

Introduction to family law

2021/2022 CPD year

Overview

Designed for junior legal staff and more senior practitioners looking either for a refresher or to expand to a new area of practice, this practical course will develop your family law knowledge and skills. You will explore the fundamentals of family law practice, gather invaluable insights on critical considerations in a family law file and obtain guidance in tackling day-to-day tasks associated with handling family law matters. This introductory course covers:

- the family law system in Australia including key legislation and courts
- marriage, de facto relationships, separation and divorce
- dealing with matters involving domestic and family violence
- making arrangements for children
- property settlements, spousal maintenance and child support
- available dispute resolution options.

This is a self-paced online learning course, with completion due by 31 March 2022.

6 CPD Points



5 min

Welcome remarks

A brief welcome and overview of the content that will be covered in this course.

Presenter: **Giorgia Papi-Morini**, Senior Professional Development Solicitor, Queensland Law Society

90 min

Family law basics

1.5 CPD

Part 1: What is family law?



This session will provide you with an introduction to the family law system in Australia and will include an overview of key legislation and courts in this jurisdiction:

- Family Law Act 1975 (Cth), Family Law Rules and Federal Circuit Court Rules
- Family Court, Federal Circuit Court and State Magistrates Courts.

Part 2: Marriage, de facto relationships, separation and divorce

The focus of this session is on the basics of relationship breakdowns in family law including:

- What are the legal requirements of a marriage?
- What is a de facto relationship?
- What are the requirements of separation for married and de facto couples?
- What is the process for obtaining a divorce?

Part 3: Looking after your clients and yourself!

Join the Happy Family Lawyer for a discussion on how you can look after your clients and yourself in this emotionally charged area of practice.

Presenter: **Clarissa Rayward**, Director, Brisbane Family Law Centre and Accredited Specialist (Family Law)

60 min

Dealing with matters involving domestic and family violence

1 CPD

This session will provide you with the necessary practical guidance you need to assist a client in a matter involving domestic and family violence.



What you will cover:



- the relevant legislation
- domestic and family violence basics
- court procedures and processes
- best practice in dealing with clients in matters which involve domestic and family violence
- duty of confidentiality

Presenters: **Shannon Daykin**, Director, Daykin Family Law; Member, QLS Family Law Specialist Accreditation Committee and Accredited Specialist (Family Law)

60 min

Making arrangements for children

1 CPD

Our expert presenter will highlight the key considerations in making arrangements for children including:



- relevant legislation and principles
- what orders your client is seeking
- the court process
- dealing with domestic and family violence.



Presenter: **Stephen Page**, Partner, Page Proven Family Lawyers and Accredited Specialist (Family Law)

90 min

Property settlements, spousal maintenance and child support

1.5 CPD

This session will focus on the financial aspects of a family law matter.



Part 1: Property settlements

- What is a property settlement?
- What are the key steps in a property settlement?
- What are the relevant documents?

Part 2: Spousal maintenance

- What is spousal maintenance?
- What are the rights and responsibilities of each party?
- What are the key steps in spousal maintenance?
- What are the relevant documents?

Part 3: Child support

- What is child support?
- How does it differ from spousal maintenance?
- What are the key steps in child support?
- What are the relevant documents?

Reference to relevant legislation will be made throughout the session.

You will also be provided with a sample client file and receive guidance on how to complete a financial statement.

Presenter: **Naomi Lewis**, Legal Director and Principal Solicitor, Lewis and Trovas Family Lawyers

60 min

Dispute resolution models

1 CPD

Join Kay Feeney for an overview of:



- practical dispute resolution options
- key considerations for the most common forms of dispute resolution in family law
- how to best assist your client
- the role of legal representation in the process

Presenter: **Kay Feeney**, Director, Feeney Family Law, Nationally Accredited Mediator and Accredited Specialist (Family Law)
