



THE
LAW SOCIETY
OF HONG KONG
香港律師會

**International Conference of
Legal Regulators 2025**

**New Ways to Regulate
in a Changing World?**

Funding, fees and budget

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Regulatory Funding

2025 - Regulatory functions mostly funded by:-

- ❖ Practising certificate fees (HKD 6,500) (~USD 833)
- ❖ Annual membership fees (HKD 2,500) (~USD 320)
- ❖ Foreign lawyer registration fees (HKD 9,000) (~USD 1,154)

As of 30 Sep 2025

- ❖ Members with practising certificates: around 11,900
- ❖ Members without practising certificates: around 1,600
- ❖ Registered foreign lawyers: around 1,600



Regulatory Funding

The funds support, inter alia, the following services:

- ❖ Regulatory
- ❖ Registration
- ❖ Training courses, seminars and events – to update on the latest developments in the law and facilitate the sharing of experiences with counterparts
- ❖ Wellbeing – sports, recreational and social activities
- ❖ Corporate overheads and governance (eg. occupancy, IT, people & culture, etc.)

One of the key functions – To arrange and maintain a compulsory Professional Indemnity Scheme



Regulatory Funding

Statutory

- ❖ Practising certificate fees – Rule 3 of Practising Certificate (Solicitors) Rules (Cap. 159L)
- ❖ Foreign lawyer registration fees – Schedule to the Foreign Lawyers Registration (Fees) Rules (Cap. 159U)
- ❖ The fees were once reduced in 2021 due to the pandemic to alleviate financial burden on members.

Set annually by the Council – Annual membership fees

- ❖ The fees have been adjusted from time to time in light of global financial crisis, the pandemic and the Law Society's financial position to carry on its statutory functions, etc

Reserve

- ❖ Reserve for regulatory costs – a special reserve to ensure that the Law Society has available financial resources to fulfil its statutory regulatory functions



Regulatory Funding

**Change in the Law Society's Fees and Composite Consumer Price Index (CPI)
1997 – Present**

