



## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE & ATTORNEY GENERAL

### The Attorney Generals Fit and Proper Persons Assessment Process for “Applicants with Foreign Academic and Practice Qualifications” – Section 25A of the *Lawyers Act 1986* (as amended).

The requirements below apply to Applicants with Foreign Academic and Practice Qualifications who are applying to be assessed in accordance with the *Lawyers Act 1986* under the Attorney Generals Fit and Proper Persons Assessment Process (hereinafter referred to as the process).

The Fit and Proper Persons Assessment process is divided into three steps:

Part A – Requires the Applicant to provide the required documents

Part B – Character Assessment Interview

Part C– Results of Examination administered by the Law Society to verify the Applicants academic qualification and understanding of legal practice in Papua New Guinea.

Part D – Advise on results of application

#### A. Checklist of Documents to be provided;

An Applicant is required to provide certified copies of the following documents by the set deadline;

- Cover Letter (*addressed to the Attorney General, copying the Director - Legal Policy & Governance Branch*)
- Curriculum Vitae
- National Identification Card and/ or Birth Certificate from Country of Origin
- Valid and recent Character References (*issued within 6 months from commencement of this process*)
  - i. One (1) Reference Letter from a Religious Authority or an affiliated group
  - ii. Two (2) Reference Letters from upstanding or prominent members of the community or leader of the community in which the Applicant resides (*where an Applicant is from another jurisdiction, we require that 2 reference letters will be from persons outside of PNG, attesting to the character of the Applicant*)
- Police Clearance from the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary and from the country in which Applicant practices law (*issued within 6 months from commencement of this process*) (*The provision of these document depends on the advice from the Attorney General's representative*)
- Medical Clearance from a Registered Doctor (*issued within 6 months from commencement of this process*)
- Academic qualifications
  - i. Bachelor of Laws degree; Academic Transcripts and any other qualifications; and
  - ii. School Certificates (Grade School Certificates for years 12, 10 and 8)
- PNG Law Society Examination Results
- Admission Certificate
- Practice Qualifications - Five (5) Practising Certificates indicating five (5) consecutive years of Legal Practice from a competent authority for the country in which the Applicant practices law.
- Medical Clearance from a Registered Psychiatrist - *\*Optional*

**B. Interview**

The Applicant is required to sit for an interview, which will be convened by a representative of the Attorney General. The Applicant will be advised of the date of interview and other details.

**C. Examination**

The Applicant is required to sit for an examination which will be administered by the PNG Law Society and must show evidence that he or she has met this requirement.

The Applicant is also required to sit an examination administered by the Attorney General's representative.

**D. Advice on results of application**

At the completion of the processes from Parts A-C, the Applicant will be advised on whether they have successfully complied with the Attorney General's Fit and Proper Persons Assessment Process, and will be issued a "Certificate of Qualification for Admission."

The applicant must also advise the representative of the Attorney General on the details of the Lawyer who will be moving their admission in PNG.

Unsuccessful applicants will be required to re-apply to the Attorney General and be re-assessed using the same process set out above.

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