

Introduction to Family Law

6 CPD points |  

Course Outline

Family law fundamentals

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), Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia Rules 2021
- Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia, State Magistrates Courts

Part 1: What is family law?

The focus of this session is on the basics of managing relationship breakdowns and pathways for resolution, including:

- lawyer negotiation
- Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)
- collaboration
- arbitration
- court

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 this session for a discussion on how you can look after yourself and your clients in this emotionally charged area of practice. This session will address:

- vicarious trauma
- strategies for managing personal and client well-being.

Dealing with matters involving domestic and family violence

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

Making arrangements for children

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

- relevant legislation and principles
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- what orders your client is seeking
 - the court process
 - dealing with domestic and family violence.
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Property settlements, spousal maintenance and child support

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.

Dispute resolution models

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
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