

GUIDE FOR CONCURRENT STUDY

This Guide is prepared for law students who wish to commence a Practical Legal Training course (PLT) before completing an approval academic qualification.

Clause 4 of Schedule 2 of Legal Profession Uniform Admission Rules 2015 (the Rules) provide for a practical legal training course to be undertaken concurrently with an academic qualification in law in the following circumstances:

- (i) When an applicant has no more than two academic subjects to complete, neither of which are academic requirements for admission.
- (ii) When an applicant is enrolled in the two remaining subjects while undertaking a practical legal training course.
- (iii) When prior permission has been obtained from the Victorian Legal Admissions Board (the Board).

Permission should be sought a minimum of one month prior to commencement of PLT.

Permission must be approved prior to commencement of PLT.

To apply for permission, you must commence an online application and specify “yes” to the question “have you commenced PLT prior to completion of your academic studies”.

The Board requires proof of completion of the academic requirements (11 Priestley subjects) and confirmation that you are enrolled in the no more than two academic subjects to complete your accredited academic qualification in law.

An applicant who is undertaking a combined degree is still required to have no more than two subjects outstanding in total to ensure the study load is not onerous.

Some universities have introduced 30 days professional placement as part of the Bachelor of Laws or Juris Doctor. An applicant who has two subjects and 30-day professional placement outstanding can apply. An applicant must provide an estimate of the completion date of the professional placement.

It is likely that a person who commenced PLT before completing an approved academic qualification and has not obtained approval from the Board will not be eligible to apply for admission in Victoria.

In the case of supervised legal training, an applicant may commence training only after completing an accredited academic qualification in law.