

## Strategic Plan 2024-25

The Law Admissions Consultative Committee (**LACC**) is a national committee that brings together a Chair, nominated by the Council of Chief Justices of Australia and New Zealand, eight members nominated by the Chief Justice of each Australian state and territory, a member nominated by the Council of Australian Law Deans, a member nominated by the Australasian Professional Legal Education Community Ltd. and a member nominated by the Law Council of Australia.

### Goals

The goals of the LACC are:

1. consensus on admission and admission-related matters nationally, between the bodies represented by its members
2. policies and procedures relating to admission to the legal profession that
  - a. ensure that only persons with either or both appropriate qualifications and appropriate experience are admitted
  - b. are consistent, uniform and transparent throughout Australia
  - c. are consistent with the development of a national legal profession, and
  - d. are consistent with Australia's participation in the international demand for professional legal services.

### Functions

The functions of the LACC are to develop, consider and make recommendations about policies, procedures and other matters, directly or indirectly related to admission to the legal profession.

The LACC may also undertake any such functions as the Council of Chief Justices requests it to undertake and may undertake any other functions as it is empowered to undertake by a law of the Commonwealth, a state or territory.

In carrying out its functions, the LACC may develop, consider and make recommendations about:

- qualifications and experience for admission to the legal profession
- the accreditation, monitoring and review of the institutions, courses and programs to prepare persons for admission to the legal profession
- different classes of admission and the conditions to be attached to each class
- the suitability of applicants for admission to the legal profession, and
- any matter referred to it by the Council of Chief Justices or the admitting authority of a state or territory.

## Stakeholders

In carrying out its functions, the LACC may consult with such persons or bodies as it considers appropriate. These may include:

- Australian and New Zealand admitting authorities
- courts and tribunals
- 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.

## Working with the Admissions Committee

The LACC works closely with the Legal Services Council's Admissions Committee 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 LACC has identified its priority projects as at September 2024. Other priorities may emerge, and the ongoing work of the LACC will continue.

<b>Accreditation of law courses and PLT providers</b>
The LACC, working with the Admissions Committee, 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 LACC, working with the Admissions Committee, 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 LACC will work with the Legal Services Council and Admissions Committee 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 LACC and the Admissions Committee 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>
<p>The LACC and the Admissions Committee will consider recommendations developed by the Australasian Professional Legal Education Community Ltd. regarding the Practical Legal Training Competency Standards for Entry Level Lawyers.</p> <p>The LACC, along with the Admissions Committee and the Legal Services Council, 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 LACC and the Admissions Committee may then consider the desirability of, and need for, a future review of the prescribed academic areas of knowledge.</p>