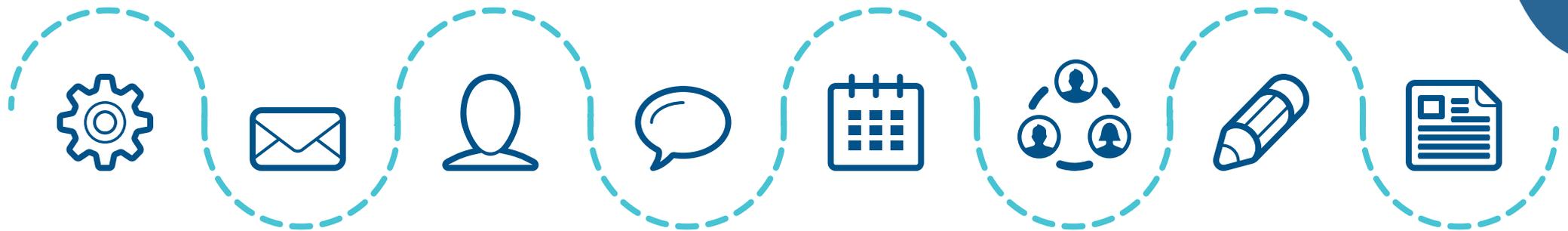


# Family dispute resolution conference process



## 1. Getting started

This process has started because someone has been granted Legal Aid funding for a family dispute resolution conference.

Talk to us at any time if you are worried about your safety.

## 2. Invitations and intake

Legal Aid Dispute Resolution Services (DRS) will send all parties a Client Assessment Sheet so you can provide confidential information about your matter. You have a reasonable time to respond. If the other parties don't respond or they refuse to attend, we will let you know your options.

## 3. Legal help

You can get legal advice to discuss your invitation to attend and to help you prepare for the conference. You can also get a lawyer to support you at the conference, if you don't already have one funded by Legal Aid. You can apply for Legal Aid, pay a private lawyer or represent yourself.

## 4. Will the conference proceed?

Once all parties agree to attend, we will tell you whether the conference is going ahead, based on the information received. This assessment is ongoing.

## 5. When, where and how?

The conference will usually be via videocall. We will discuss with you a date and time and make arrangements so all parties feel safe. If you're represented, you'll speak to your lawyer before the conference.

## 6. Conference proceeds

During your conference, you and the other parties have discussions with an independent mediator to see if you can reach agreement. If you are represented, your lawyer is present to give legal support.

## 7. Conference agreement

If you reach an agreement, you're expected to sign at the conference. Your lawyer will advise you about the options for agreements. If you don't reach agreement, your lawyer can advise you of the next steps, which may include a further grant of Legal Aid. If you are self-represented, you can seek independent legal advice.

## 8. After the conference

A s60I certificate is issued to you after the conference. A certificate may also be issued if we're unable to arrange a conference. DRS involvement in your matter ends and your conference file is now closed.



If you have questions about the conference process or accessing legal help, you can call your conference organiser or Legal Aid Queensland on **1300 65 11 88** or our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Information Line on **1300 65 01 43**.