



# **THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE**

## **LEGAL AID AND ADVICE ACT 1995**

### **2020 REVISED EDITION**

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# Legal Aid and Advice Act 1995

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An Act to make provision for the grant of legal aid and advice to persons of limited means.

[1 October 1995]

## PART 1

## PRELIMINARY

**Short title**

1. This Act is the Legal Aid and Advice Act 1995.

**Interpretation**

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —

“aided person” means a person who is issued a Grant of Aid and, where such a person is a minor, includes the minor’s guardian;

“court” means any court, tribunal or adjudicator before which or before whom any proceedings mentioned in section 5(1) or (2) are heard;

“Director” means the Director of Legal Aid appointed under section 3 and includes a Deputy Director and an Assistant Director of Legal Aid;

“goods and services tax” means the goods and services tax levied under the Goods and Services Tax Act 1993;

“Grant of Aid” means a document issued under section 8 stating that legal aid is granted to a person (whether on a provisional basis or otherwise);

“guardian”, in relation to a minor, includes any person whom the Director considers might properly be appointed to be the litigation representative of the minor;

“judge”, in relation to any proceedings, means the person (however described) who decided those proceedings;

“legal advice” has the meaning given by section 20;

“legal aid” means legal aid granted under this Act;

“solicitor” means an advocate and solicitor of the Supreme Court.

*[6/2013; 27/2014; 50/2018]*

### **Director, Deputy Directors and Assistant Directors of Legal Aid, etc.**

3.—(1) The Minister may appoint a person to be the Director of Legal Aid and may also appoint such number of Deputy Directors and Assistant Directors of Legal Aid as the Minister may consider necessary for the proper carrying out of this Act.

*[50/2018]*

(2) No person may be appointed to be or to act temporarily as the Director, a Deputy Director or an Assistant Director of Legal Aid unless the person is a qualified person as defined in section 2 of the Legal Profession Act 1966 or is a solicitor.

(3) The Director of Legal Aid may —

- (a) appoint such number of public officers of such qualifications and experience as the Director of Legal Aid considers appropriate, for the purpose of assisting the Director of Legal Aid, and the Deputy Directors and Assistant Directors of Legal Aid in carrying out any of their duties under this Act; and