

# Family Dispute Resolution Services

## Collaborative Practice

### What is Collaborative Practice?

Collaborative Practice (CP) is a new and highly effective way of managing separation. With the help of a small team, you can make arrangements for children and sort out your financial and property matters in a single process without having to go to court.

Like family dispute resolution or mediation, Collaborative Practice supports you in making your own agreements about the future. However, in Collaborative Practice you also have the advantage of legal support/advise and financial support/information within a team that also includes a Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner with potential to add in separate conflict coaches and/or child consultants as required.

The team works together to support the family and signs an agreement to stay out of court.

Usually a team consists of four different team members:

- Each client has their own Collaborative Family Lawyer who will provide legal advice and draw up consent orders (if required);
- A financial specialist to provide information on managing finances and property matters in ways that best suit your current needs and plans for the future;
- A family dispute resolution practitioner who will manage the process and may also provide coaching to support both of you through this time.
- A child consultant who works to give children a voice within the process to help parents to make child focused and developmentally appropriate arrangements where needed.

### Who will I see?

In the first instance, you will see the Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner for Intake and Assessment. Once a decision has been made to move into a Collaborative Practice model, you will then choose a Collaboratively Trained lawyer (see links provided). A financial specialist/neutral will be appointed by the team and additional team members (such as coaches and/or child consultants) will be brought in if required.

### What will it cost?

See cost structures attached.

The transparency and predictability of the cost structure enables families to only pay for what they need and to avoid unexpected and escalating charges. This is in contrast to the standard litigation process where costs can build quickly and without notice.

### Are there other related services?

This service is available to all clients who might be considering accessing a Family Relationship Centre or Relationships Australia South Australia FDR program. Currently this is only available through the Adelaide Family Relationships Centre and/or Relationships Australia SA FDR Program at 161 Frome st Adelaide.

### How do I make contact?

To find out more, contact Relationships Australia SA on 08 8419 2000.

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## Collaborative Practice through Relationships Australia South Australia

- Children and/or property
- 601 certificates apply for parenting
- Basic Process (see fee chart)
  - Intake with Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner (FDRP)
  - Child Focused Information Session
  - Individual meeting with lawyer
  - Joint meeting with Financial Neutral
  - Mediation sessions
  - Agreements written up
  - No maximum number of sessions
  - One on one sessions with either FDRP or Financial – as per fee schedule
  - FDRP provides conflict coaching and family advisor support
- Additional Services – see fee chart
  - Individual counselling
  - Child Consult
  - Developmental Advisory Service

## Charges for Collaborative Practice Relationships Australia SA charges

Intake/Mediation costs (rounded into 15min blocks)

Total individual income	Fee per person per hour (GST free)
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<\$100,000	\$100
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\$101,000 +	\$150
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### Additional charges:

#### Parenting Agreements:

\$100 per person.

Concession- no charge

#### Property Settlement Document:

Total Net Assests	Charge per person incl GST
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< \$250,000	\$50
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<\$500,00	\$100
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\$500,001 <> 1,000,000	\$200
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\$1,000,001 +	\$500
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### Conflict coaching and Family advisor support provided by FDRP:

Child Consultation- \$150 per adult/parent

Developmental Advisory service- no charge

## Private collaborative lawyers and financials that are part of the Relationships Australia SA collaborative practice group charge:

- Flat rate (based on current Supreme Court rate) \$333 + GST per hour = \$366.30
- Financial neutral- 1 per family \$275 (inc GST per hour)

Lawyers drafting consent minutes of order- speak to your lawyer about this optional cost.

Other professionals not part of the Relationships Australia SA collaborative practice group may charge differently at their discretion.