

Pro Bono Scheme

The Supreme Court established the Pro Bono Scheme in 2001 with support from the New South Wales Bar Association and Law Society of New South Wales.

The Scheme operates in accordance with Part 7 Division 9 of the *Uniform Civil Procedure Rules 2005* and enables unrepresented litigants to be referred to a barrister and/or solicitor once the Court determines that it is in the interests of the administration of justice for a referral to be made. The Court in making this assessment may consider the means of a litigant, the capacity of the litigant to obtain legal assistance

outside of the Scheme, the nature and complexity of the proceedings, and any other matter the Court considers appropriate.

During 2024, the Court made 48 referrals under the Scheme: two referrals were made in the Court of Appeal and 46 were made in cases from either the Common Law or Equity Division.

	Court of Appeal	Common Law / Equity Division	Total
2019	9	18	27
2020	2	20	22
2021	3	26	29
2022	1	24	25
2023	1	31	32
2024	2	46	48

The Pro Bono Scheme’s success depends upon the continued goodwill of barristers and solicitors who have indicated a willingness to participate in the Scheme. The Court gratefully acknowledges and extends its sincere thanks to those who support the Scheme by volunteering their services.

