



Position Details

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| Title | Court Child Expert (Psychologist or Social Worker) |
| Jurisdiction | Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia |
| Section | Court Children's Service |
| Classification | Executive Level 1 (EL 1) |
| Salary | Total remuneration including superannuation: \$133,221 – \$145, 210 per annum (\$115,443 – \$125,832 per annum plus 15.4% superannuation) |
| Employment type | Ongoing, Non-ongoing, full time and part-time roles are available |
| Locations | Brisbane |
| Reports to | Senior Court Child Expert |

FCFCOA Overview

This Court Child Expert position sits within the Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia (FCFCOA). The FCFCOA comprises Division 1 (a superior court of record formerly known as the Family Court of Australia) and Division 2 (a federal court of record formerly known as the Federal Circuit Court of Australia). The jurisdiction of both Courts covers family law and child support, with Division 2 also covering general federal law such as bankruptcy and Fair Work matters. Court Child Experts work seamlessly across both Courts assisting in family law matters relating to children's arrangements

For more information on the FCFCOA please visit the [website](#).

Court Children's Service Overview

Court Children's Service (CCS) is the area of the FCFCOA that provides social science expertise to assist parents, registrars and judges to make decisions that are in the best interests of children who are the subject of family law matters.

All work conducted by CCS is underpinned by the following principles:

- Being child-centred
- Prioritising safety
- Delivering best practice
- Valuing diversity
- Acting with professionalism and integrity

Position overview

Court Child Experts are psychologists or social workers with extensive experience in conducting child and family assessments, and who play a critical role in assisting families and the Courts to make decisions that are in the best interests of children. Court Child Experts have a statutory appointment to the role of 'family consultant' as defined in Section 11 of the [Family Law Act 1975 \(Cth\)](#), and an authorisation to deliver services as a 'family counsellor' as defined in Section 10 of the *Family Law Act 1975 (Cth)*.

Key Responsibilities and Duties

- conducting child-centred preliminary and comprehensive family assessments, including conducting interviews and observations with children
- undertaking risk screening and risk assessment to assist in case management, safety planning and the making of decisions that are in the best interest of children
- assisting parties to resolve or narrow the issues in dispute between them, including by undertaking parenting dispute resolution conferences in collaboration with a Judicial Registrar
- providing evidence to the Courts as an expert witness in the form of written reports and/or oral testimony
- providing advice to parties and the Courts regarding external support services for children and families
- participating in professional supervision and professional development activities

Mandatory qualifications and experience

- A recognised degree in social work and eligibility for membership of the Australian Association of Social Workers, or general registration as a psychologist with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulatory Agency
- Minimum five years' relevant clinical experience including in conducting assessments with children and families (note this experience must be subsequent to the acquisition of the relevant degree qualification)
- A clearance for working with children as required within the relevant State/Territory scheme

Desirable experience

- Working directly with children
- Writing comprehensive professional reports
- Assisting people in resolving conflict

Selection Criteria

1. Extensive knowledge of child development, and the impact of separation, family violence and abuse, and high conflict on children and families.
2. Extensive clinical experience with children and families, including a demonstrated ability to conduct child-centred, trauma-informed family assessments.
3. Demonstrated oral and written skills of a high standard.
4. Well-developed skills in assisting people to manage and resolve conflict.
5. Willingness and capacity to reflect on one's own clinical practice and to constructively participate in performance feedback, professional supervision and professional development activities.
6. Ability to work effectively as part of a professional team within a legal system, including with court staff, the legal profession and the community services sector.

Benefits

In addition to rewarding work and competitive remuneration, the Court Child Expert position offers the following benefits:

- A comprehensive and highly supportive induction program
- Ongoing training by Australian and international experts
- Regular professional supervision
- Strong team cultures and regular team building activities
- Access to an extensive professional library
- Flexible work arrangements, including opportunities for home-based and part-time work
- Great working facilities, including dedicated child assessment rooms
- Safe and secure working environment on court premises
- Access to a raft of project and higher duties opportunities
- Opportunities to travel inter and intra-state for those interested in doing so
- A 15.4% employer superannuation contribution rate
- Salary packaging options
- Paid leave days between Christmas and New year, and three days after new year, in addition to the standard annual leave entitlement (4wks for full time).
- Up to eighteen weeks of paid parental leave
- Access to Cultural and First Nations ceremonial and NAIDOC leave
- Access to study leave and other study assistance

Agency Overview

Court Child Experts are employees of The Federal Court of Australia entity which is an agency of the Australian Public Service (APS). Employees of The Federal Court of Australia entity are engaged under the [Public Service Act 1999](#) and work in support of one or more of the following courts or Tribunal:

- Federal Court of Australia
- Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia
- National Native Title Tribunal

Employees engaged by the entity are covered by the [Federal Court of Australia Enterprise Agreement 2024–2027](#).

Eligibility

To be eligible for employment with the Federal Court of Australia entity, you must be an Australian Citizen. Successful applicants will be required to provide proof of citizenship.

Applicants offered employment will be required to successfully undergo a police record check and must be willing to disclose all relevant and required information.

Successful applicants engaged into the APS will be subject to a probation period.

Interested candidates who have received a redundancy benefit from an APS agency are welcome to apply but note that they cannot be engaged until their redundancy benefit period has expired.

Diversity and Inclusion

The Federal Court Australia entity is committed to supporting an inclusive and diverse workforce and welcomes and encourages applications from People with Disability, First Nations peoples, LGBTIQ+ people, people from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds, Mature age workers, as well as young workers and supporting an inter-generational workforce and supporting gender equity and families.

The Federal Court Australia entity will provide reasonable adjustments for candidates to participate equitably in the recruitment process and discuss workplace adjustments to fulfil the inherent requirements of the role.

RecruitAbility

RecruitAbility applies to this vacancy. Under the RecruitAbility scheme you will be invited to participate in further assessment activity for the vacancy if you choose to apply under the scheme; declare you have disability; and meet the minimum requirements for the job. For more information visit:

<https://www.apsc.gov.au/recruitability>

Contact

For more information and confidential enquiries about the role, please email National.CCS@fcfcoa.gov.au providing the location you are interested in within the subject line of the email. The appropriate senior staff member will then make contact with you to assist with your enquiries.

Please note: **A live information/Q&A session about the role** is being held at 5pm EST Thursday 2 October. To register to attend please email National.CCS@fcfcoa.gov.au. Recordings of the session can also be made available.

How to Apply

To apply, please complete the application form on the Court's [careers portal](#). If you have any issues with applying, please email recruitment@fedcourt.gov.au.

As part of your application, you will be required to submit a written response to the selection criteria (maximum word limit 1500). Please ensure this document is attached before submitting your application.

Applications close: **Sunday 12 October 2025 at 11:30 pm (AEDT)**.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are strongly encouraged to apply.