

What is
an Accredited Specialist?

Why should I use
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if a solicitor is an
Accredited Specialist?

How can I find
an Accredited Specialist?



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**Accredited
Specialists**



What is an Accredited Specialist?

In the legal profession Accredited Specialists are practising solicitors who have shown capability in a particular area of law.

This mark of distinction is conferred by fellow solicitors as part of the Specialist Accreditation Scheme, a professional development program run by the Law Society of NSW.

Why should I use an Accredited Specialist?

To qualify for specialist accreditation a solicitor must have practised full-time for at least five years and worked in their area of speciality for at least three years.

To gain specialist accreditation a solicitor must pass rigorous assessments in communication, problem solving, client relations and, of course, the law.

To maintain accredited status, a solicitor must annually renew a certificate to practise the law and membership of the Law Society, plus update his or her skills and knowledge at the specialist level.

How do I know if a solicitor is an Accredited Specialist?



When you see the Specialist Accreditation logo on promotional material, you know you're on the right track. Look out for the words 'Accredited Specialist' or the abbreviation 'Acc Spec (area of law)' after a solicitor's name.

Be sure that the Specialist is accredited in the area of law you need assistance in.

How can I find an Accredited Specialist?

Online

Visit www.lawsociety.com.au and click on the Advanced Search link in the 'FIND A LAWYER' section. On the Find a Lawyer page (<http://www.lawsociety.com.au/community/findingalawyer/findalawyersearch/index.htm>) click on the arrow in the Accredited Specialist field. You can search across the following areas:

- Advocacy
- Business & Personal Tax Law
- Business Law
- Children's Law
- Commercial Litigation
- Criminal Law
- Dispute Resolution
- Employment and Industrial Law
- Family Law
- Immigration Law
- Local Government and Planning Law
- Mediation
- Personal Injury
- Property Law
- Wills & Estates Law

By phone

Call the Law Society's Solicitor Referral Service on (02) 9926 0300 during business hours.