

Strategic Plan 2025-26

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 updated its priority projects as at May 2025. Other priorities may emerge, and the ongoing work of the Committee will continue. Projects in relation to joint law courses with overseas providers and the Uniform Principles for Assessing Qualifications of Overseas Applicants for Admission to the Australian Legal Profession will remain under consideration as resources allow.

Review of practical legal training
<p>The Admissions Committee and the LACC are leading a review of practical legal training (PLT). The review will consider accreditation, competencies and skills and will incorporate issues of cost and quality.</p> <p>The review may identify for future consideration, questions regarding prescribed academic areas of knowledge ("Priestley 11") and the interaction between academic study and PLT.</p> <p>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.</p>
Accreditation of law courses
<p>The Admissions Committee, working with the LACC, is looking at how guidance for admitting authorities on the accreditation of law courses can be improved.</p>
Australia-UK Free Trade Agreement
<p>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.</p>