



Victims of Crime Assistance Tribunal

Guideline No. 2 of 2023

FEEES FOR THE PREPARATION OF REPORTS AND PROVISION OF COUNSELLING SERVICES

Purpose

This Guideline is issued by the Chief Magistrate pursuant to section 45(1A) of the *Victims of Crime Assistance Act 1996* for the purpose of guiding Tribunal Members and Registrars in awarding financial assistance for expenses relating to counselling reports and sessions. A Tribunal Member may depart from this Guideline in appropriate circumstances.

Scope

This Guideline applies to all awards for counselling made on and after the commencement date, and for reports filed on or after the commencement date.

Related documents

This Guideline should be read in conjunction with the Chief Magistrate's Practice Directions 1 of 2022 regarding procedures to be followed by treating counsellors (psychologists and non-psychologists) and Practice Direction 1 of 2021 regarding procedures to follow in the preparation and filing of assessment reports prepared by a psychologist who will not be providing treatment/counselling.

Fees for Preparation of Reports

Report Type	Fee	
	Registered Psychologist	Mental Health Social Worker/ Non-Psychologist
First report recommending an award of financial assistance for 5 hours or less of counselling	\$365	\$365
First report recommending an award of financial assistance for more than 5 hours of counselling	*\$450 to \$745	\$450 to \$745
Subsequent report for award of financial assistance recommending financial assistance for further counselling than previously awarded	*\$365	\$365

*and for up to 2 hours at the authorised hourly rate for time spent conducting formal testing that is necessary for the purpose of preparing the report.

Report Type	Fee (including GST)
	Registered Psychologist / Psychiatrist/ Mental Health Social Worker
Assessment report by non-treating psychologist	\$450 to \$745

Fees for Counselling Services

Duration of Individual Client Counselling Sessions	Fee		
	Registered Psychologist	Mental Health Social Worker	Non-Psychologist/ Social Worker
30 minutes	\$120	\$110	\$100
60 minutes	\$200	\$180	\$165
90 minutes	\$290	\$255	\$225

Duration of Group or Family Counselling Sessions	Fee		
	Registered Psychologist	Mental Health Social Worker	Non-Psychologist/ Social Worker
30 minutes	\$85 per person to a maximum of \$210	\$75 per person to a maximum of \$200	\$65 per person to a maximum of \$180
60 minutes	\$130 per person to a maximum of \$365	\$120 per person to a maximum of \$335	\$110 per person to a maximum of \$295

Commencement date

The Guideline has effect from 1 January 2023.



**Justice Lisa Hannan
CHIEF MAGISTRATE**

Dated 20 December 2022