

## Fine option order

The State Penalties Enforcement Registry (SPER) collects and enforces unpaid infringement notices and court ordered fines.

If you are experiencing financial hardship and are unable to pay a fine you may be eligible for a fine option order. This means you will agree to undertake unpaid community service work instead of paying your fine.

It is important to note that not all fines can be converted into a fine option order.

To be eligible to apply for a fine option order:

- you must be living in Queensland
- you must be able to show that you are unable to pay the fine
- you must be able to undertake community service work - this includes being able to get to and from your worksite and providing an address for the term of the order
- the fine must be registered in your name
- you must not have previously breached a fine option order for the same offence
- a warrant can not have been served on you for the unpaid amount of your fine.

Application forms are available at all Magistrate Courts in Queensland, from SPER on 1300 365 635 or online at [www.sper.qld.gov.au](http://www.sper.qld.gov.au).

### What if I decide to pay the fine instead?

If you are not able to continue with the fine option order, you will need to talk to your QCS officer for more information on how to make payments towards your fine.

### How long will I need to complete a fine option order?

The amount of hours you will need to work will be stated in your order.

### What if I am moving to another address?

Talk to your QCS officer about any intentions you may have to move within or outside of Queensland. In some cases this could affect your ability to undertake community service work and your fine option order may be revoked.

You may also need to request written permission if you are leaving Queensland.

### Experiencing problems?

If at any time you are having problems completing your fine option order you must tell your QCS officer. This could include difficulties in doing the work, following the order, reporting to your supervisor, travelling to and from the project or simply a change in your circumstances.

If you don't let the QCS officer know about any changes or problems with your fine option order they will not be able to help and you may find yourself in breach of the order.

### What would count as a breach?

You breach your order if you commit any of the following:

- fail to satisfactorily perform community service work as directed
- fail to report to your QCS officer or the project as directed
- fail to notify any change of address or employment
- leave or remain out of Queensland without permission
- fail to follow a reasonable direction from your QCS officer
- fail to complete your hours by the end of the order.

### What can I do if I don't agree with a breach decision?

If QCS advises that your fine option order has been breached, SPER will send you a notice advising you of your options.

If you do not agree with the breach decision, you may complete an *Application for Review of Fine Option Order Revocation*, available from your nearest Magistrates Court.

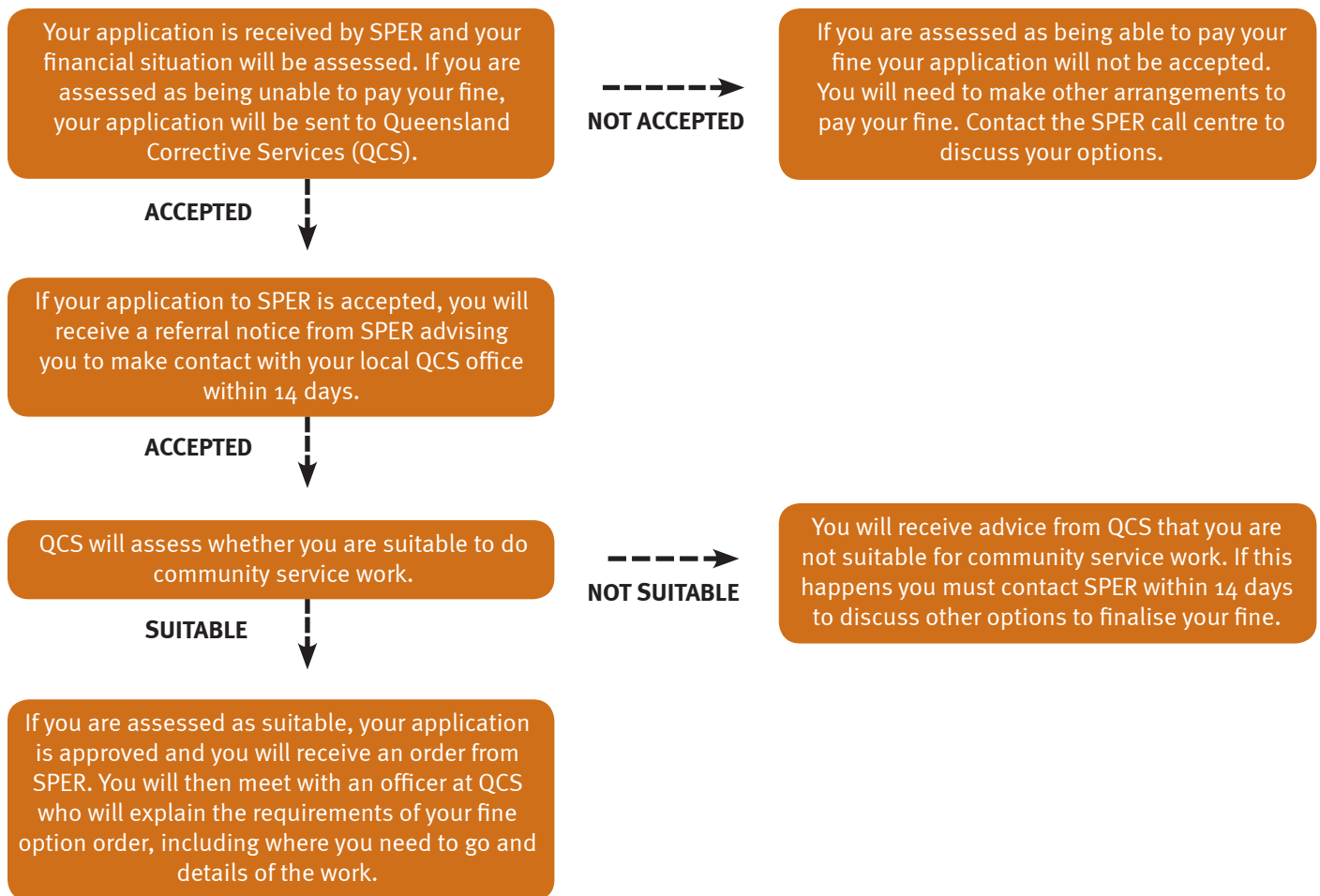
### What if I can no longer continue with the fine option order?

If your circumstances change and you are not able to continue with the fine option order, you will need to advise your QCS officer. You may choose to pay your fine in full or by instalments, apply for extra time to continue the fine option order at a later date, or apply for an alternative payment method through SPER.

### What happens when I complete the fine option order?

The QCS will advise SPER of the hours you have completed under the fine option order. These hours are then applied to the outstanding fine amount. If you have completed the required hours, your fine is considered paid.

## Application process for a fine option order



### For more information

Visit [www.sper.qld.gov.au](http://www.sper.qld.gov.au) or call us on 1300 365 635, Monday to Friday, 8:00am to 5:45pm.