



Victims of Crime Assistance Tribunal

Guideline No. 2 of 2017

FEES 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 2014 regarding procedures to be followed by treating counsellors (psychologists and non-psychologists) and Practice Direction 2 of 2014 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 Reports¹

Report Type	Fee	
	Registered Psychologist	Non-Psychologist
First report recommending an award of financial assistance for 5 hours or less of counselling	\$305	\$305
First report recommending an award of financial assistance for more than 5 hours of counselling	* \$375 to \$620	\$375 to \$620
Subsequent report for award of financial assistance recommending financial assistance for further counselling than previously awarded	*\$305	\$305

* 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.

¹ Fees for Psychological Reports filed in accordance with Practice Direction 1 of 2014 and counselling sessions are exempt from GST. See Australian Tax Office website – *GST and Other Health Service*.
<https://www.ato.gov.au/Business/GST/In-detail/Your-industry/Health/GST-and-other-health-services/>

Report Type	Fee (including GST)
	Registered Psychologist / Psychiatrist
Assessment report by non-treating psychologist	\$305

Fees for Counselling Services

Duration of Individual Client Counselling Sessions	Fee	
	Registered Psychologist	Non-Psychologist
30 minutes	\$85	\$65
60 minutes	\$160	\$125
90 minutes	\$245	\$185

Duration of Group or Family Counselling Sessions	Fee	
	Registered Psychologist	Non-Psychologist
30 minutes	\$55 per person to a maximum of \$170	\$40 per person to a maximum of \$140
60 minutes	\$95 per person to a maximum of \$305	\$75 per person to a maximum of \$250

Commencement date

The Guideline has effect from 1 January 2017.

PETER LAURITSEN
Chief Magistrate