

National Schedule of Recommended Fees[†] and Item Numbers for Psychological Services

(not including GST)

The recommended Fee Schedule in place from 1 July 2005 until 30 June 2006

Service Description	Service Time (minutes) ¹							Item No. Recommended Fee
	1-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	91-120 ²	
Initial Consultation	I01	I02	I03	I04	I05	I06	I07	Item No. Recommended Fee
		\$100	\$138	\$181	\$223	\$262	\$340	
Subsequent Consultation	S01 ³	S02	S03	S04	S05	S06	S07	Item No. Recommended Fee
	\$50	\$100	\$138	\$181	\$223	\$262	\$340	
Psychological Assessment ⁴	PA1	PA2	PA3	PA4	PA5	PA6	PA7	Item No. Recommended Fee
		\$100	\$138	\$181	\$223	\$262	\$340	
Clinical Psychological Assessment ⁵	CA1	CA2	CA3	CA4	CA5	CA6	CA7	Item No. Recommended Fee
		\$100	\$138	\$181	\$223	\$262	\$340	
Neuropsychological Assessment ⁶	NA1	NA2	NA3	NA4	NA5	NA6	NA7	Item No. Recommended Fee
		\$100	\$138	\$181	\$223	\$262	\$340	
Report Preparation ⁷	R01	R02	R03	R04	R05	R06	R07	Item No. Recommended Fee
		\$100	\$138	\$181	\$223	\$262	\$340	
Case Conference ⁸	C01	C02	C03	C04	C05	C06	C07	Item No. Recommended Fee
	\$50	\$100	\$138	\$181	\$223	\$262	\$340	
Telephone Consultation	P01	P02	P03	P04	P05	P06	P07	Item No. Recommended Fee
	\$50	\$100	\$138	\$181	\$223	\$262	\$340	
Travel Time	T01	T02	T03	T04	T05	T06	T07	Item No. Recommended Fee
	\$36	\$60	\$90	\$119	\$149	\$179	\$209	
Family or Other Group (of 2 Clients)	F21	F22	F23	F24	F25	F26	F27	Item No. Recommended Fee (Per Person)
		\$50	\$69	\$91	\$111	\$131	\$170	
Family or Other Group (of 3 to 4 clients)	F31	F32	F33	F34	F35	F36	F37	Item No. Recommended Fee (Per Person)
		\$33	\$46	\$60	\$74	\$87	\$113	
Family or Other Group (of 5 or more clients)	F51	F52	F53	F54	F55	F56	F57	Item No. Recommended Fee (Per Person)
		\$20	\$28	\$36	\$45	\$52	\$68	
Attendance ⁹ at Court or Legal Briefings ¹³	L01	L02 ¹⁰	L03	L04 ¹¹	L05	L06	L07 ¹²	Item No. Recommended Fee
		\$181	\$206	\$272	\$334	\$394	\$510	

[†] Not including GST.

Disclaimer: These fees are recommended only. Members are able to vary these fees at their discretion.

For explanations of the notated numbers from 1 to 13, please see the next page.

Notes and guidelines on the application of the National Schedule of Recommended Fees and Item Numbers for Psychological Services



Please ensure that your clients are aware of your fees prior to entering into a professional relationship with you.

Guidelines for preparation of accounts

The account should show:

- A. Your Provider Number
(if relevant, as issued by the relevant fund)
- B. These words: **Consultation:**
Date:
Item Number:
Name(s) of person(s) seen:

In order to avoid confusion, you are advised not to show any further detailed description of the service provided as the Item Number indicates this.*

C. **Australian Psychological Society Recommended Fee** (according to Item number): \$

D. **Agreed Payable Fee** (as negotiated with the client(s) and if different from the recommended fee): \$

* *Some health funds are requesting inclusion of diagnostic information on accounts. You should only include this information where there has been an explicit arrangement between the health fund and clients. If this is part of their contractual arrangement, you may be obliged to include such details. Otherwise, it may contravene confidentiality requirements.*

Cancellation Fees

Fees for cancellation of appointments made for psychological services can be justified if no replacement service is billed for the lost time. Your policy for the charging of cancellation fees should be discussed with the patient/client or the service requestor. Written information detailing your policy on cancellations should be available for clients/referring agencies, eg. printed information sheet or detailed on appointment cards.

The following is a general guideline only. In the instance of a 46–60 minute service:

0–24 hours notice	'Full fee'
24–48 hours notice	50% of fee
48 hours–7 days notice	25% of fee

Prepared by the APS Directorate of Professional Practice Workplace Issues Advisory Group.

The Advisory Group welcomes feedback on the National Schedule. Submissions and comments may be forwarded to the APS National Office.

Mr HUGH WOOLFORD MAPS
Director of Professional Practice

1. These fees are calculated on the assumption of 66% productivity ie. one hour of billable time will involve an additional average of half an hour of associated non billable professional time (eg.referral source letters, phone calls, test scoring etc.). This productivity ratio is assumed to decrease slightly for items of less than 46 minutes and increase slightly for items over 60 minutes.

2. The fee rate for services estimated to be of more than 2 hours in duration should be negotiated with the client or referral source.

3. This item is only used for brief client contact related to ongoing management/treatment (eg. brief client consultation, ward round etc.). NB this item is not considered appropriate for writing letters to referral sources, phone calls, etc. which are considered non-billable items (refer to footnote 1).

4. Time spent on face-to-face client interview or testing of intellectual, personality, interests or other capacities or traits for the purpose of educational, vocational or other assessment or guidance.

5. Time spent on face-to-face interview or testing by an appropriately qualified psychologist for purpose of assessment or diagnosis of psychopathology. Note that it is the ethical responsibility of the psychologist only to provide services that are within the limits of the psychologist's area of training and competence.

6. Time spent on face-to-face interview or testing by an appropriately qualified psychologist for purpose of assessment of brain functioning. Note that it is the ethical responsibility of the psychologist only to provide services that are within the limits of the psychologist's area of training and competence.

7. A report is a psychological service that is directly requested by the referring agency or client. Thus reports prepared for clients are usually done so on the basis of explicit written consent from the client or legal guardian. A report is a structured presentation typically including such components as relevant psychosocial history, history of presenting issues, present condition, test results, opinion and intervention recommendations. Professional letters to medical or other referral agencies concerning treatment needs of the client are not considered to constitute reports (refer to footnote 1).

For clients requesting reports, it is the responsibility of the psychologist to clarify the procedures and costs involved prior to

report preparation. For extended reports, it is the responsibility of the psychologist to negotiate fee arrangements with the referring agency prior to preparation of the report.

N.B. report preparation time is inclusive of relevant file and document review.

General guideline for report length and item numbers:

RO2 = 1 page*	brief supplementary reports e.g., request for elaboration on a previously submitted report
RO3 = 1-2 pages*	short report
RO4 = 2-3 pages*	short report
RO5 = 3-4 pages*	standard report
RO6 = 4-5 pages*	standard report
RO7 = 5-6 pages*	extended

* A4 single-spaced, typed, full page, excluding spaced preamble or other non-text material*

(This guideline is not to be interpreted rigidly and report length and charging arrangements may vary according to the specific requirements of the requesting agency).

8. A Case Conference is a consultation between professionals and others who are directly involved in the provision of services to the same client.

9. Attendance includes waiting time and provision of testimony.

10. The recommended rate for attendance at Court for any time less than one hour is \$181.00.

11. Times for these services are based on 1.5 x APS recommended fee, to take into account the additional complexity, intensity and disruption of this service.

12. For prolonged attendance items of more than two hours, each additional and consecutive hour after the initial two hours may be charged at the rate of \$271.50 per hour (1.5 x APS recommended fee) or by negotiation.

13. Travel time to/from Court or briefings as per Travel items TO1–TO6. Travel times of more than two hours are by arrangement. Motor vehicle travel in excess of 2 hours may incur the additional cost of 61 cents/per km travelled. Air travel to be business class fare and insurance; accommodation at minimum of 4 star hotel and breakfast.