

Youth Koori Court

Community Panel Member - Frequently Asked Questions

How do I apply to be a Community Panel Member?

You will need to fill out an Expression of Interest form and forward your completed form to the Children's Court to one of the below locations:

Parramatta and Surry Hills

- Email: YKC@justice.nsw.gov.au
- Post: PO Box 5113 Parramatta NSW 2124
- In person: Parramatta Children's Court, 2 George Street, Parramatta or Surry Hills Children's Court, 66-78 Albion Street, Surry Hills.

Dubbo

- Email: ykcdubbo@justice.nsw.gov.au
- Post: PO Box 50 DUBBO NSW 2830
- In person: Dubbo Children's Court, 137 Brisbane Street Dubbo.

Can I get some help to fill out my Expression of Interest form?

Yes. If you need help completing the Expression of Interest form, please contact the Youth Koori Court Liaison Officer at:

- Surry Hills and Parramatta on 0427 554 508 or
- Dubbo on 0456 914 985.

What happens after I fill out my Expression of Interest form?

The Youth Koori Court Liaison Officer will contact you to arrange an interview to discuss your suitability for the role or advise you that you have been placed on a wait list.

What is a 'wait list'?

Your interest in the Youth Koori Court is important to us. If the Youth Koori Court has enough Community Panel Members on their current panel list, you may be placed on a wait list until a vacancy exists.

The Youth Koori Court Liaison Officer will contact you once a vacancy exists.

Do I have to pay for my Working with Children Check?

No. If you need to pay for the Working with Children Check it will be paid for you. You should talk to us before applying for or renewing your Working with Children Check. If you pay for your Working with Children Check before you speak with us, we will not be able to reimburse you for this cost.

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Will I get training before I start working with the Youth Koori Court?

Yes. Training will be provided. You will be contacted and advised of the details. Attendance at training is required as part of your responsibility as a Community Panel Member.

If you are participating as a paid Community Panel Member, you will be paid to attend training. Un-paid volunteer Community Panel Members are not paid for their attendance at training.

I have a criminal record. Does this mean I won't pass the criminal records check?

No, not necessarily. Whether or not you will pass the criminal records check will depend on the type of offences and how long it has been since you committed the offences. A criminal record for minor offences or offences which occurred a long time ago will not necessarily disqualify you from being a Community Panel Member.

Will I get paid?

Yes.

How much will I get paid?

You will be paid \$300 if you are asked to come to court for a full day (usually 9:00am – 4:30pm) or \$150 for half a day (9:00am – 1pm). You will also be paid superannuation as required by Commonwealth legislation.

How will I get paid?

Your pay will be deposited into your nominated bank account within approximately three weeks.

Will I have to pay tax?

Your salary will be taxed in accordance with the approved Pay As You Go (PAYG) fortnightly tax scales issued by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Your salary will not be taxed unless you reach the tax-free threshold. You should talk to us about this if you have any questions.

Is transport included in the payment I receive?

Yes. The payment you receive includes the cost of any transport to and from the Children's Court.

Can I get a taxi?

The payment you receive is intended to cover the cost of your transport to and from the Children's Court. However, if you require a taxi because you have difficulty catching public transport the Children's Court may consider making a workplace adjustment for you. The



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Children's Court may need to ask you for written information about your medical condition to support any application for adjustment.

Will my meals be provided?

Yes. For a half day sitting a morning tea will be provided. For those sitting a full day a morning tea and a light lunch will be provided.

Will any payment I get affect my Centrelink payments?

You will need to get advice about whether any payment you get for being a Community Panel Member will affect your Centrelink payments. You can get free advice by calling the Centrelink Indigenous Call Centre on 1800 136 380.

What if I do not want to get paid?

You can choose to be an un-paid volunteer Community Panel Member if you do not want to get paid. A volunteer Working with Children Check will only be accepted if you are volunteering as an un-paid Community Panel Member.

How long is my appointment as a Community Panel Member?

Community Panel Members appointed from July 2024 will initially be appointed for 3 years. However, this period can be extended. You can withdraw from the panel at any time if your circumstances change.

The artwork featured in this document was designed by Lauren Henry and Brittany Cochrane from Yirra Miya, a First Nations Creative Agency, in consultation with Youth Koori Court Aboriginal Elders and the Children's Court of NSW. Lauren Henry is a proud Wodi Wodi and Walbunja Person from the Yuin Nation and Brittany Cochrane is a proud Biripi Woman.