

Solicitor

Specified Calling Level 5/6 – Family Law Division – Perth Office

Job Description

At this level a solicitor will have significant experience in legal practice and provide advice and representation at a senior level. A solicitor at this level is required to provide complex legal advice and representation on complex legal matters, particularly casework. This includes dealing with matters within a specialised area of law, for example social security law and administrative law. The solicitor will also provide specialist advice and leadership in regards to complex legal matters.

About Legal Aid Western Australia

Legal Aid Western Australia provides information and resources to assist the community with their legal concerns, and offers a range of services aimed at target groups or individuals with particular legal problems. Through our nine regional offices and main office in Perth, and working in partnership with private practitioners and other service providers, we are committed to providing equitable access to services, regardless of regional and time constraints.

Assistance is designed to help people resolve their problems at the earliest opportunity, to improve their access to the law, to avoid unnecessary litigation, and to ensure that legal representation is in keeping with community expectations of fairness.

About the Family Law Division

The Family Law Division delivers: a range of duty lawyer services at the Family and Children's Court; legal representation in family law disputes or child protection matters; legal representation for children in family law or child protection matters; dispute resolution services; provision legal and other assistance services to victims of domestic violence. In addition, the division provides mentoring and training support to junior practitioners and practitioners located in regional areas. Considerable input is provided to State and Commonwealth law reform initiatives in the area of family law, child protection and domestic violence.

Our Vision, Mission and Values

Vision

Equitable access to justice to support a fair and safe community

Mission

To assist the community by providing quality and timely legal help to those who need our assistance

Core Values

Making a difference We are committed to helping people understand and protect their rights

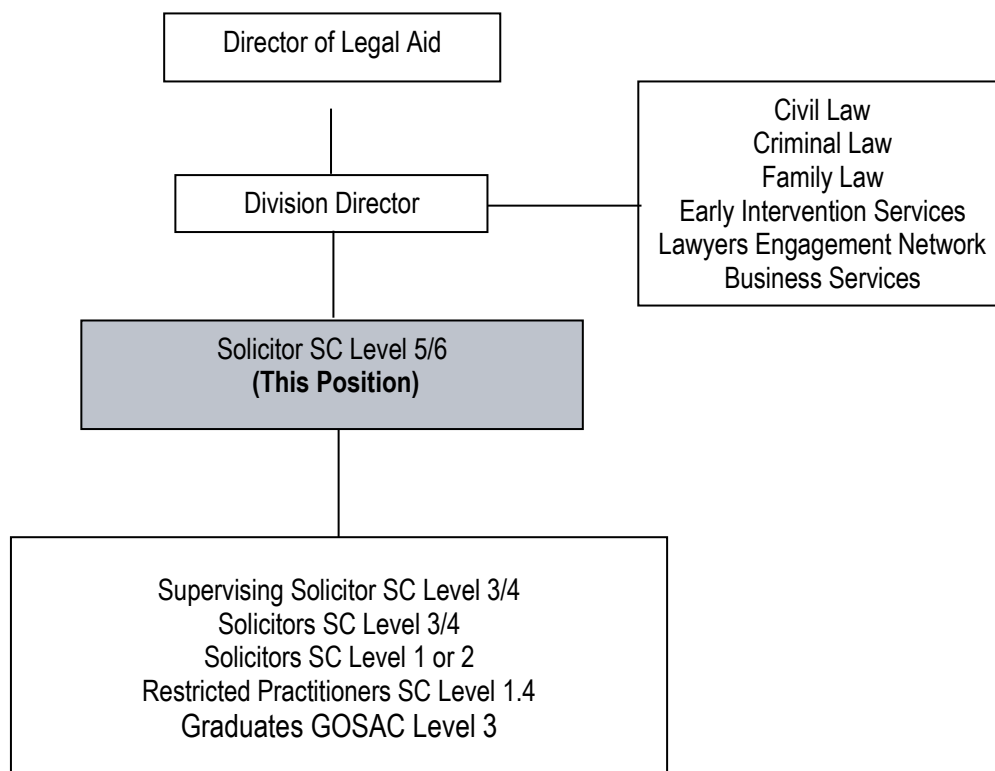
Client-centred We put clients at the centre of everything we do

Respect We care about our clients and the community in which we live

Innovation We are committed to continuous improvement

Transparency We are an open and accountable organisation

Reporting Relationships



Scope of Duties

- Provision of legal advice and supervision of complex casework including superior court trial and appellate work.
- Provides advice on matters of factual and legal difficulty including on complex points of the law, trial and appellate issues.
- Provides significant legal and administrative decisions/judgments such as decisions at each stage of the litigation process; tactical decisions during trials/pleas in mitigation; tactical decisions in regard to trial strategy.
- Significant liaison and negotiation on matters of complexity.
- Provision of supervision and guidance to junior practitioners. Acts as mentor where applicable.
- High level of initiative and judgment in the performance of the role.
- Drafts complex legal documents.
- Works cooperatively in a team environment, contributes to team goals and creates and fosters a motivating climate for the team's effectiveness.
- Works unsupervised on day to day activities.
- Manages and/or supervises the work of a designated team.

Selection Criteria

Only the criteria in bold must be addressed in applicant's written application and resume. These and the remaining selection criteria will be assessed through interview or alternative selection methods.

ESSENTIAL

- Extensive post admission experience.
- **Substantial advocacy and trial experience.**
- **High level negotiation skills.**

ESSENTIAL REQUIRED CORE COMPETENCIES

These are essential criteria for all Legal Aid WA positions. Refer to the Core Competencies Matrix in the Application Guidelines.

- Committed to the principles of social justice.
- Values people, partnership and teamwork.

- Willingness to learn and share knowledge with others.
- Outcome and service focused.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Degree in Law or equivalent.
- Current Practising Certificate issued by the Legal Practice Board of Western Australia or eligible for admission to practice in the Supreme Court of Western Australia.
- 'C' or 'CA' Class Western Australian Driver's Licence or equivalent. (Desirable)

All appointments to Legal Aid Western Australia are subject to satisfactory National Police Certificate, 100 Point Identification Check and current Working with Children card (as applicable).