

GUIDANCE NOTE ON UNDERTAKING OVERSEAS LAW DEGREE PROGRAMMES REMOTELY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The Singapore Institute of Legal Education (“SILE”) has consulted with the Ministry of Law on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions on international travel on those studying or intending to study law overseas.

2. In view of the unprecedented circumstances, a policy decision has been made that students who fulfil the following criteria will not be considered to infringe the requirement to be “full-time internal candidates” under Rule 10 of the Legal Profession (Qualified Persons) Rules:

- a. **Singapore Citizens or Permanent Residents;**
- b. Have secured a place or are currently enrolled in an **approved law degree** programme offered by an **approved university** under the Schedules of the Legal Profession (Qualified Persons) Rules (“Overseas Scheduled Universities”);
- c. Opt or have opted to undertake remote or online learning arrangements offered by their Overseas Scheduled Universities **on account of the pandemic** and **wholly taught and administered by the Overseas Scheduled Universities**; and
- d. The remote or online learning takes place within the period **1 January 2020 to 30 June 2021**.

3. Students who fulfil the above criteria and can provide appropriate certification from the Overseas Scheduled Universities as required by SILE at the point of application to take the Part A Bar Examinations will not need to apply for an exemption from the “full-time internal candidate” requirement in the circumstances. Students who do not fulfil the above criteria should write in to SILE for further guidance as an exemption may be required.

4. For the avoidance of doubt, all other requirements for admission to the Bar continue to apply.

Singapore Institute of Legal Education

24 August 2020