

Legal Profession (Practice Training Period) Rules 2009

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LEGAL PROFESSION ACT
(CHAPTER 161)

LEGAL PROFESSION (PRACTICE TRAINING PERIOD) RULES 2009

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 5(3) and (4) of the Legal Profession Act, the Board of Legal Education hereby makes the following Rules:

PART I

PRELIMINARY

Citation and commencement

1. These Rules may be cited as the Legal Profession (Practice Training Period) Rules 2009 and shall come into operation on 9th October 2009.

Definitions

2. In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires —

“practice trainee” means a qualified person who serves his practice training period under a practice training contract;

“qualifying relevant legal officer” has the same meaning as in section 13(1)(b)(ii) of the Act;

“supervising solicitor” means a solicitor who is responsible for the supervision of a practice trainee while the latter is serving his practice training period under a practice training contract.

PART II

REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO PRACTICE TRAINING PERIOD

Entitlement to serve practice training period

3.—(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), no qualified person shall be entitled to serve his practice training period unless he has passed Part B of the Singapore Bar Examinations.

(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply to —

- (a) any person who became a qualified person before 9th October 2009;
- (b) any person who —
 - (i) becomes a qualified person under rule 6(c), 7(c), 8(1)(iii), (2)(iii) or (3)(ii)(B), 9(1)(b)(ii), (2)(b)(ii) or (2A)(b)(ii) or 9A(1)(c)(ii) of the Legal Profession (Qualified Persons) Rules (R 15); and
 - (ii) has satisfied, or has been exempted under rule 15A(2) of those Rules from, the requirement under rule 6(c)(ii), 7(c)(ii), 8(1)(iii)(B), (2)(iii)(B) or (3)(ii)(B)(BB), 9(1)(b)(ii)(B), (2)(b)(ii)(B) or (2A)(b)(ii)(B) or 9A(1)(c)(ii)(B), as the case may be, of those Rules before he satisfies the requirement under rule 6(c)(i), 7(c)(i), 8(1)(iii)(A), (2)(iii)(A) or (3)(ii)(B)(BA), 9(1)(b)(ii)(A), (2)(b)(ii)(A) or (2A)(b)(ii)(A) or 9A(1)(c)(ii)(A), as the case may be, of those Rules; or
- (c) any practice training period or part thereof served through working —
 - (i) as a Legal Service Officer; or
 - (ii) under the supervision of a qualifying relevant legal officer.

(3) The Minister may, in his discretion, exempt a qualified person from the requirement under paragraph (1).

(4) An exemption granted to a person under paragraph (3) —

- (a) may be subject to such conditions as the Minister may think fit to impose by notice in writing to the person;
- (b) may be notified in writing to the person; and
- (c) need not be published in the *Gazette*.

Maximum duration of practice training period

4.—(1) Subject to paragraphs (2), (3) and (4) —

- (a) a qualified person shall complete his service of his practice training period within a continuous period of 8 months; and
- (b) any supervised training in relation to the practice of Singapore law which is received by him 8 months or more before the last day of his practice training period shall not count as part of his practice training period.