



## QCAT begins 1 December 2009

From **1 December 2009** a number of tribunals will be amalgamating into the **Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT)**.

**QCAT** will provide a single gateway to increase the community's access to justice across Queensland.

**QCAT** will hear a variety of matters including tenancy and building disputes, guardianship and discrimination matters as well as professional and vocational disciplinary matters.

**From 1 December 2009, the following tribunals will no longer exist:**

- Anti-Discrimination Tribunal
- Children Services Tribunal
- Commercial and Consumer Tribunal
- Guardianship and Administration Tribunal
- Small Claims Tribunal
- Retail Shop Leases Tribunal
- Fire Panel of Referees
- Fisheries Tribunal
- Independent Assessor under Prostitution Act
- Racing Appeals Tribunal
- Appeals Tribunal under *Local Government Act 1993* (levee banks)
- Legal Practice Tribunal
- Health Practitioners Tribunal
- Misconduct Tribunal
- Teachers Disciplinary Committee
- Nursing Tribunal
- Surveyors Disciplinary Committee
- Veterinary Tribunal

Some matters heard by Queensland Courts such as minor debt claims will also be transferred to **QCAT**.



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### **What if I want to start a proceeding before 1 December 2009?**

Tribunals amalgamating into QCAT will continue to exist and hear matters until 1 December 2009 – this means you can still go ahead and lodge your application and have matters heard in the tribunals until 1 December 2009.

### **What if I have started a matter in one of the tribunals that will no longer exist on 1 December 2009?**

Whether your matter has or hasn't been decided – it will be automatically transferred to QCAT.

### **What if I have started a matter in court before 1 December 2009?**

If you have a matter such as a minor debt claim that is yet to be heard or is in the early stages of a hearing, the court may transfer the matter to QCAT. However, the matter cannot be transferred if the court has started to hear your matter and is about to make a final decision.

Commencement of QCAT may change your right to appeal a decision, for further information visit [www.tribunalsreview.qld.gov.au](http://www.tribunalsreview.qld.gov.au)