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First published in the *Government Gazette*, Electronic Edition, on 3rd May 2011 at 10:00 am.

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**No. S 243**

**LEGAL PROFESSION ACT  
(CHAPTER 161)**

**LEGAL PROFESSION  
(QUALIFIED PERSONS)  
(AMENDMENT) RULES 2011**

In exercise of the powers conferred by sections 2(2), 12(6) and 14(4) of the Legal Profession Act, the Minister for Law, after consulting the Board of Directors of the Singapore Institute of Legal Education, hereby makes the following Rules:

**Citation and commencement**

**1.** These Rules may be cited as the Legal Profession (Qualified Persons) (Amendment) Rules 2011 and shall come into operation on 3rd May 2011.

**Amendment of rule 1**

**2.** Rule 1 of the Legal Profession (Qualified Persons) Rules (R 15) (referred to in these Rules as the principal Rules) is amended by deleting paragraph (2) and substituting the following paragraph:

“(2) These Rules —

- (a) set out the qualifications and requirements that a person has to possess and satisfy in order to be a qualified person under paragraph (a) of the definition of “qualified person” in section 2(1) of the Act;
- (b) set out the classes of qualified persons to whom section 12(2)(b) of the Act applies;
- (c) set out, in respect of each class of qualified persons to whom section 12(2)(b) of the Act applies, the time within which a qualified person belonging to that class is required to make his application under section 12(2) of the Act to be admitted as an advocate and solicitor of the Supreme Court; and

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- (d) provide for the matters referred to in section 14(4) of the Act.”.

### **Amendment of rule 2**

**3. Rule 2 of the principal Rules is amended —**

- (a) by deleting the words “3 years” in the definition of “accelerated course” and substituting the words “3 academic years”;
- (b) by deleting the definition of “approved twinning programme” and substituting the following definition:

“ “approved twinning programme” —

(a) means a twinning programme —

(i) which leads to —

(A) any degree specified in the First Schedule which is conferred on or after 1st January 1997;

(B) any degree specified in the Third Schedule which is conferred on or after 28th July 2003;

(C) any degree specified in the Fourth Schedule which is conferred on or after 1st August 2005; or

(D) any degree specified in the Fifth Schedule which is conferred on or after 1st January 2004; and

(ii) the teaching of which is undertaken partly by the institution of higher learning which confers that degree and partly by —

(A) if that degree is conferred on or after 1st January 1997 but before 28th July 2003, one or more of the other institutions of higher learning specified in the First Schedule and the National University of Singapore;

- (B) if that degree is conferred on or after 28th July 2003 but before 1st January 2004, one or more of the other institutions of higher learning specified in the First and Third Schedules and the National University of Singapore;
  - (C) if that degree is conferred on or after 1st January 2004 but before 1st August 2005, one or more of the other institutions of higher learning specified in the First, Third and Fifth Schedules and the National University of Singapore;
  - (D) if that degree is conferred on or after 1st August 2005 but before 1st April 2008, one or more of the other institutions of higher learning specified in the First, Third, Fourth and Fifth Schedules and the National University of Singapore; or
  - (E) if that degree is conferred on or after 1st April 2008, one or more of the other institutions of higher learning specified in the First, Third, Fourth and Fifth Schedules, the National University of Singapore and the Singapore Management University; and
- (b) includes any such programme —
- (i) a component of which is an official student exchange programme offered by the institution of higher learning which confers that degree; or
  - (ii) for which a candidate is given credit on account of any relevant diploma in law or relevant non-law degree attained by him prior to his admission as such candidate;”;

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- (c) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “Legal Service Officer”, the following definition:

“ “Malayan practitioner” means any person entitled to practise before a High Court in any part of West Malaysia;”;

- (d) by inserting, immediately after the definition of “National University of Singapore”, the following definition:

“ “Part A of the Singapore Bar Examinations” means Part A of the Singapore Bar Examinations conducted —

(a) before 3rd May 2011, by the National University of Singapore; or

(b) on or after 3rd May 2011, by the Institute or by any institution of higher learning appointed by the Board of Directors of the Institute;”;

- (e) by deleting the definition of “twinning programme” and substituting the following definition:

“ “twinning programme” —

(a) means a course of study leading to a degree or qualification the teaching of which is undertaken —

(i) partly by the institution of higher learning which confers that degree or qualification and partly by any other institution of higher learning; or

(ii) wholly by another institution of higher learning or jointly by several institutions of higher learning in conjunction with the institution of higher learning which confers that degree or qualification; but

(b) does not include —

(i) any course of study leading to a degree or qualification, a component of which is an official student exchange programme offered by the institution of higher learning which confers that degree or qualification, and the teaching of which is otherwise undertaken wholly by that institution of higher learning; and

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- (ii) any course of study leading to a degree or qualification, the teaching of which is undertaken wholly by the institution of higher learning which confers that degree or qualification, and for which a candidate is given credit on account of any relevant diploma in law or relevant non-law degree attained by him prior to his admission as such candidate.”.

#### **Deletion and substitution of rule 4**

4. Rule 4 of the principal Rules is deleted and the following rule substituted therefor:

**“Persons admitted as candidates for degree of Bachelor of Laws by National University of Singapore (or predecessor university) before 1st May 1993**

4.—(1) Any person who, before 1st May 1993, has passed the final examination for the degree of Bachelor of Laws in the University of Malaya in Singapore, the University of Singapore or the National University of Singapore shall be a qualified person.

(2) Any person who, before 1st May 1993, was admitted as a candidate for the degree of Bachelor of Laws by the National University of Singapore and who, after that date, has passed the final examination for that degree shall be a qualified person.”.

#### **Amendment of rule 6**

5. Rule 6 of the principal Rules is amended —

- (a) by deleting the words “citizen or permanent resident of Singapore” and substituting the words “person who is a citizen or permanent resident of Singapore and”; and
- (b) by deleting the words “for a continuous period of not less than 6 months,” in paragraph (c)(ii) and substituting the words “after he has passed the final examination for that degree, for a period of not less than 6 months within a continuous period of 8 months,”.