

# AML/CTF Tranche 2: Practical guidance for law practices

Practice Management

Solicitors will be aware of the upcoming changes to the AML/CTF regime. Affected law practices should now be enrolling with AUSTRAC, with Tranche 2 entities able to enrol from now until 29 July 2026. With full obligations commencing on 1 July 2026, it is crucial that law practices are informed and prepared.

## AUSTRAC Starter Kits: A foundation

---

AUSTRAC's Legal Profession Program Starter Kit and Conveyancing Starter Kit are designed to help newly regulated practices establish an AML/CTF program. They provide templates, guidance and core components to support compliance and reduce the risk of a practice being misused for money laundering, terrorism financing or proliferation financing.

**However, the Starter Kits are not a one size fits all solution. They require careful tailoring and proper implementation to reflect the size, nature and risk profile of each individual practice.**

This is where many practices may find the greatest challenge, particularly sole practitioners and small firms with limited internal resources.

## AML/CTF Implementation Guide: Bridging the gap

---

To address this gap, the Law Society of NSW has released the AML/CTF Implementation Guide for sole practitioners and small practices, available through its AML/CTF Hub.

In practical terms, the Guide assists solicitors by:

- Explaining how to customise an AML/CTF program so it reflects the services provided, client base and risk profile of the practice
- Providing guidance on embedding AML/CTF obligations into routine workflows, including client onboarding, matter management and suggested wording to include in retainer/cost agreements explaining obligations under the new regime
- Offering real-world examples to illustrate how obligations may arise in everyday legal practice
- Supporting practices to keep their AML/CTF program current as risks, business operations and regulatory expectations change

### Tools to support risk assessment

As part of the AML/CTF Implementation Guide, the Law Society of NSW has also released an editable [Combined Risk Assessment](#) document. This tool is designed to help practices identify, assess and document their risks in a structured way. It can be adapted as a practice grows or changes, and provides a mechanism for maintaining an up-to-date risk-based approach to compliance.



[Combined Risk Assessment](#)



### Practices offering both legal and conveyancing services

Where a law practice also provides conveyancing services, elements of AUSTRAC's [Conveyancing Starter Kit](#) may also be relevant, particularly in relation to risk assessment and associated forms. [The AML/CTF Implementation Guide](#) can assist with understanding how these materials may be applied consistently across different service lines.

Practices can also subscribe to [AUSTRAC updates](#) to stay informed of regulatory developments, further guidance and sector specific communications.

It is expected that issues will arise as practices work through the Starter Kits, apply guidance and embed new processes into daily operations.

Taking early steps can help practices manage risk and prepare for AML/CTF obligations before the regime takes effect on 1 July 2026.

### Staying informed and supported

In addition to the Implementation Guide, the Law Society of NSW AML/CTF Hub brings together checklists, education courses, webinars, articles and FAQs to support practices preparing for the new regime. Solicitors can also contact the AML/CTF Hub directly by calling (02) 9926 0249 or emailing [amlctf@lawsociety.com.au](mailto:amlctf@lawsociety.com.au).

### Summary of resources:

- [AUSTRAC'S Legal Profession Program Starter Kit](#)
- [AUSTRAC'S Conveyancing Starter Kit](#)
- [AML/CTF Implementation Guide for sole practitioners and small practices](#)
- [AML/CTF Hub](#)
- [Combined Risk Assessment](#)
- [AUSTRAC updates](#)

*Information correct as of May 2026*