

## Strategic Plan 2024-25

The Admissions Committee is established by the Legal Services Council (**Council**) under the Legal Profession Uniform Law – the statutory framework for legal profession regulation which applies in New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia.

This Strategic Plan should be read with the Strategic Plan of the Council.

### Goals

The goals of the Admissions Committee are:

1. consistency in regulation of admission under the Uniform Law and across all State and Territories, in the context of a common legal services market
2. regulation which is efficient, effective, targeted and proportionate in determining the standards for admission as an Australian legal practitioner, including for lawyers qualified overseas.

### Functions

The Admissions Committee has important statutory functions, including:

- developing the Admission Rules
- giving advice to the Council about guidelines and directions of the Council relating to admission and any other matters relating to admission
- giving advice to the Council about any matters referred to the Committee by the Council.

### Stakeholders

The Admissions Committee works closely with stakeholders in the Uniform Law jurisdictions including:

- local regulatory authorities including the admitting authorities
- courts and tribunals
- government departments and the Standing Committee of Attorneys General
- professional associations
- law course and practical legal training providers, and
- the representative body of law students.

This includes providing opportunities for information to be shared with, and between, stakeholders.

The Admissions Committee also consults and engages with stakeholders in the non-participating jurisdictions and New Zealand.

## Working with the Law Admissions Consultative Committee

The Admissions Committee works closely with the Law Admissions Consultative Committee (LACC) to facilitate national consistency in admissions matters. The Committees meet jointly to discuss matters of mutual interest and common projects.

### Priority projects

Consistent with the goals and functions set out above, the Admissions Committee has identified its priority projects as at September 2024. Other priorities may emerge, and the ongoing work of the Committee will continue.

<b>Accreditation of law courses and PLT providers</b>
The Admissions Committee, working with the LACC, is looking at how guidance for admitting authorities on the accreditation of law courses and PLT providers can be improved.
<b>Foreign lawyers</b>
The Admissions Committee is working on proposed amendments to the Legal Profession Uniform Admission Rules 2015 ( <b>Admission Rules</b> ) relating to foreign lawyers. The Committee will monitor the impact of the Council's guideline on conditional admission, issued in May 2024.
The Admissions Committee, working with the LACC, will develop updates to the Uniform Principles for Assessing Qualifications of Overseas Applicants for Admission to the Australian Legal Profession.
<b>Australia-UK Free Trade Agreement</b>
The Admissions Committee, along with the Council and the LACC, will continue to participate with the Law Council of Australia in the Legal Services Regulatory Dialogue, convened in March 2024.
<b>Proposed law courses with international providers</b>
The Admissions Committee and the LACC are exploring the implications of requests that have been made to admitting authorities to accredit law courses where part of the law course is delivered by a provider based overseas.
<b>Review of legal education and training</b>
The Admissions Committee and the LACC will consider recommendations developed by the Australasian Professional Legal Education Community Ltd. regarding the Practical Legal Training Competency Standards for Entry Level Lawyers, which form the basis of Schedule 2 to the Admission Rules.
The Admissions Committee, along with the Council and the LACC, will continue to engage with the stakeholder group convened by the Council of Australian Law Deans to consider legal education. Subject to other priorities, the Admission Committee and the LACC may then consider the desirability of, and need for, a future review of the prescribed academic areas of knowledge, which form the basis of Schedule 1 to the Admission Rules.