

Frequently Asked Questions

‘Enhanced Pathways to Family Violence Work’ – Stage 2

- This document should be read in conjunction with the *‘Expression of Interest for prospective participating organisations – Enhanced Pathways to Family Violence Work – Stage 2’*.
- This document is a supplementary document with answers to anticipated ‘Frequently Asked Questions’ that may arise from a first reading of the principal EOI document.

Project management

- **Who is running this project?**

The Enhanced Pathways to Family Violence Work project is being led by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) on behalf of Family Safety Victoria (FSV), with strategic support from the Victorian Council of Social Service (VCOSS) as the community services sector peak body.

- **What kind of project reporting will be required for participating organisations?**

Participating organisations will be required to report quarterly on activity and outcomes using a DHHS provided reporting template, and to complete a funding acquittal for their project expenditure at the end of the project.

Participating organisations may also be asked to participate in a project evaluation.

Participating organisation eligibility

- **What type of organisations are eligible to submit an EOI to participate in the project?**

Specialist and non-specialist family violence organisations and community service organisations located in Victoria are eligible to submit an EOI.

The community services industry is large and diverse. It includes (but is not limited to) Aboriginal community controlled organisations, alcohol and other drug services, child and family services, youth services, disability services, housing and homelessness services, community mental health services, community health services, women's services, sexual assault services, services for LGBTIQ people, services for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse communities, and services for senior Victorians.

- **My organisation does not currently offer any family violence services – can we apply?**

The vision of the 10-Year Family Violence Industry Plan, *Building from Strength* is:

“In the future, workforces spanning specialist family violence services, primary prevention, community services, health, justice and education work together to respond to the complexity and harms of family violence, and to prevent it from occurring, creating a system that is flexible and dynamic and can respond to evolving economic and social trends.”

Therefore this project aims to build the capacity of specialist family violence and non-specialist community service organisations to students on placement and to assist them to understand family violence practice.

- **My organisation has participated in Stage 1 of the project – can we apply to participate in Stage 2 of the project?**

Enhanced Pathways to Family Violence Work' is a capacity and capability building project. If you've participated in Stage 1 of the project, then you'll be enjoying a current and immediate uplift in organisational capability and be building towards longer-term workforce capacity.

Whilst Stage 2 is focused on extending the project funding to up to 100 additional organisations, previous participants can be considered for further funding **if they can demonstrate that a different workforce/region/client cohort would benefit from participating in Stage 2.** Please note that to be considered for inclusion in Stage 2, EOIs from previous participating organisations must provide detailed information articulating the case for further funding in Stage 2.

Student placements

- **What type of students are in scope for the project?**

This project is to support organisations take more students on placement for qualifications which enable them to enter practice in a profession or occupation for the first time, or enable graduates to apply directly for initial registration (where applicable).

Vocational Educational and Training and University students from a wide range of disciplines spanning the community sector **are in scope** – for example, children and families, housing and homelessness, alcohol and other drugs, disability, specialist family violence services.

Students who are **outside** the scope of the project are those seeking qualifications that do not lead to initial entry to practice in a profession or occupation, upskilling courses, professional development courses for qualified professionals or current occupational workforce.

- **In our EOI, we've estimated how many student placements we can provide in 2020. If our EOI application is successful, can we renegotiate that figure as the project gets underway, if needed?**

Through the EOI process, organisations are required to commit to a specific number of student placements, over and above previous years' placement numbers. Participating organisations are selected based on this information (and responses to other EOI questions).

This figure is not intended to be an estimate or target, but a solid commitment.

Participating organisations will receive dedicated support from a CBC to assist them to meet this commitment.

Project resources

- **How much funding will my organisation receive to participate in the project?**

The project will offer funding support packages to enable a wide range of community sector organisations to participate in the project, ensuring that students build an understanding of family violence practice regardless of where they are placed.

The level of funding will depend on the number of students that organisations commit to placing and the number of staff organisations intend to send to training. This means that DHHS can only advise organisations of the quantum of funding once it has reviewed the commitments that participating organisations have submitted in their EOI.

- **What are the student placement resources available to organisations participating in the project?**

The following tools will support your participation in the project:

- **Placeright:** Placeright is a secure, web-based information system that helps Victorian student placement providers plan and administer student placements with partner education providers. Use of Placeright is a requirement of the project.
- **Student Placement Agreement:** The Student Placement Agreement provides an outline of standardised terms and conditions under which students may be placed whilst undergoing student placement as part of their course. Participating organisations will be supplied with the DHHS pro forma Student Placement Agreement. They may choose to use this or a Student Placement Agreement of equivalent status provided by the education provider.
- **Best Practice Clinical Learning Environment (BPCLE) Framework, resources and BPCLE tool:** The BPCLE Framework is a guide for organisations in partnership with education providers, to coordinate and deliver high-quality student placements for all levels of learners. Participating organisations will be required to complete the initial organisational self-assessment. Engagement with other features of the BPCLE is encouraged, but at the discretion of each participating organisation depending on their organisational context.

- **Orientation to Family Violence Work Practice Guidelines:** This resource assists community service organisations to support and develop students, graduates and new workers in family violence practice. All student supervisors will be required to introduce this to students upon commencement of their placement and to ensure the checklist is completed with each student within the timeframe recommended in the document.

Additionally, supervisors will receive access to:

- Training
- Reflective practice and peer learning through a Supervisor Community of Practice.

- **My organisation has a range of in-house tools to manage student placements – do I have to use the Placeright system?**

Yes, use of Placeright is a requirement for all student placements booked during this project. Participating organisations will receive support to establish and implement Placeright by a skilled Capability Building Coordinator.

- **Can we source or deliver our own training to staff through this project?**

While it's up to participating organisations to identify/nominate which staff require training and to ensure those staff attend training in line with the commitment they made in their EOI, DHHS has identified and sourced high-quality training that will support organisations to build staff capability in General Supervision Training and Family Violence Supervision Training. DHHS will advise the details of this training to participating organisations.

Additionally, for those staff who will attend 'Family Violence Supervision Training' but have no prior specialist family violence knowledge or work experience, access to foundational family violence training will be supported, so that all staff have the foundational knowledge necessary to participate in 'Family Violence Supervision Training'.