Defence Gateway Registration Form.

- The information you provide will be reviewed to confirm your identity and service during the period of the Ban.
- If there are any issues with the information provided on the Defence Gateway Registration Form, a team member from the Financial Recognition Scheme will contact you or your legal representative by email.
- The Financial Recognition Scheme will aim to set up your Defence Gateway account and provide you with your Defence Gateway account details as quickly as possible (we will endeavour to complete this within 10 days). However, processing times may vary depending on the volume of applications or if service records need to be retrieved from the MOD archive.

The Financial Recognition Scheme will send your Defence Gateway sign in details to you by email. You will need to verify your email address via a link provided in the email. Once all the actions have been followed as detailed in the email, you will then be able to sign in to the Defence Gateway and access the Financial Recognition Scheme App and start the application form. You should activate your Defence Gateway account within 7 days of receiving the setup email, otherwise the setup email will expire after this time.

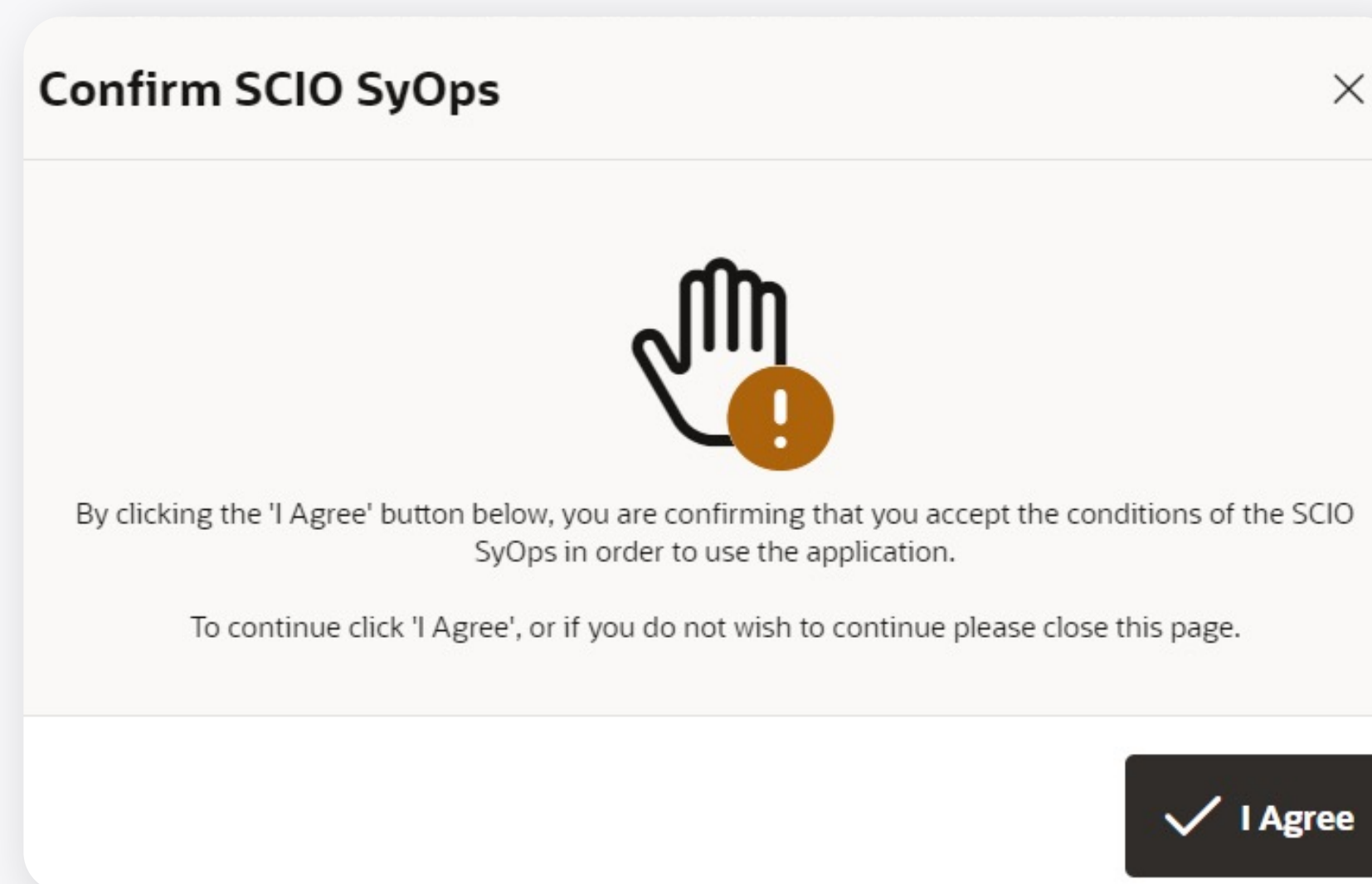
Please keep your Defence Gateway account details safe and do not allow anyone else access to your account. Remember your security question and answer as this will be needed for things like password resets.

Step 2: Access to the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme App on the Defence Gateway and completion of the application form

When you first sign in to your Defence Gateway account, you are advised to use the link in the email from the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme containing your Defence Gateway account details. If you access your Defence Gateway account using a different link, then simply click on the LGBT FRS icon and this will take you to the start of the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme Application Form.



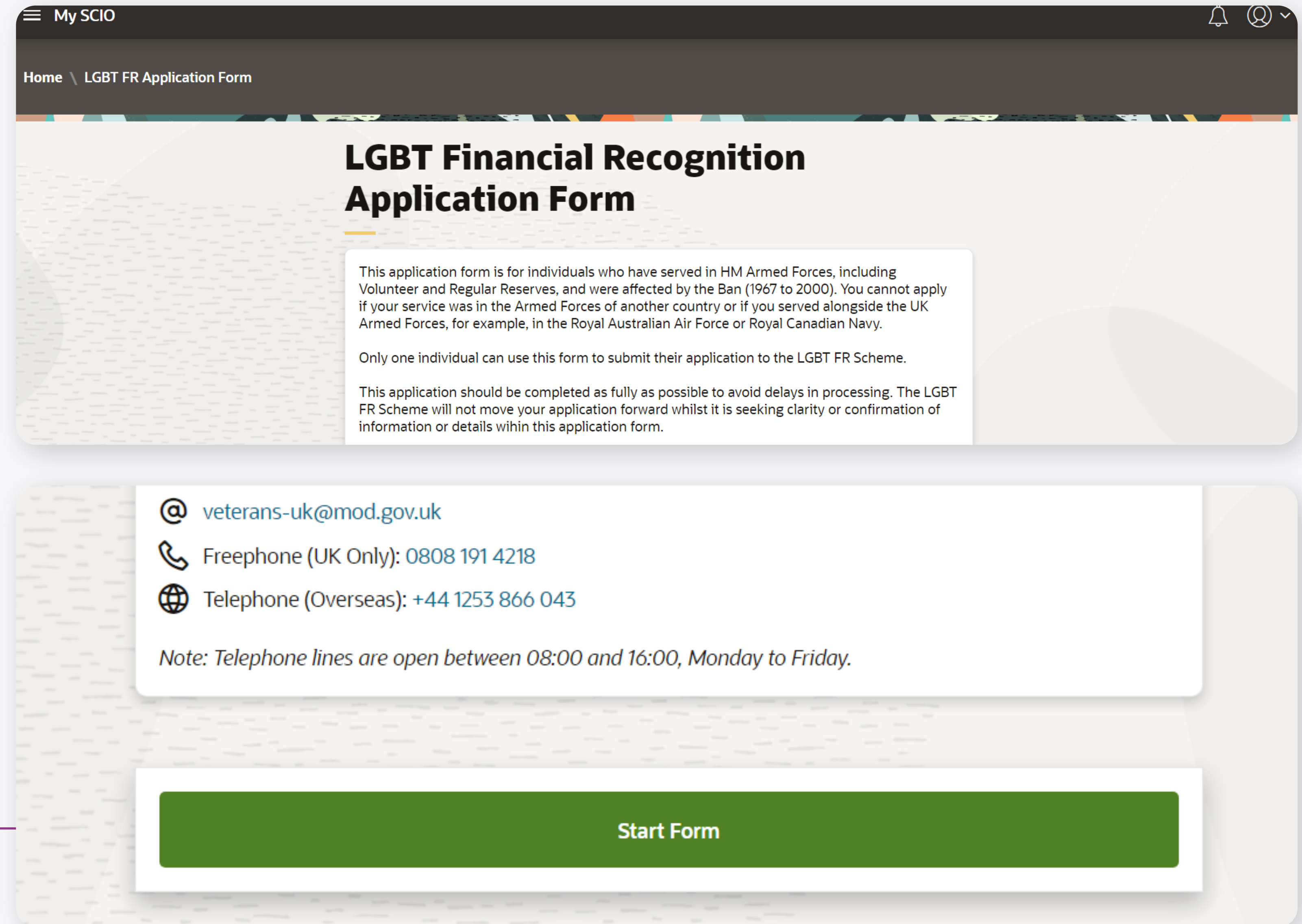
When you first sign in to the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme Application Form a security box will pop up.



The **Confirm SCIO SyOps** (Security Operations) box will only pop up once when you initially sign in to the Defence Gateway.

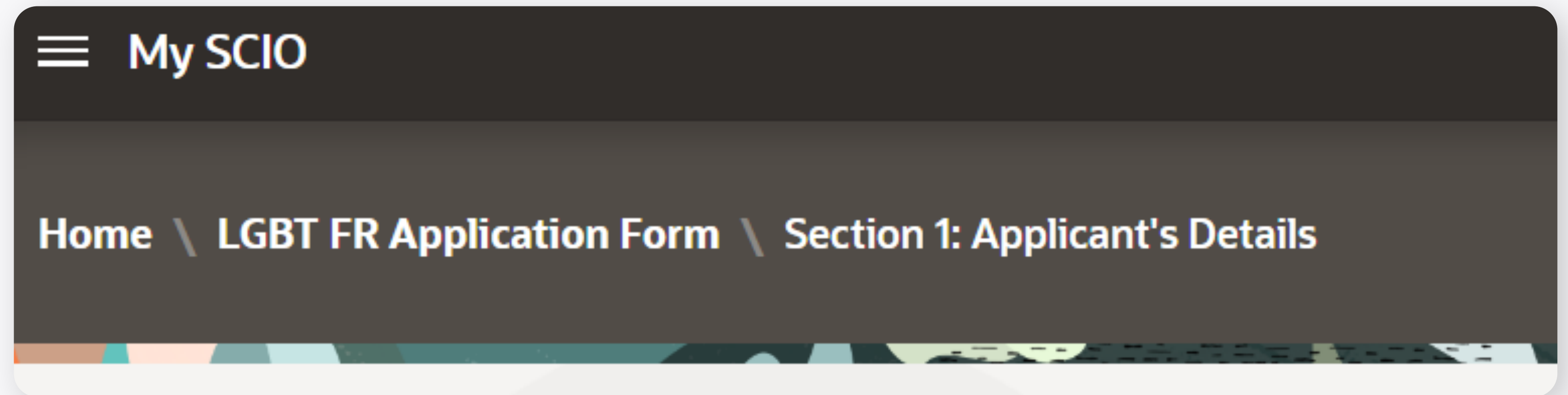
Click the **I Agree** button to move forward.

The first page of the LGBT Financial Recognition Application Form looks like this:

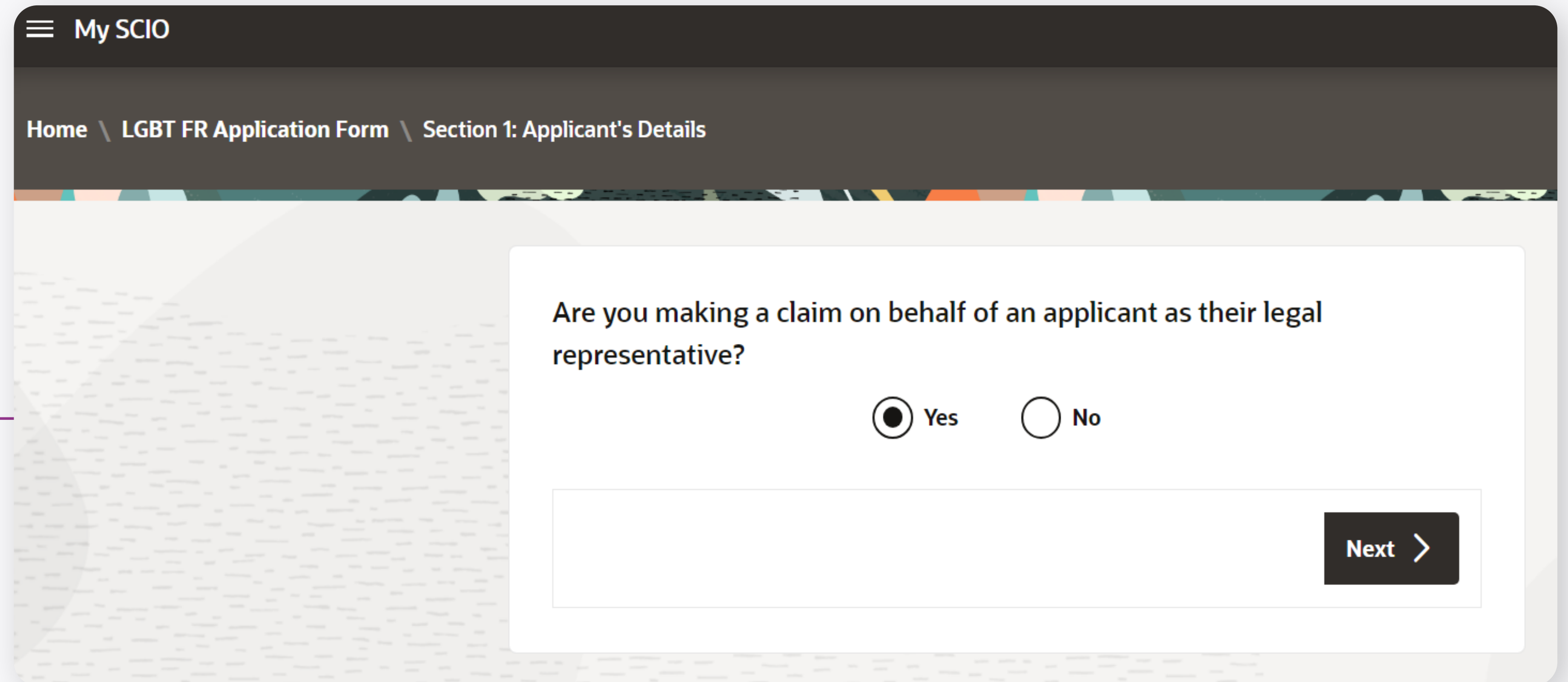


Read the page and press **Start Form** at the bottom of the page.

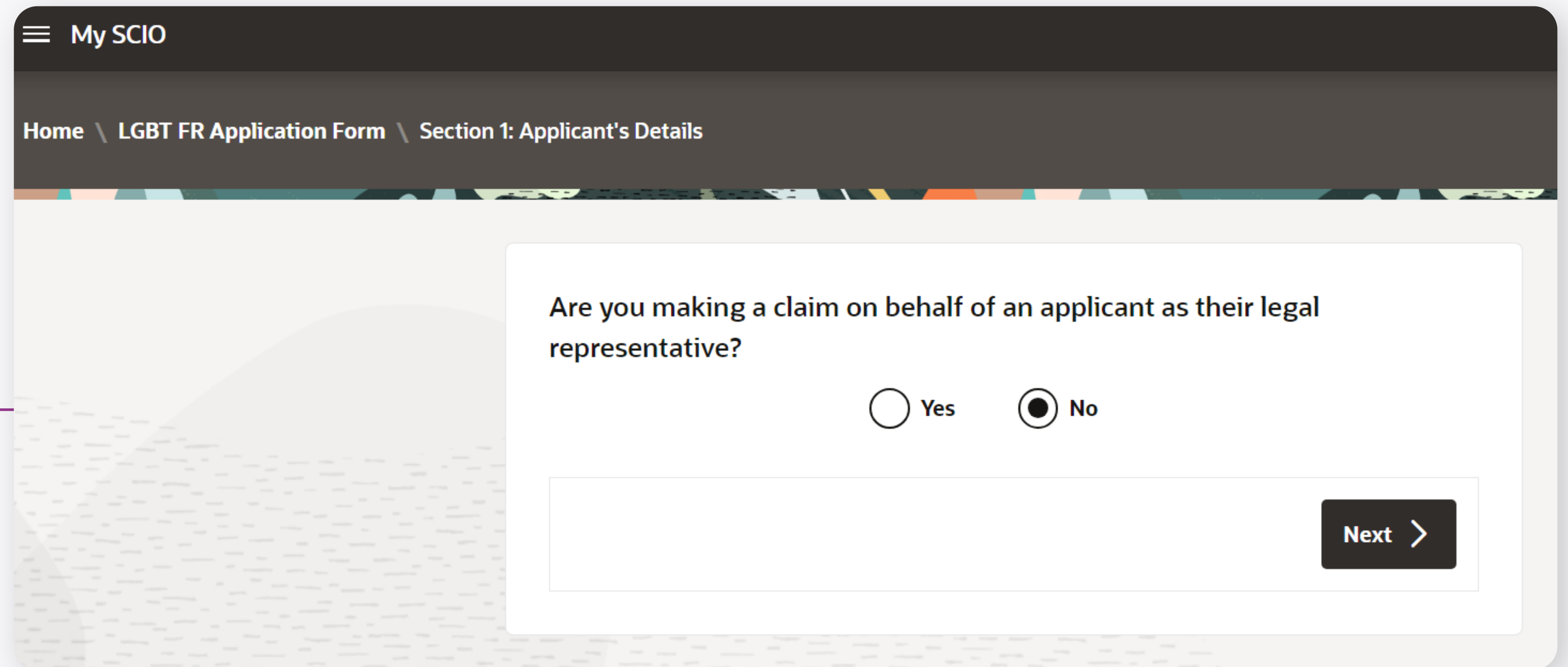
This will take you to Section 1 of the Application Form:



If a legal representative is applying on behalf of an applicant, they should select **Yes** and complete their details first before inputting the details of the applicant.






If the applicant is completing the application form for themselves, they should select **No** and input their own data.



The screenshot shows a web application interface for 'My SCIO'. The breadcrumb trail indicates the user is at 'Home \ LGBT FR Application Form \ Section 1: Applicant's Details'. The main content area contains a question: 'Are you making a claim on behalf of an applicant as their legal representative?'. Below the question are two radio button options: 'Yes' (unselected) and 'No' (selected). A 'Next >' button is located at the bottom right of the form area.

At the end of each section there is a summary page which allows you to review and edit all of your answers (and evidence supplied, including adding or changing evidence as necessary) before moving on to the next section.

When completing your application, the Financial Recognition Scheme App provides guidance which you can access if you are unsure what information is required. Information symbols have been included which you can click on to access information, advice and guidance.

	This information symbol provides more detail about the section you are viewing. Be sure to read it, as it contains important guidance to help you complete your application form.
	This edit symbol allows you to edit a section or field if you need to.
	This review symbol allows you to review (look at) the document (in some formats only) you have uploaded.

A generic application form example, along with guidance on how to complete the form, can be found in Annex A to the Scheme Rules at: [Veterans of the LGBT Ban: Financial Recognition Scheme](#)

When applying online, your application will automatically save every time you click the **Next** button. This process may take a few seconds, especially if you have uploaded documents. Additionally, the application will automatically save itself at the end of each section.

After the 'certification' page, before you finally submit your application, there will be an opportunity for you to review and edit your **full** application. Please take your time to complete your application form. After submitting your application, you have a 2 week window in which you can return to your application and make any changes; you can do this by signing back in to your Defence Gateway account and going back in to the Financial Recognition Scheme App.

Updating your online application

You can go back to your online application form after you have submitted it and you can update it (within the 2 week window after submission).

LGBT Financial Recognition Application Form

This application form is for individuals who have served in HM Armed Forces, including Volunteer and Regular Reserves, and were affected by the Ban (1967 to 2000). You cannot apply if your service was in the Armed Forces of another country or if you served alongside the UK Armed Forces, for example, in the Royal Australian Air Force or Royal Canadian Navy.

Only one individual can use this form to submit their application to the LGBT FR Scheme.

This application should be completed as fully as possible to avoid delays in processing. The LGBT FR Scheme will not move your application forward whilst it is seeking clarity or confirmation of information or details within this application form.

This application form is the start of the process to deliver against Recommendation 28 as detailed in the LGBT Veterans Independent Review undertaken at the request of the Government by Lord Etherton. ([LGBT Veterans Independent Review](#)).

Applications for Financial Recognition payments under the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme (LGBT FR Scheme) will be processed in accordance with the LGBT FR Scheme Rules.

Please read the guidance within this application form and complete all sections as comprehensively as you are able. This will ensure that your application can be processed as efficiently as possible.

If you have any questions regarding this application form please contact Veterans UK via:

@ veterans-uk@mod.gov.uk

☎ Freephone (UK Only): 0808 191 4218

🌐 Telephone (Overseas): +44 1253 866 043

Note: Telephone lines are open between 08:00 and 16:00, Monday to Friday.

[View Submitted Form](#)

When you sign back in to the Financial Recognition Scheme App you will be able **to view** your submitted application form – click on **View Submitted Form**.

After you have clicked the **Update Form Response** button, a pop-up box will appear on the screen, which is to check that you want to go forward and update your application – if you do not want to update your application form at this point, click **Cancel**.

Section 5 Summary

I consent to the review of records containing my personal information that are in the possession of the MOD or provided to the MOD, including records which may contain medical in confidence information or documents, by the MOD. I agree that these records may be reviewed by any FR Scheme Case Manager, Independent Panel or Appeal Board members (or Secretariat Staff working on their behalf) for the purpose of progressing my application for an LGBT Financial Recognition Payment.

Yes

I consent to the review of medical records containing my personal information that are in the possession of the MOD or provided to the MOD, including records which contain medical in confidence information or documents, by the MOD. I agree that these records may be reviewed by the FR Scheme's Medical Officer, any FR Scheme Case Manager, Independent Panel or Appeal Board members (or Secretariat Staff working on their behalf) for the purpose of progressing my application for an LGBT Financial Recognition Payment.

No

Update Form Response

Once you have reviewed your application, you can update your application form if you need to. To update your application form, click on the **Update Form Response** button.

Confirm Update Form Response



Are you sure you want to open your application to make it
editable?

If you select to make your application editable, once you have
completed any changes you will have to **resubmit your
application again** in order for it to be actioned.


Cancel

Continue


Please read the pop-up box carefully. If you elect to update your application, this means you have opened up your application so it can be edited and you will need to resubmit your application form once you have updated it. Click **Continue** to move forward to update your application form.

Your application will then be open for you to edit all the fields using the edit symbols against each field. You will be able to go through all the sections and make any changes you want including changing documents which you have attached.

Section 5 Summary

I consent to the review of records containing my personal information that are in the possession of the MOD or provided to the MOD, including records which may contain medical in confidence information or documents, by the MOD. I agree that these records may be reviewed by any FR Scheme Case Manager, Independent Panel or Appeal Board members (or Secretariat Staff working on their behalf) for the purpose of progressing my application for an LGBT Financial Recognition Payment. 

Yes

I consent to the review of medical records containing my personal information that are in the possession of the MOD or provided to the MOD, including records which contain medical in confidence information or documents, by the MOD. I agree that these records may be reviewed by the FR Scheme's Medical Officer, any FR Scheme Case Manager, Independent Panel or Appeal Board members (or Secretariat Staff working on their behalf) for the purpose of progressing my application for an LGBT Financial Recognition Payment. 

No

Submit Form

Once you are happy with the updates you have made, you **MUST submit your form again**. This is required **even if you did not make any changes**, because you opened your application form to edit it.

How to reset a Defence Gateway password

If you have forgotten your Defence Gateway password, need to reset your password or are having trouble accessing your account, please email the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme via LGBT-FRScheme@mod.gov.uk who will be able to help you.

Hard copy applications

The Financial Recognition Scheme also offers the option of submitting a hard copy application by post for those who are not comfortable with using the online application process. Please call the Veterans UK Helpline, who will be able to provide you with a copy of the application form, together with a return envelope.

The contact details for the Veterans UK Helpline are:

Email	veterans-uk@mod.gov.uk
Freephone (UK only)	0808 1914 2 18 Normal service 8.00 am to 4.00 pm Monday to Friday
Telephone (overseas)	+44 1253 866 043 Normal service 8.00 am to 4.00 pm Monday to Friday

- Remember to take a copy of the application form and only send copies of supporting evidence.
- **Please do not send the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme original documents.**

Post the application form and **copies** of your supporting evidence in the return envelope to the Financial Recognition Scheme – Freepost LGBT FR SCHEME. The Freepost address is for UK-based applicants. For overseas applicants, who request a hard copy application, a different free to post return address must be used on the envelopes supplied. Contact the Veterans UK Helpline via their overseas contact phone number: 0044 1253 866 043 or email: veterans-uk@mod.gov.uk

- Please remember to put your return address and/or postcode on the back of the envelope.
- Hard copy applicants have the choice of how they wish to be contacted: either by email or letter.

What to do if you do not know your National Insurance number

Information on [how to find your National Insurance number](https://www.gov.uk/find-national-insurance-number) can be found on GOV.UK, or by following this link: www.gov.uk/find-national-insurance-number

Welfare support – counselling, support or legal assistance

Completing the application may be difficult for some and could trigger painful memories.

The MOD and the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme do not wish to cause you further distress and so we suggest that you proceed slowly and that you read and complete this form in a safe place. If you feel anxious or unwell when you think about your experience, we encourage you to seek support from someone, such as a family member, counsellor, a health care professional, friend, or someone else from your community.

You are free to obtain legal assistance/advice with respect to submitting this application form if you wish, but you are not required to do so. Legal fees are your responsibility and you cannot be refunded for these. Remember only your legal representative can submit an application on your behalf.

We are encouraging all applicants to have an up-to-date will in place.

Help to complete your application

Charity signposting

Two charities have partnered with the Financial Recognition Scheme to provide support, if needed, to veterans making an application. The Royal British Legion and Fighting with Pride can offer support to applicants in completing their application forms as well as offering their welfare support services.

Royal British Legion Email: info@britishlegion.org.uk
Phone: 0808 802 8080

Fighting With Pride Email: info@fightingwithpride.org.uk
Phone: 0203 981 3810

Veterans Welfare Service

You can also seek support from the Veterans Welfare Service who provide information, guidance and support to veterans and their families, as well as supporting veterans through a network of case managers across the UK and Republic of Ireland. We work with appropriate organisations in the single Services, Defence, wider UK government, the devolved administrations, local authorities and charities to ensure clients receive the help they need from the appropriate provider.

To find out more simply visit: www.gov.uk/government/groups/veterans-welfare-service or search 'Veterans Welfare Service' on GOV.UK

Alternatively, please contact the Veterans UK Helpline who can request welfare support for you

Freephone (UK only): 0808 1914 2 18

Phone (overseas): 0044 1253 866 043

Email: veterans-uk@mod.gov.uk

Appeal process

The Financial Recognition Scheme has an appeal process. All eligible appeal requests will be put before an Appeal Board. Only one appeal request can be raised against an LGBT Dismissed or Discharged Payment decision and only one against an LGBT Impact Payment determination. Appeal requests have to meet at least one of the appeal criteria outlined in Part 5 of the Scheme Rules at [Veterans of the LGBT Ban: Financial Recognition Scheme](#). Appeals that do not meet these criteria cannot be accepted.

Applicants have up to 2 calendar months from the date of their decision letter (LGBT Dismissed or Discharged Payment) or their determination letter (LGBT Impact Payment) to raise an appeal request. Appeals submitted after this deadline require a valid reason for the delay. The Appeal Board will issue a judgment within 3 calendar months.

Fraud

The application form asks applicants to confirm that the information they have provided is true to the best of their knowledge and belief. If you knowingly give information that is materially incorrect, incomplete or dishonest, you may be liable to have civil or criminal legal action taken against you.

The Financial Recognition Scheme operates a number of preventative and detection measures to guard against the risk of fraud, and any attempt to intentionally defraud the Financial Recognition Scheme will be taken seriously.

His Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) exemptions

HMRC have agreed that payments from the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme are to be treated as exempt from income tax. More details about the legislation which defines this exemption can be found in the Scheme Rules Part 1, or by following this link: [Veterans of the LGBT Ban: Financial Recognition Scheme](#)

You are advised to keep safe a copy of your LGBT Dismissed or Discharged Payment decision letter and/or a copy of your LGBT Impact Payment determination outcome letter. HMRC may require you to provide the letter(s) as evidence to prove that the money you have received derives from an LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme payment which is exempt from income tax.

Income-related social security benefits exemptions

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) in Great Britain, and the Department for Communities (DfC) in Northern Ireland, have agreed to the introduction of an indefinite capital disregard of the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme payment for means-tested benefits. It is anticipated that the disregard will be introduced in spring 2025. Once the disregard is in place, applicants should retain their Financial Recognition Scheme decision or determination letters as they may be requested by either DWP or DfC.

More details about the legislation which defines the DWP benefits exemptions can be found in the Scheme Rules Part 1, or by following this link: [Veterans of the LGBT Ban: Financial Recognition Scheme](#)

You are advised to keep safe a copy of your LGBT Dismissed or Discharged Payment decision letter and/or a copy of your LGBT Impact Payment determination outcome letter. DWP or DfC may require the letter(s) as evidence to prove that the money you have received derives from an LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme payment and therefore should be disregarded for the purposes of certain means-tested benefits.

Payments into bank accounts

The Financial Recognition Scheme will be asking for your bank account details as part of the application process. If you are eligible for a Financial Recognition Payment, the Financial Recognition Scheme will contact you with the details of your Financial Recognition Payment and you will be asked to confirm the bank account details. This is to ensure that the Financial Recognition Payment is being paid in to the right bank account. The Financial Recognition Scheme can make payments to all UK bank and building society accounts, European bank accounts and overseas bank accounts.

Closure of Defence Gateway accounts

Defence Gateway accounts which were created solely for the purpose of applying to the Financial Recognition Scheme will be de-activated in June 2027, when the Financial Recognition Scheme is closed. Some Defence Gateway accounts may be closed earlier if the application has been processed in full and/or is closed by the Financial Recognition Scheme as the applicant is found not to be eligible to apply.

You will still be able to contact the Financial Recognition Scheme if your Defence Gateway account has been closed, by email or letter.

LGBT Non-Financial Restorative Measures Scheme



Information on [how to apply for the non-financial restorative measures](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/lgbt-non-financial-restorative-measures-scheme) can be found on GOV.UK, or by following this link: www.gov.uk/lgbt-veterans

Armed Forces Compensation Scheme and the War Pension Scheme

The LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme is not a compensation scheme. However, applicants should note that the MOD does have compensation schemes for injury or illness caused by or made worse by their service in HM Armed Forces:

Armed Forces Compensation Scheme

The Armed Forces Compensation Scheme compensates for any injury, illness or death which was caused or made worse by service on or after 6 April 2005.

To find out more simply visit: www.gov.uk/guidance/armed-forces-compensation-scheme-afcs or search via GOV.UK

War Pension Scheme

The War Pension Scheme compensates for any injury, illness or death which was caused or aggravated by service before 6 April 2005.

To find out more simply visit: www.gov.uk/guidance/war-pension-scheme-wps or search via GOV.UK

Note: These schemes are not related to, or connected with, the LGBT Financial Recognition Scheme.

