



## High Court (2026 Sittings) Rules 2025

---

We, Justices of the High Court of Australia, make the following Rules of Court.

Dated            17   June            2025

S. J. Gageler

M. M. Gordon

J. J. Edelman

J. S. Gleeson

J. M. Jagot

R. T. Beech-Jones

Justices of the High Court of Australia

R. A. Glenn  
Chief Executive and  
Principal Registrar

---



---

# Contents

|   |                                          |   |
|---|------------------------------------------|---|
| 1 | Name .....                               | 1 |
| 2 | Commencement.....                        | 1 |
| 3 | Authority .....                          | 1 |
| 4 | Sittings of the High Court in 2026 ..... | 1 |
| 5 | Repeal of these Rules .....              | 2 |



## 1 Name

These Rules are the *High Court (2026 Sittings) Rules 2025*.

## 2 Commencement

- (1) Each provision of these Rules specified in column 1 of the table commences, or is taken to have commenced, in accordance with column 2 of the table. Any other statement in column 2 has effect according to its terms.

| Commencement information    |                                           |              |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Column 1                    | Column 2                                  | Column 3     |
| Provisions                  | Commencement                              | Date/Details |
| 1. The whole of these Rules | The day after these Rules are registered. | 20 June 2025 |

Note: This table relates only to the provisions of these Rules as originally made. It will not be amended to deal with any later amendments of these Rules.

- (2) Any information in column 3 of the table is not part of these Rules. Information may be inserted in this column, or information in it may be edited, in any published version of these Rules.

## 3 Authority

These Rules are made under the *Judiciary Act 1903*.

## 4 Sittings of the High Court in 2026

- (1) Sittings of a Full Court of the High Court are to be held at Canberra and other places as required during the following periods:

Monday 2 February 2026 to Friday 13 February 2026  
 Tuesday 10 March 2026 to Friday 20 March 2026  
 Tuesday 7 April 2026 to Friday 17 April 2026  
 Monday 4 May 2026 to Friday 15 May 2026  
 Tuesday 9 June 2026 to Friday 19 June 2026  
 Monday 3 August 2026 to Friday 14 August 2026  
 Monday 7 September 2026 to Friday 18 September 2026  
 Tuesday 6 October 2026 to Friday 16 October 2026  
 Monday 2 November 2026 to Friday 13 November 2026  
 Monday 30 November 2026 to Friday 11 December 2026

- (2) The winter recess begins on Saturday 20 June 2026.  
 (3) The summer recess begins on Saturday 12 December 2026.

**5 Repeal of these Rules**

These Rules are repealed at the start of 1 January 2027.



# HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA

## HIGH COURT (2026 SITTINGS) RULES 2025 17 JUNE 2024 EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Each year, the Justices of the High Court of Australia make a Rule of Court appointing the Full Court sittings for the following year. These Rules of Court are made by the Justices under the rule-making power given by s 86 of the *Judiciary Act 1903*.

This Rule of Court appoints the sittings of the Full Court of the High Court for 2026. Sittings of the Full Court will be held in Canberra and may also be held in Adelaide, Brisbane, Darwin, Hobart, Melbourne, Perth or Sydney. Additional sittings of the Full Court may be appointed as required, for example in matters requiring expedition. The Chief Justice appoints additional sittings pursuant to Rule 6.04.2 of the *High Court Rules 2004*.

### Consultation

As in previous years, no consultation was necessary in relation to the appointment of the High Court sitting dates for 2026. The Rule does not substantially alter long-standing arrangements.

### Statement of compatibility

Section 8 of the *Legislation Act 2003* provides that Rules of Court made for the High Court of Australia are not legislative instruments for the purposes of that Act. The *Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Act 2011* therefore does not apply to any such Rules of Court and no statement of compatibility for the purposes of that latter Act is included in the Explanatory Statement.