

Dream Big Be a Solicitor



Hong Kong is the only jurisdiction in the world that has a unique bilingual (English and Chinese) common law system and is the only common law jurisdiction in China. Solicitors in Hong Kong possess the ability to provide a wide range of high-quality local and cross-border legal services with an international vision and play a key role in contributing to Hong Kong's roles as "super-connector" and "super value-adder" in facilitating our country in connecting with the world.

The Work of Solicitors

Solicitors do an extremely wide range of work. They provide legal advices and protect clients' rights.

Mode of practice includes

- Private practice in law firm
- In-house lawyers in corporations
- Government lawyers in the government

Legal services

Wide range of practice areas, such as civil and criminal cases, finance, commercial and corporate, property, employment, litigation, family, wills and probate, intellectual property, technology, regulatory, dispute resolution and more.

A solicitor provides legal advices and legal services to individuals and corporates. For example, a solicitor may be part of an advisory team to a company preparing to go public, or he/she may help his/her client draft a will or complete the purchase of a property, assist a bank in drafting a loan document, negotiate contracts on behalf of a client, prosecute or defend civil or criminal cases in courts, provide advice on employment law to an employee or an employer involved in a legal dispute or conduct civil proceedings to resolve a contractual dispute, etc.

Problem solver

A solicitor assists clients in completing their endeavours in accordance with the applicable laws, rules and regulations. The types of legal services may change over time in order to meet the changing demands of clients and society.

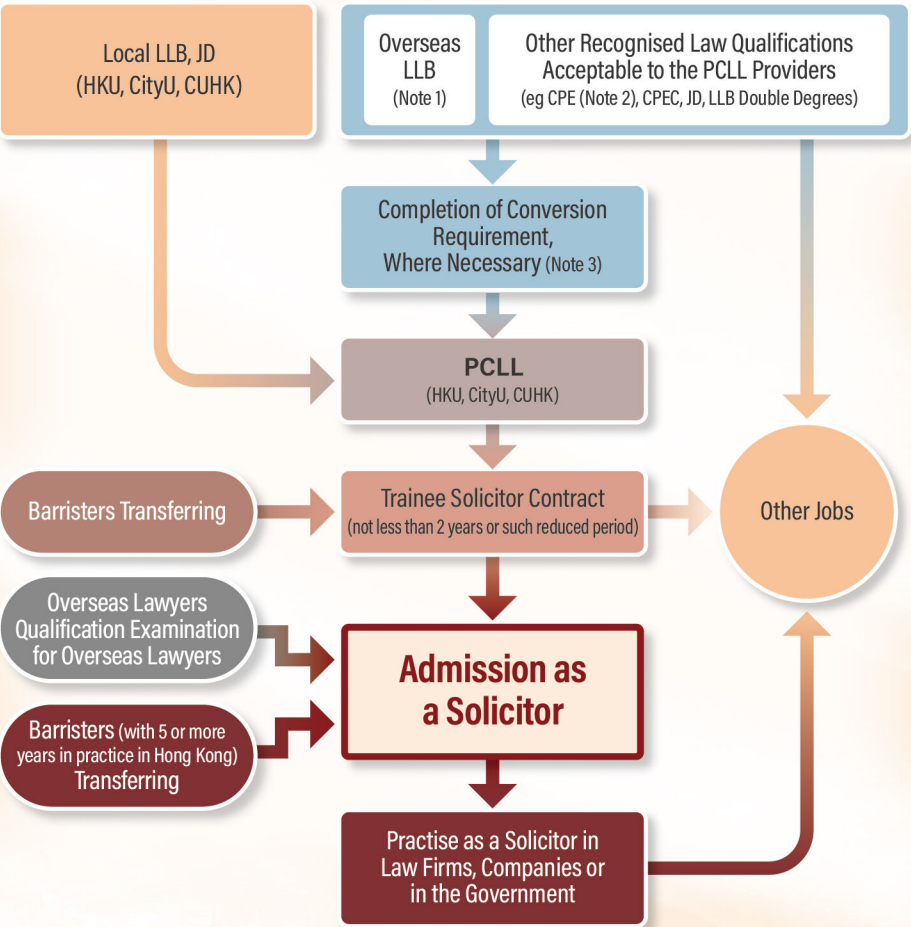
Limitless opportunities

After being qualified as a solicitor, the opportunities are limitless. The diversity of work a solicitor can undertake to help clients and the community is a key attraction of the profession. Solicitors have the potential to work in various fields. In addition to serving in law firms, solicitors may demonstrate abilities in the commercial and business sectors, the government, the legislature and the judiciary.



How to Become a Solicitor

"Trainee Solicitor" Route



Key :

- HKU - The University of Hong Kong
- CityU - The City University of Hong Kong
- CUHK - The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- LLB - Bachelor of Laws
- PCLL - Postgraduate Certificate in Laws
- CPE - Common Professional Examination of England and Wales
- CPEC - Common Professional Examination Certificate in Laws
- JD - Doctor of Jurisprudence

Note :

- Preparatory tuition on LLB courses of some overseas universities available locally
- Preparatory tuition on CPE (Award of Manchester Metropolitan University) available locally
- To be eligible for admission to the PCLL, students have to demonstrate competence in 9 core subjects (Contract, Tort, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law, Land Law, Equity, Evidence, Business Associations and Commercial Law) and 3 top-up subjects (Hong Kong Constitutional Law, Hong Kong Legal System and Hong Kong Land Law if these subjects were not passed at a university LLB / LLB double degrees / JD course / Advanced Diploma for Legal Executives (Graduate Level) (HKU SPACE) in Hong Kong)



A Snapshot of Solicitors and Law Firms in Hong Kong

As of 30 May 2024, there are:

11,521 solicitors holding a practising certificate

1 practising solicitor for every **651** Hong Kong citizens (on average)

678 solicitors admitted each year from 2017 to 2023 (on average)

100 solicitor advocates

1,079 trainee solicitors

922 Hong Kong law firms

74 registered foreign law firms

1,488 registered foreign lawyers



THE
LAW SOCIETY
OF HONG KONG
香港律師會



How to Become a Solicitor



“Overseas Lawyer” Route

Experience requirement

Admitted in a common or non-common law jurisdiction respectively with at least 2 or 5 years post-admission experience and pass the Overseas Lawyers Qualification Examination

Overseas Lawyers Qualification Examination

Held annually in Hong Kong, normally in October / November each year.
For more information, please visit the Law Society website at www.hklawsoc.org.hk



Lifelong Learning : CPD & RME

The Law Society encourages lifelong learning and ensures the establishment and promotion of high standards of service within the profession. Practitioners are required to take mandatory continuing professional education courses as described below.

Continuing professional development (CPD)

Continuing professional development is the systematic maintenance, improvement and broadening of relevant knowledge and skills to enable a professional to successfully carry out his/her professional duties and responsibilities throughout his/her career. The Law Society introduced a mandatory Continuing Professional Development Scheme (“CPD”) in 1998. All practitioners to whom the CPD applies are required to obtain 15 CPD points each practice year.

CPD has been designed to be flexible so that the relevant number of CPD points may be acquired in a time-conscious and cost-effective manner.

Risk management education (RME)

The Law Society recognises the need to raise awareness of risk issues within law firms and to promote good risk management of legal practice.

The Risk Management Education (“RME”) Programme aims at equipping the participants with the tools and techniques to implement effective processes and systems to manage key operational risks they face on a daily basis.

The Programme requires practitioners to complete a one-off core programme on RME and then RME elective courses or approved RME activities (totalling 3 hours) every subsequent practice year.

Information Packages with details of the CPD and the RME are posted on the Law Society website at www.hklawsoc.org.hk



The Role of The Law Society of Hong Kong

The Law Society of Hong Kong has been established for over 115 years. It is responsible mainly for:

1. Safeguarding the rule of law;
2. Supporting and protecting the character, status and interests of solicitors in Hong Kong;
3. Promoting good standards of professional and maintaining ethical practice;
4. Ensuring compliance by solicitors with relevant laws, codes, regulations and practice directions;
5. Developing and maintaining the work of solicitors in all areas of the law, legal practice and procedures;
6. Ensuring the view of solicitors is accurately and purposefully communicated;
7. Providing services to its members; and
8. Considering all questions affecting the interests of the profession, and representing the profession to procure changes of law or practice.

All solicitors must first be admitted as members of the Law Society before they are entitled to apply for a practising certificate.



The Law Society helps its members fulfil their social responsibilities by providing structured opportunities for them to give back to the community. The Law Society also organises an annual Pro Bono and Community Work Recognition Programme to honour its members who have selflessly contributed their time and expertise for the benefit of the community.



Student Membership Application Form
(for Law Students and Trainee Solicitors)



The information contained in this leaflet is for reference only. Please scan this QR Code to get more information on How to Become a Solicitor !

Activities Organised by The Law Society of Hong Kong



Activities Organised for Young People



Activities Organised for the General Public



Activities Organised for Young Solicitors



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The Law Society of Hong Kong official website and social media channels :

