

## Fact sheet

# Costs for Court Report and Registered Counselling

September 2024

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These estimated fees apply to services provided by Independent Assessors for court report preparation, and by Registered Counsellors for registered counselling.

### Current Fees (as at the date of this fact sheet)

- Hourly rate: \$170.00

### Court Report Preparation

- **Cost:** \$2,550.00 (first 15 hours of work)
- **Additional hours:** Charged at \$170.00 per hour, as required

### Registered Counselling

- **Cost per session:** \$340.00 (includes up to 2 hours of counselling per session, separate sessions are required for each person providing their consent)
- **Additional hours:** Charged at \$170.00 per hour, as required

### Additional Costs

- **Travel expenses:** If the Independent Assessor or Registered Counsellor needs to travel a long distance, travel costs may apply. These should be negotiated directly with the professional.
- **GST:** Independent Assessors may be self-employed and could charge GST on top of these fees. Be sure to discuss all costs upfront before engaging their services.

Independent Assessors on the panel have different areas of expertise and geographical coverage. For more information, visit [DCJ Independent Assessors Panel for Carer, Restoration, Guardianship, and Adoption Permanency assessments](#). Any Independent Assessor marked with a tick in the adoption column is approved to complete court reports that satisfy (section 91 of the *Adoption Act 2000*).

If you are unable to find a Registered Counsellor within a reasonable distance from the applicant or person requiring counselling, please contact Open Adoption and Permanency Services at [adoption.permanentcare@dcj.nsw.gov.au](mailto:adoption.permanentcare@dcj.nsw.gov.au).