

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

JusticeNet SA will attempt to locate a pro bono legal services provider for applicants who meet the following criteria:

- The applicant has insufficient means to afford requisite legal services without undue hardship; and
- The applicant is an individual or is a not-for-profit organisation whose purpose(s) is primarily charitable; and
- The applicant has a problem requiring a legal remedy for which:
 - there are reasonable prospects of a successful outcome; and
 - the applicant would suffer significant injustice if not legally represented; or
 - the matter concerns an issue of public interest; and
- The applicant is unable to obtain the requisite services from an alternative legal services provider, particularly the Legal Services Commission, a community legal centre or the Litigation Assistance Fund / Disbursements Only Fund, or a legal practitioner on a contingency basis; and
- The matter is of such a nature that the applicant could not reasonably be expected to self-represent; and
- The assessing committee considers in all the circumstances that the matter would be an appropriate use of available pro bono legal resources.

JusticeNet SA, in its absolute discretion, may also provide assistance in exceptional circumstances to applicants who do not meet the above criteria.



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WHAT IS JUSTICENET SA?

JusticeNet is a not for profit association that facilitates access to justice for South Australians who would otherwise be without legal assistance. JusticeNet has been established as a 'clearinghouse' that operates a pro bono legal assistance referral service. Eligible individuals and not for profit associations are matched with a 'safety net' of member law firms and barristers willing to act pro bono.

HOW DOES OUR PRO BONO LEGAL REFERRAL SERVICE OPERATE?

JusticeNet assesses applications for assistance from both individuals and not for profit organisations whose purpose is primarily charitable. Applications are assessed against eligibility criteria including a 'means' and 'merits' test. JusticeNet will attempt to refer eligible applicants to member firms and/or barrister which have the expertise and resources to take on the matter. The applicant becomes a client of the member law firm or barrister except that in most circumstances no fees are charged for the legal services provided.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR ASSISTANCE?

JusticeNet will attempt to refer applicants to member law firms and barristers, where:

- The applicant has a legal issue that has merit, and, either the applicant would suffer significant injustice if not legally represented, or the matter concerns an issue of the public interest; and
- The applicant has insufficient means to pay for a private lawyer without undue hardship; and
- The applicant is unable to obtain legal assistance from legal aid or other legal services providers; and
- The matter is of such a nature that the applicant could not reasonably be expected to self-represent; and
- JusticeNet considers that the matter is an appropriate use of limited pro bono resources in all the circumstances.

(JusticeNet may, in its absolute discretion, provide assistance in exceptional circumstances to applicants who do not meet the above criteria.)

HOW TO APPLY FOR ASSISTANCE?

Complete an application form and return to JusticeNet. Application forms can be obtained by contacting JusticeNet on 8303 5005 or info@justicenet.org.au.

HOW IS JUSTICENET FUNDED?

JusticeNet has received a grant from the Law Foundation of South Australia to enable it to commence operations. Ongoing funding will include membership fees and other fundraising.