



THE LAW SOCIETY  
OF NEW SOUTH WALES

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**  
**- LAW SOCIETY MEDIATORS PANEL**  
**- FAMILY LAW SETTLEMENT SERVICE PANEL**  
**FOR 2020 - 2021**

Inquiries regarding the online application should be directed to:

**Alternative Dispute Resolution**  
**The Law Society of New South Wales**  
**(02) 9926 0396**  
[adr@lawsociety.com.au](mailto:adr@lawsociety.com.au)

**PRIVACY ACT 1988 (CTH) AND SPAM ACT 2003 (CTH)**

The Law Society of New South Wales respects your privacy and the confidentiality and security of personal information provided by you to us. The information provided by you to the Law Society on this form will be used by the Law Society for the purposes of processing your application.

To access a complete copy of our Privacy Policy visit [www.lawsociety.com.au/PrivacyPolicy/index.htm](http://www.lawsociety.com.au/PrivacyPolicy/index.htm)

**Expression of Interest**  
- **Law Society Mediators Panel (“Mediators Panel”)**  
- **Family Law Settlement Service Panel (“FLSS Panel”)**  
**for 2020 - 2021**

This form is for those practising members of The Law Society of New South Wales who seek appointment to the Mediators Panel and/or the FLSS Panel.

**MEDIATORS PANEL**

Mediators Panel members will be eligible to mediate in matters referred to The Law Society of New South Wales under the Law Society Mediation Program. Members will also be eligible for Presidential appointments and/or nominations pursuant to Court Orders and contractual provisions.

**REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP**

Solicitors seeking appointment to the Mediators Panel must meet the following requirements:

- Be a member of The Law Society of New South Wales;
- Hold a current Practising Certificate (or interstate equivalent) and appropriate professional indemnity insurance to act as a mediator;
- Have a minimum of 5 years practice as a solicitor or barrister; and
- Hold national accreditation under National Mediator Accreditation Standards (“NMAS”).

The Law Society of New South Wales encourages solicitors from diverse backgrounds, especially those from rural areas, to apply for inclusion on the Mediators Panel. To this end, we may exercise our discretion to allow membership to the panel.

For example:

- If an applicant has experience that does not meet all the required criteria and is located in a regional location, or the inclusion of that person may offer greater diversity to the panel; or
- In the case of minor deviation from the criteria, or if an applicant has other equivalent experience, the President and the Chief Executive Officer of The Law Society of New South Wales may exercise a discretion to allow membership to the panel.

Successful applicants will be appointed to the Mediators Panel for a period of two years.

Please note that appointment to the Mediators Panel will lapse automatically upon ceasing to hold a Practising Certificate, appropriate indemnity insurance or national accreditation.

Please also note that appointment to the Mediators Panel does not guarantee mediation work.

**FLSS PANEL**

The Family Law Settlement Service (“FLSS”) is a mediation program that is a joint initiative between the Family Court and Federal Circuit Court, The New South Wales Bar Association and The Law Society of New South Wales. It is administered by the Law Society’s Alternative Dispute

Resolution department. The program is designed to avoid the costs, uncertainty and delays of having a dispute determined at a final hearing.

The panel consists of solicitors and barristers who are also qualified mediators. You will be required to conduct conflict of interest checks before agreeing to be appointed to the matter to ensure impartiality. There will also be certain reporting requirements that you will need to adhere to, for example, to advise the outcome of the mediation.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP**

Practitioners seeking appointment to the FLSS Panel must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Be appointed to the Law Society's Mediators Panel; and
- Have demonstrated, in the 3 years prior to appointment to the FLSS Panel, a substantial involvement in the area of Family Law; and
- Have devoted time to this area of practice, in each year of the past 3 years, that is not less than 25% of normal full-time practice; OR
- Is accepted for inclusion in the FLSS Panel on the basis of appropriate Family Law mediation and litigation experience as determined by the President of The Law Society of New South Wales or his or her delegate.
- For referrals under the FLSS for parenting matters, practitioners must also be qualified Family Dispute Resolution Practitioners ("FDRPs").

Successful applicants will be appointed to the FLSS Panel for a period of two years.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

- Applications to join the Mediators Panel and the FLSS Panel ("the panels") will be determined by the President and the Chief Executive Officer of the Law Society of New South Wales.
- Proof of national accreditation, qualifications and experience will be required.
- The list of mediators appointed to the panels will be published on The Law Society of New South Wales website.
- Successful applicants to the panels will be appointed for a period of two years.

## **APPLICATION DEADLINE**

Applicants seeking appointment to the Mediators Panel and/or the FLSS Panel for 2020-2021 should submit an Expression of Interest form by **4:00pm, Friday 24 January 2020**.

**PERSONAL DETAILS**

Full name:	
Address for correspondence:	
Date of Admission:	
Law Society ID number:	
Firm/Practice name:	
Firm/Practice address:	
Email:	
Telephone:	(work) (mobile)

I confirm that I have a minimum of 5 years practice as a solicitor or barrister.

**INSURANCE**

I hold appropriate professional indemnity insurance cover for acting as mediator in matters referred to me by The Law Society of New South Wales.

Name of insurance provider:
Insurance number:
Term of coverage:

**MEDIATORS PANEL**

I hold national accreditation under National Mediator Accreditation Standards (“NMAS”).

Provide details (name of RMAB who you are accredited through, expiry date etc):
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For example:

- If an applicant has experience that does not meet all the required criteria and is located in a regional location, or the inclusion of that person may offer greater diversity to the panel; or
- In the case of minor deviation from the criteria, or if an applicant has other equivalent experience, the President and the Chief Executive Officer of The Law Society of New South Wales may exercise a discretion to allow membership of the panel.

Provide details:

**FLSS PANEL**

I wish to be considered for inclusion in the FLSS Panel.

**Eligibility Criteria:**

I have demonstrated a substantial involvement in the area of Family Law in the three years prior to this application; AND

I have demonstrated that the time devoted to this area of practice, in each year of the past 3 years, is not less than 25% of normal full-time practice.

Provide details/information:

OR

I wish to be considered for inclusion in the FLSS Panel on the basis of appropriate Family Law mediation and litigation experience as determined by the President of the Law Society of New South Wales or his or her delegate.

Provide details of your Family Law mediation and litigation experience:

In order to be referred parenting matters under the FLSS, you need to be a registered Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner ("FDRP").

I am a registered FDRP.

Date of qualification:

Registration number:

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:**

	<p>I undertake to comply with all legislation relevant to any matter referred to me and/or any associated mediation panel I may be nominated or appointed to as a Law Society mediator, including but not limited to the: <i>Family Law Act 1975; Family Law Amendment (Shared Parental Responsibility) Act 2006; Family Law Regulations 1984; Dust Diseases Tribunal Regulation 2007; and the Fair Work Act 2009.</i></p>
	<p>I authorise the Professional Standards Department of The Law Society of New South Wales and the Legal Services Commissioner to advise and release to the relevant Law Society Officer any adverse disciplinary findings that may be made against me at any time.</p>
	<p><b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b>          If I am appointed, I will fulfil my continuing legal education requirements as outlined in the Selection Criteria for the Mediators Panel.</p>
	<p>If I am appointed, I authorise The Law Society of New South Wales to publish my name as being included on the Panel/s which will be accessible to the public.          NB. Only first and last names will be published. Firm name and contact details will not be published.</p>

**DECLARATION**

I declare that the information and particulars set out in this application are true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signed:		
Name:		Date: