

Position Description
PLT

Sydney based
Casual
Supervision: First Nations Solicitor

1. Redfern Legal Centre

Redfern Legal Centre is a non-profit community legal centre that promotes social justice and creates change. We provide free legal advice, legal services and education to people experiencing disadvantage in New South Wales. We drive innovation and change through policy and law reform work to address inequalities in the legal system, policies and social practices that cause disadvantage.

We provide effective and integrated free legal services that are client focussed, collaborative, non-discriminatory and responsive to changing community needs - to our local community as well as state-wide. Our specialist legal services focus on tenancy, credit, debt and consumer law, financial abuse, employment law, international students, First Nations justice, police accountability, and provide outreach services including through our health justice partnership.

2. Position Overview

The First Nations practice is a dynamic practice that works closely with local First Nations organisations to identify and address legal issues impacting the community. The First Nations PLT will work two days per week with the First Nations Solicitor to provide culturally appropriate legal services, community legal education and policy work.

Redfern Legal Centre's First Nations practice provides advice and casework in a range of areas of law, including victims compensation, fines, credit and debt, Redress for victims of institutional child sexual abuse, discrimination, guardianship, criminal law process and care and protection. Advice is provided through our drop in First Nations Service as well as through outreach at our partner organisations including Tribal Warrior and Mudgin-Gal.

The First Nations practice provides community legal education on areas identified in partnership with local organisations.

The practice also conducts law reform activities, identifying and addressing systemic policy issues that disproportionately affect First Nations people, providing expert advice to government and regulators and preparing policy submissions, articles and reports on identified key issues.

3. Position Responsibilities

- Undertake legal research, obtain instructions from clients, review evidence and draft correspondence to clients and third parties.
- Prepare fact sheets and other materials to inform the community about their legal rights and options for obtaining assistance.
- Assist in developing and delivering community legal education.
- Attend meetings with local First Nations organisations to discuss legal issues facing First Nations clients and explore opportunities for cross referral and collaboration.
- Assist in the preparation of policy work such as drafting submissions and correspondence on law reform.

4. Knowledge, skills and experience

Selection criteria

1. Completion of a law degree and eligibility to commence Practical Legal Training.
2. Availability 2 days per week - please specify your availability, proposed start date and preferred length of commitment in your application. We prefer applicants who are seeking to do their full 60 days PLT with RLC.
3. Knowledge of legal and social justice issues affecting First Nations peoples.
4. Demonstrated ability to work with people experiencing vulnerability and with First Nations clients.
5. Be of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent and identify and be accepted as such in the community.

5. Conditions

Salary and benefits: \$54 per hour, 14 hours per week for 60 days.

6. Applications

There is no closing date for applications. Applications will close once a suitable candidate is selected.

If you wish to apply, please send an email to Gail Brennan: gail@rlc.org.au. Please include:

1. A cover letter addressing each of the selection criteria.
2. A CV including: contact details, education, relevant experience and details of two referees.

This is an Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander identified position. Redfern Legal Centre considers that being Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander is a genuine occupational requirement under s 14 of the

Anti-Discrimination Act 1977 (NSW). The filling of this position is intended to constitute a special/equal opportunity measure under section 8(1) of the *Racial Discrimination Act 1975* (Cth).

It is a requirement of volunteers at Redfern Legal Centre to be fully vaccinated for Covid-19.

Non-lawyers employed by Redfern Legal Centre are required to comply with s 121 of the Legal Profession Uniform Law.