

CHC81115 Graduate Diploma of Family Dispute Resolution

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the fees and are there options for payment?

Fees are set each year and are available on request. Course fees for 2021 are \$13,390.

Payment can be made upfront or by instalment.

Relationships Australia Victoria (RAV) is a government-approved VET Student Loan (VSL) provider, able to offer the VSL program to eligible students to assist them in paying for their course tuition fees upfront for the Graduate Diploma of Family Dispute Resolution.

For more information, click [here](#).

Is government income support available for students of this course?

This course meets Services Australia requirements for a full-time study load. For more information about eligibility, visit the [Services Australia website](#).

What are the entry requirements?

To qualify for entry into the course, prospective students must have one or more of the following.

- An undergraduate degree or higher qualification in psychology, social work, law, conflict management, dispute resolution, family law mediation or equivalent.
- Accreditation under the National Mediator Accreditation System (NMAS).
- The Mediation Skill Set completed as registered training under the Australian Qualifications Framework through the Community Services Training Package (CHC).
- Documented evidence of previous experience in a dispute resolution environment in a job role involving self-directed application of knowledge with substantial depth in some areas, exercise of independent judgement and decision-making, and a range of technical and other skills.

I've completed a Certificate or Diploma qualification in one of the relevant areas – is that enough?

The entry requirement is for an undergraduate or higher-level qualification.

I have completed a mediation course and assessment with RAV or another provider – does that satisfy the entry requirements?

You must have accreditation under the National Mediator Accreditation System (NMAS). You can find further information about this [here](#).

RAV is a Recognised Mediation Accreditation Body (RMAB), and students who successfully complete RAV's [Mediation Training Short Course and Assessment](#) are eligible to apply for NMAS Accreditation through RAV (or another RMAB).

Alternatively, students can enter the course with the Mediation Skill Set from the Community Services Training Package (CHC), completed as registered training through the Australian Qualifications Framework. RAV offers a [Mediation Skill Set \(CHCSS00110\) Short Course](#) for students wishing to pursue this entry pathway into the Graduate Diploma.

Are there any other enrolment requirements?

Prospective students will be required to provide all of the following prior to enrolment:

- [National Police Check](#)
- [Working with Children Check](#) (or application receipt)
- [Unique Student Identifier](#) (USI)

I partially completed an earlier version of the Graduate Diploma of Family Dispute Resolution (CHC80207 or CHC80308) prior to 2016 – can I use this as recognised prior learning?

No, previous versions of the Graduate Diploma of Family Dispute Resolution were superseded by CHC81115 in 2016. The current qualification and units of competency are substantially different to the earlier versions and are therefore not equivalent. Credit Transfer from earlier versions of the qualification is not available.

Can I just do the six core units and not the whole qualification?

No, modules are clustered, so we only offer the full qualification.

What is the course duration and structure?

The course is run with a blended format over a 12-month period, split into two semesters.

- The first semester will consist of a combination of online learning modules, live and recorded webinars, and blocked, face-to-face skills workshops.
- The second semester will consist of a fully arranged and supported work placement for all students, along with monthly face-to-face meetings.

How often do I need to come to RAV?

Attendance is required at the following workshops and placement seminars.

- Semester 1 – 3x 2-day workshops over 5-months.
- Semester 2 – 5x 1-day placement seminars over 5-months.

These workshops may be run in an online format if government restrictions do not allow face to face sessions to proceed. An additional day may also be scheduled to practice either in person or online FDR, depending on the format of your workshops.

Where are the workshops run?

Relationships Australia Victoria
1183 Toorak Road
Camberwell Victoria 3124

Can I attend the workshops and seminars remotely?

You are required to participate in all workshops and seminars in the format they are offered – either online or in person.

Can I complete learning modules online?

Yes, you will progress through a series of learning modules that address each component of the course. The units of competency are clustered within these modules.

Do I need to participate in live webinars/meetings?

Preferably yes, however, sessions will be recorded and made available in the Learning Management System.

How much time will I need each week to complete the online learning modules, reading and assessments?

This course is a post-graduate qualification and the content is detailed and complex. We estimate that the study load, including student placement, will require a commitment of 1-2 days per week during the course. However, the time required to complete study and assessment tasks may vary between individuals.

Do I need to organise my own work placement?

No, we will place you in one of RAV's centres, or alternatively in a centre run by one of our partner organisations in Victoria. We will arrange and fully support the placement.

Can I organise my own work placement anyway?

No, we need to ensure that the work placement meets all course requirements and provides adequate learning opportunities.

Can I choose which centre I am placed at?

We will ask for your preferences, but each student is placed according to learning needs and operational requirements. We will not place you at a regional centre unless you express an interest in doing so.

When can I start?

We have two intakes each year, one in February and the other in July.

How does the placement work?

Work placements generally take three to six months, with the details negotiated between the student and the centre. Many centres prefer students to attend 1-2 days per week, while others prefer attendance based on client appointments. It may also be possible to attend a placement centre for a block of time, then move to ad hoc attendance. It is important that you communicate any preferences to RAV so that we can arrange your placement appropriately.

How many students are in each intake group?

We prefer smaller groups – 20 students or less.

What are the employment pathways and opportunities after graduation?

FDR practitioners (FDRPs) accredited with the [Attorney-General's Department](#) can work in Family Relationship Centres, Family Relationship Service Providers, or privately.

We cannot guarantee graduates that they will access employment within RAV or other agencies after completing the course. However, we do involve practicing FDRPs as coaches, and embed you within centres for your work placement. This provides opportunities for networking and access to job opportunities after graduating.