



Victims of Crime Assistance Tribunal

## Guideline No. 2 of 2018

### 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 Reports<sup>1</sup>**

Report Type	Fee	
	Registered Psychologist	Non-Psychologist
First report recommending an award of financial assistance for 5 hours or less of counselling	\$310	\$310
First report recommending an award of financial assistance for more than 5 hours of counselling	* \$380 to \$630	\$380 to \$630
Subsequent report for award of financial assistance recommending financial assistance for further counselling than previously awarded	*\$310	\$310

\* 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.

<sup>1</sup> 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	\$380 to \$630

### Fees for Counselling Services

Duration of Individual Client Counselling Sessions	Fee	
	Registered Psychologist	Non-Psychologist
30 minutes	\$90	\$70
60 minutes	\$165	\$130
90 minutes	\$250	\$190

Duration of Group or Family Counselling Sessions	Fee	
	Registered Psychologist	Non-Psychologist
30 minutes	\$60 per person to a maximum of \$175	\$45 per person to a maximum of \$145
60 minutes	\$100 per person to a maximum of \$310	\$80 per person to a maximum of \$255

### Commencement date

The Guideline has effect from 1 January 2018.



**PETER LAURITSEN**  
Chief Magistrate

15 DECEMBER 2017