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**Overseas Lawyers Qualification
Examination**

CIRCULAR 23-36 (SD)

26 January 2023

**23-36 (SD) OVERSEAS LAWYERS QUALIFICATION
EXAMINATION
2023 INFORMATION PACKAGE**

Opening Date for Applications:

Thursday, 2 February 2023

Deadline to Submit Applications:

- For applicants applying for a resit of any Head(s) of the 2022 Examination in the 2023 Examination: Friday, 28 April 2023
- For all other applicants: Friday, 17 March 2023

I. Applications for the 2023 Overseas Lawyers Qualification Examination

1. The Information Package for the Overseas Lawyers Qualification Examination (“the Examination”) in 2023 (“2023 Information Package”) is available on the website of the Law Society at www.hklawsoc.org.hk.
2. All application forms (i.e. Form A) and supporting documents must be submitted by **FRIDAY, 17 MARCH 2023** except for applicants applying for a resit of any Head(s) of the 2022 Examination in the 2023 Examination. If for good reason(s), the supporting documents are not provided by 17 March 2023, they must be provided by 28 April 2023. Candidates applying for a resit of any Head(s) of the 2022 Examination in the 2023 Examination must submit their Form A and supporting documents by **FRIDAY, 28 APRIL 2023**.
3. The 2023 Information Package has been updated with the following major amendments:
 - (i) **Part I – Overseas Lawyers Qualification Examination**



Section C

- ***Paragraph 2 – Application Form***

In the event of late submission of documents and information after the applicable deadlines as specified in this Section C, requests from the Law Society for additional documents shall in no event be regarded as an implied extension of the applicable deadline(s). The purpose of the requests is for the administration of the application, i.e. to validate that the applicant is eligible to sit the Examination notwithstanding that he or she may no longer be eligible to apply for any exemption(s).

- ***Paragraph 27 – Prospective increase of the fees payable under the Overseas Lawyers (Qualification for Admission) (Fees) Rules (“Rules”)***

The Law Society proposed to increase the fees payable by 100% under the Rules as follows:

Application fee for the certificate issued under Section 3 (2) of the Overseas Lawyers (Qualification for Admission) Rules (“Section 3 (2) Certificate”) (eligibility for qualification for admission and eligibility to take or be exempt from taking the Examination) will be increased from HK\$3,300 to HK\$6,600.

Application fee for extension of validity period of Section 3 (2) Certificate will be increased from HK\$750 to HK\$1,500.

Fee for taking the Examination:

- (a) For any one subject will be increased from HK\$5,500 to HK\$11,000; and
- (b) For each additional subject will be increased from HK\$1,100 to HK\$2,200.

Application fee for review of the Law Society’s decision under Section 3 (2) of the Overseas Lawyers (Qualification for Admission) Rules will be increased from HK\$1,500 to HK\$3,000.

While the existing fees set by the Rules (as attached in Appendix II of the 2023 Information Package) still apply to the 2023 Examination, works are in hand to amend the Rules to implement the fees increase proposal and the new fees will apply for future examinations after the legislative amendments are enacted and come into force.



THE
LAW SOCIETY
OF HONG KONG
香港律師會

115th
ANNIVERSARY

3/F WING ON HOUSE, 71 DES VOEUX ROAD
CENTRAL, HONG KONG DX-009100 CENTRAL 1
香港中環德輔道中71號
永安集團大廈3字樓

TELEPHONE (電話) : (852) 2846 0500
FACSIMILE (傳真) : (852) 2845 0387
E-MAIL (電子郵件) : sg@hklawsoc.org.hk
HOMEPAGE (網頁) : <http://www.hklawsoc.org.hk>

II. Enquiries

All enquiries relating to the applications for the 2023 Examination must be made either by e-mail to adrg1@hklawsoc.org.hk and OLQEAppln@hklawsoc.org.hk or by telephone on telephone number +852 2805 9103.