

INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR COURT EXCELLENCE

THE AUSTRALASIAN INSTITUTE
OF JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION
WWW.AIJA.ORG.AU

THE FEDERAL
JUDICIAL CENTER
WWW.FJC.GOV

THE NATIONAL CENTER
FOR STATE COURTS
WWW.NCSCONLINE.ORG

THE STATE COURTS
OF SINGAPORE
WWW.STATECOURTS.GOV.SG

ICCE Membership Policy

The International Consortium for Court Excellence (the Consortium) consists of international judicial institutions with expertise in court and judicial administration. Representing significant international experience in the application of court quality management models, they have joined to promote court excellence.

The Consortium has developed the *International Framework for Court Excellence*. The *Framework* assesses a court's performance against seven areas of excellence, and provides guidance for courts to improve their performance. It utilises recognised organisational improvement methodologies while reflecting the special issues that courts face. The *Framework* also incorporates links to case studies, court performance improvement processes and a range of available tools to measure court performance and development.

The Consortium regularly edits and revises the *Framework* to reflect new systems and initiatives directed at improving how courts deliver services. It represents a process for an all-encompassing approach to achieving court excellence rather than simply addressing limited aspects of court activity. As a result, it applies to all courts and is equally effective for large urban courts and smaller rural or remote courts.

The **benefits** of membership in the Consortium are:

- Being part of a global community of judicial institutions who are committed to court excellence;
- Being the first to know about developments in the *Framework* and having the opportunity to contribute to ongoing improvements to the *Framework*;
- Having the support of the Consortium Secretariat in the ongoing journey towards court excellence. The Secretariat provides members with access to advice and information from the founding members; can facilitate training in the *Framework*, and provide members with names and details of consultants working in the area of court excellence.

Categories of Membership of the International Consortium:

1. Founding Members:

The Founding Members of the Consortium developed the *Framework* and are dedicated to its continual development. They:

- i. actively promote use of the *Framework*.
- ii. have assisted in refining the *Framework* and related resources.
- iii. actively participate in the Consortium's work and promote the Consortium's objectives.
- iv. contribute to the objectives of the Consortium and ensure programs and future plans of their organisation support the Consortium's court excellence objectives.
- v. provide support, collaboration, education, research and development of court excellence tools.

The Founding Members are the Australasian Institute of Judicial Administration (AIJA); the Federal Judicial Center (FJC), the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) and the State Courts of Singapore. Organisations that assisted the Founding Members develop the *Framework* include the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice, Spring Singapore and the World Bank.

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2. Membership by Application

There are three categories of membership open to judicial institutions:

- Implementing Members.
- Associate Members.
- Affiliated Judicial Institutions.

2.1 Implementing Members:

Are courts or tribunals or court or tribunal systems that:

- i. have an active interest in the *Framework* and its implementation.
- ii. assist the Consortium in fulfilling its objectives including providing advice where able.
- iii. share information, experiences and ideas with the Consortium.
- iv. promote use of the *Framework*.
- v. have shown evidence of significant use of the *Framework*. Examples of significant use include:
 - Demonstration of completion of either the self-assessment questionnaire or checklist and an Improvement Plan; and further rounds of the self-assessment cycle have been undertaken or are planned.
 - Demonstration of the use of the *Framework* in the administrative operations of the court including strategic planning and leadership development.
 - Creation of an organizational structure to support the implementation of the *Framework*.
 - Other areas as identified in collaboration with the IFCE Executive Committee.

2.2 Associate Members:

Are courts or tribunals or court or tribunal systems that:

- i. have an active interest in the *Framework*.
- ii. assist the Consortium in fulfilling its objectives.
- iii. share information, experiences and ideas with the Consortium.
- iv. promote use of the *Framework*.
- v. have recently commenced implementing the Framework or have firm plans to do so or have implemented the Framework in a limited manner.
- vi. may move to Implementing Member status once they have demonstrated evidence of significant use of the *Framework* in (v) above.

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2.3 Affiliated Judicial Institutions:

Affiliated Judicial Institutions are institutions that provide active support and assistance to judges, courts and court systems but do not have direct responsibility for implementing the *Framework* in courts or court systems. They support the goals of the Consortium and implementation of the *Framework* and seek to assist and support the promotion of the Framework, such as, by way of education of judges in the *Framework*.

Judicial Institutions wishing to be recognised as Affiliated Judicial Institutions must make application to the Consortium providing sufficient details supporting their application.

Becoming a Member of the International Consortium:

The Executive Committee appoints Members by Application after due consideration of applications and supporting documentation received.

The Membership List is reviewed annually by the Executive Committee to ensure the status of members remains accurate.

An organisation's membership may be subject to review by the Executive Group if the organisation ceases to meet the membership criteria. A full list of Members is regularly updated on the Court Excellence website at: www.courtexcellence.com

The Executive Committee is made up of Founding Members and other representatives. The current members are:

Laurence Glanfield
Deputy President
Australasian Institute of Judicial Administration
Australia

Elizabeth C. Wiggins
Project Director
Federal Judicial Center
USA

Greg Reinhardt
Executive Director
Australasian Institute of Judicial Administration
Australia

Jennifer Marie
Deputy Presiding Judge/Registrar
State Courts
Singapore

Daniel J. Hall
Vice President, Court Consulting Services
National Center for State Courts, USA

To become a member, organisations should complete the Membership Application form at www.courtexcellence.com/Members.aspx and email this to the ICCE Secretariat Officer: liz.richardson@monash.edu