

Family Group Conferencing Skill Set



2026 Course Information



Learning Pathway



Welcome

Thank you for your interest in undertaking the accredited Family Group Conferencing Skill Set through a Learning Pathway at the Centre for Community Welfare Training. This nationally recognised Skill Set is recommended for experienced human services practitioners who want to become skilled Family Group Conferencing Facilitators.

The [Centre for Community Welfare Training](#) (CCWT) is the learning and development arm of the Association of Children's Welfare Agencies (ACWA). CCWT is focused on equipping individuals in the community and human services sectors with work skills. If you have any questions or would like to discuss your learning journey prior to enrolment, please contact us at training@ccwt.edu.au

Course Overview

Family Group Conferencing is a process that invites families to come together so that they as a family can develop solutions that will keep their family safe. It is increasingly being used in early intervention programs together with permanency encouraging relationships and nurturing connections, not Court orders.

This accredited Skill Set has been developed by sector specialists and will provide you with the practical skills and theoretical knowledge underpinning the model so that you can confidently facilitate a family group conference. These skills are transferable and will assist practitioners in a wide range of fields that are supporting families and young people. It includes facilitation and communication skills, and a range of practical strategies to assist families to make child centred decisions.

The course comprises two nationally recognised units of competency which have been selected to meet the skills and knowledge required by Family Group Conferencing Facilitators. The units offered in the CCWT Family Group Conferencing Skill Set are:

CHCGRP002	Plan and conduct group activities
CHCPRT028	Work effectively in child protection to support children, young people and families

These units of competency can be used for Credit into a range of qualifications. At CCWT this includes CHC52025 Diploma of Community Services and CHC50325 Diploma of Child, Youth and Family Intervention.

How will the course be delivered?

The skill set is delivered through a combination of online and classroom learning and supplementary online coaching. First, you will work through seven **online, self-directed** modules which introduce key concepts about Family Group Conferencing (FGC). Successful completion of the online component is followed by attendance at a **two-day instructor-led workshop** to better understand the concepts and practical skills required. The workshop provides an opportunity to practice your skills in a safe environment and commence the assessment tasks. The 2026 workshops are scheduled on:

- 11-12 February | Sydney
- 28-29 April | Sydney
- 12-13 May | Newcastle
- 16-17 June | Shellharbour
- 7-8 July | Dubbo
- 12-13 August | Sydney
- September | Wagga Wagga (EOI)
- 20-21 October | Sydney

Additional workshops will be scheduled based on demand. Expressions of interest are also open for workshops in Wagga Wagga.

The **assessments** are linked to real-world scenarios and may include questioning, case studies, observation or self-reflection. As this is a nationally recognised qualification, assessments are competency-based, meaning that the tasks will involve the demonstration of skill, knowledge and the ability to work consistently to the required standards.

Following successful completion of the assessments, you will have the opportunity to attend an **online coaching** session with an experienced FGC Facilitator.

Are there any prerequisites?

There are no mandated prerequisites for this skill set however the course is for experienced practitioners who want to build their specialist skills in Family Group Conferencing. During the application and enrolment process, you may be asked to:

- Provide evidence of being over 18 years of age,
- Complete an LLND (Language, Literacy, Numeracy, Digital) skills assessment,
- Provide evidence of previous study or work experience in the community or human services sector

As the course materials are provided electronically, you need to have sufficient digital skills to download and upload course materials, navigate an online Learning Management System and access to a computer and stable internet connection.

What are the key time frames?

The total duration of this Skill Set is 6 months from enrolment. There are several components to complete within this time frame:

- The online self-directed module is approximately 4 hours in duration. It can be commenced at any time after enrolment and must be completed at least one week prior to attending an instructor-led workshop.
- The scheduled workshops run over two consecutive days, and attendance is required on both days.
- You will have up to 2 months after attending the workshop to complete the assessments.
- Online coaching sessions are available quarterly after successful completion of all course components.

Fee Schedule

Cost: \$1750 (GST Free)

The course fee is required on acceptance of enrolment.

You can find out more about payment methods, and our terms and conditions here: [CCWT Terms & Conditions](#)

What is included in my course fee?

The course cost, as detailed above includes:

- Access to seven interactive online learning modules
- Digital learning and assessment resources
- Attendance at the two-day workshop
- Assessment services for up to 3 attempts for each task
- Attendance at an online coaching session
- Support provided by the CCWT team, including an allocated assessor and administrative support
- Relevant certification, that is, a Statement of Attainment on successful completion

Can I get recognition for my existing skills and knowledge?

CCWT offers a Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) Pathway for this Skill Set which is designed for experienced Family Group Conferencing Facilitators. RPL is an assessment approach that measures your current and prior knowledge and skills against the learning outcomes and standards of the units of competency. For more information on the RPL Pathway, please contact the CCWT team at training@ccwt.edu.au.

Credit Transfers

A credit transfer provides automatic credit for equivalent units that you have previously completed in an accredited course with CCWT or another training provider. We will ask you to provide your Unique Student Identifier (USI) Transcript as part of your enrolment to explore any eligible Credit Transfers. There is no charge for credit transfers, and your course fees will be reduced if you are eligible.

What additional support is provided?

CCWT is committed to providing quality support through our team of experienced trainers and assessors and support staff. Our Trainers and assessors are qualified industry experts and on enrolment you will be allocated an assessor who will support you throughout your learning journey. Your assessor is available to assist you throughout your enrolment as are the Student Support team. The Student Support team can provide guidance on the application and enrolment process, assist with accessing the learning platform and answer any queries related to the course structure.

How do I enrol?

Step 1 Review the information in this brochure to explore if this is the best pathway for you and that you meet the pre-requisites.

Step 2 Use the link on the [CCWT website](#) to commence the online application process. Once you have completed the online application, you will receive a confirmation email acknowledging that we have received your application.

Step 3 Your application will be reviewed, and you will be advised of the outcome via email.

Step 4 If your application is successful, we will provide you with an online enrolment link. Alternatively, we will discuss other learning options with you.

Step 5 You will receive confirmation of your enrolment, please note that enrolment is not confirmed until fees have been paid.

Step 6 You can now access your learner portal and will receive further information about your allocated assessor, and how to move through the program. Welcome to the course!

Meet our industry qualified trainers

Annette Smith

Annette has over thirty years' experience in family work at practice and leadership levels. For many years she was Director Child and Family Services (DCJ) for the Western and Hunter Districts. In her current role as Director "Children Need a Happy Home" she specialises in family decision making models and is a strong component of Family Group Conferences and Family Circle Meetings.

Annette is known for her significant experience in delivering and consulting on Family Group Conferencing at national and international levels having worked alongside researchers, First Nation practitioners, government and professional practitioners. Her practice interests and influences promote active engagement, collaboration and culturally responsive practice with respect for social and demographic context and difference. Annette strongly believes that practice needs to move from a risk framework where poverty is often the main driver to a relational approach that values relationships and enables families to develop and learn.

One of Annette's major accomplishments is her highly regarded text "Family Group Conferencing, Process and Practice" Telwell Canada 2022.

Jacqui Edwards

Jacqui has worked in the Out of Home Care sector for 17 years as a caseworker, Manager, Operations Manager and Practice Specialist. Jacqui then completed a Post Graduate studies in Family Dispute Resolution and completed the Family Group Conference facilitator training in 2015.

Jacqui has extensive experience as a Family Group Conferencing (FGC) Facilitator, and has held a position on the DCJ panel of approved FGC providers since the introduction of FGC's in 2016. Jacqui provides training to FGC facilitators on the DCJ panel across both Illawarra/Shoalhaven, Southern, SouthWest Sydney districts as well as mentoring and coaching new facilitators. Jacqui is passionate about equipping FGC Facilitators to support better outcomes for families.

Testimonials

"Practice in the classroom environment with others was great and the teacher was beyond amazing and supportive. It was a safe space and allowed for cultural consideration and understanding in every way." Family Group Conferencing Course Graduate, 2024

"This training was absolutely brilliant the role plays were helpful and I usually don't like them. The trainer is highly skilled and helped support us." Family Group Conferencing Course Graduate, 2024

"I would highly recommend this training to anyone looking to develop their skills in Family Group Facilitation. Annette and Jacqui are exceptional trainers whose passion and expertise greatly enhance the learning experience." Julie, Family Group Conferencing Skill Set Graduate, 2026

Other courses at CCWT

CCWT provides cost effective and accessible training for people working across the human services sector, in a broad range of areas. CCWT provides short courses, nationally recognised qualifications and In-House training as well as specialised programs, coaching and supervision. We offer face to face delivery at our Sydney training centre or we can bring the training to you. We also have a wide range of online training options available. To explore the learning opportunities available, visit our [website](#).

For further information about the Family Group Conferencing Skill Set or any other learning pathway at CCWT, please contact us at training@ccwt.edu.au or 02 9281 8822.

We look forward to sharing your learning journey with you.

The Centre for Community Welfare Training (CCWT) is the learning and development arm of the Association of Children's Welfare Agencies (ACWA). CCWT is focused on equipping individuals in the Human Services sector. As a Registered Training Organisation (RTO 90494) CCWT has been delivering quality accredited vocational training since 1995.