

## Membership Information

### About LawRight

LawRight is the primary facilitator of pro bono legal services in Queensland. LawRight is committed to improving access to justice for people who cannot afford to pay a private lawyer and who are ineligible for legal aid, and for the community groups that support them.

LawRight refers individual matters to law firms and barristers, coordinates direct legal services for particular disadvantaged client groups and undertakes legal research and community legal education.

LawRight collaborates with law firms, barristers, the Queensland Association of Independent Legal Services Inc., the Queensland Law Society Incorporated, the Bar Association of Queensland, Legal Aid Queensland and university law schools.

LawRight is a public benevolent institution, incorporated in 2001 and endorsed by the Australian Taxation Office as a Deductible Gift Recipient. All LawRight accounts are independently audited.

### How can I help?

The Bar Association of Queensland and the Queensland Law Society are founding members of LawRight, and encourage all members of the profession to become involved to the greatest extent possible.

#### Become a LawRight member

LawRight's operations are supported by our members, who may:

- accept referrals of cases with legal merit for disadvantaged Queenslanders and community groups;
- become involved in LawRight's direct legal services including our Homeless Persons' Legal Clinic, Refugee Civil Law Clinic, Mental Health Law Practice and Self Representation Service; and
- participate in research, community legal education, and law reform work to effect systemic change.

Members are not obliged to accept requests for pro bono assistance or to become involved in other LawRight activities. Members may choose to undertake this work when they have capacity and an interest in the subject matter.

There are currently 100 LawRight member barristers and 32 LawRight member firms.

Your involvement will broaden our member base, provide critical financial support to LawRight and enable us to more effectively target the pro bono commitment of the Queensland profession.

### Why should I get involved?

LawRight's efficient and effective operation ensures pro bono resources are utilised to their maximum benefit and assistance is directed to those who need it most.

LawRight provides a structure to assist legal practitioners to engage in pro bono work by:

- receiving and assessing applications for pro bono legal assistance;
- referring meritorious matters to law firms and barristers
- being a contact for practitioners who have received a pro bono request for assistance that is not within their expertise or capacity to assist; and
- providing ongoing support, if needed, to firms and barristers who accept referrals.

## What are the benefits of being involved?

The benefits of being involved in LawRight’s pro bono programs are many, including:

- the opportunity to engage in pro bono work which is targeted, addresses unmet legal needs, and effects systemic change;
- improved relationships with clients who value practitioners’ pro bono commitments;
- improved staff morale, sense of purpose, mental well-being, skills and experience;
- improved relationships with senior members of the Bar and national and local law firms which undertake pro bono work;
- access to support, when required, from senior members of the Bar and law firms already involved in LawRight’s pro bono programs;
- access to LawRight’s expertise in developing pro bono programs;
- access to senior law students who can assist with research and other tasks;
- the opportunity to participate in the joint effort of the legal profession to advance access to justice for the marginalised and disadvantaged within our society; and
- the opportunity to contribute to a positive image of the profession to build public confidence in lawyers and the justice system generally.

## Membership fees

Membership fees for each class of membership have been determined by the LawRight Management Committee. The annual fees (including GST) are:

Member Law Firms	\$360 per partner (in Queensland)
Member Incorporated Legal Practices	\$400 per 5 unrestricted practising solicitors (in Queensland)
Member Barristers	
First year	NIL
2-3 years experience	\$60 per barrister
4-5 years experience	\$120 per barrister
6+ years experience	\$240 per barrister
Government Legal Unit Members	\$1,210 per legal unit
Corporate Legal Unit Members	\$3,630 per legal unit
Associate Members (incl. university law schools and accountancy firms)	\$360

If you would like to become a member please visit our website, [www.lawright.org.au](http://www.lawright.org.au) (under ‘Get Involved’) or for more information about becoming involved, please contact us.

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