



VICTORIAN  
LEGAL  
ADMISSIONS  
BOARD

# Victorian Legal Admissions Board Annual Report

# 2020-21

The Victorian Legal Admissions Board respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Victoria and pays its respect to the ongoing living cultures of Aboriginal peoples.

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<https://www.lawadmissions.vic.gov.au/about-us/policies-and-reports>

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# Contents

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Chair's Report	4
1 Organisational Structure	5
1.1 Victorian Legal Admissions Board	5
1.2 Victorian Legal Admissions Committee	6
1.3 Academic Course Appraisal Committee	6
1.4 Practical Legal Training Committee	7
1.5 Secretariat Committee	7
1.6 Secretariat	7
2 Admission to the Legal Profession	8
2.1 Online Applications	8
2.2 Admission Figures	8
2.3 Total Admissions	9
2.4 Appointment of Public Notary	10
3 Accreditation	11
3.1 Academic Course Appraisal Committee	11
3.1.1 Academic Institutions	12
3.1.2 Academic Prerequisites	13
3.2 Practical Legal Training Committee	14
3.2.1 PLT Providers	15
3.2.2 PLT Competencies	16
3.2.3 Concurrent Study	17
3.2.4 Supervised Legal Training	18
4 Fitness and Propriety	19
4.1 Suitability	19
4.2 Victorian Legal Admissions Committee	19
4.3 Disclosure Data	22
4.5 English Language Proficiency (ELP)	23
5 Qualification Assessments	24
6 Overseas Assessments	26
6.1 Overseas Assessment Data	27
6.2 Overseas Assessment Data by Jurisdiction	28
7 Uniform Law	29
8 Appendix	30
8.1 Acronyms	30
8.2 Glossary	31

# Chair's Report

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The Victorian Legal Admissions Board (VLAB) has continued to work remotely over the past 12 months. VLAB and its Committees have operated by electronic means and performed all duties required under the Legal Profession Uniform Law and Admission Rules. VLAB's office remains closed to the general public as the Secretariat is working remotely and will respond to enquiries by phone and email.

Admission Ceremonies remain suspended, and the Supreme Court admit Australian Lawyers on the papers at regular intervals. During the reporting period, VLAB approved compliance certificates for 2214 applicants to be admitted as Australian Lawyers, an increase of 16.8% from 2019-20. Congratulations to all of the new Australian Lawyers.

VLAB is conscious of the importance of study requirements and remains committed to ensuring the needs of Victorian universities providing law courses and practical legal training providers are considered and responded to expeditiously. VLAB has been unable to deliver its presentations on admission procedures and key disclosure requirements to universities and practical legal training providers due to the current pandemic, but it hopes to continue in the future as VLAB strongly maintains that education of the future legal community will aid in the production of a culture of trust in the legal profession.

Under its delegation powers, there are 4 Committees who report to VLAB. The Victorian Legal Admissions Committee assess the suitability of applicants seeking admission. The Academic Course Appraisal Committee monitor and assess law courses for accreditation or reaccreditation; The Practical Legal Training Committee monitor and assess practical legal training providers for accreditation and reaccreditation. The Secretariat Committee manage the day-to-day management of VLAB. The work performed is substantial and members volunteer their time and efforts to ensure we have a strong and robust entry into the legal profession. My personal gratitude to all members who have served on VLAB and its Committees.

The Secretariat currently has 12 employees who have faced challenging times but continue to strive and excel in supporting VLAB and its Committees. I thank all the team at VLAB for their hard work and commitment.

The three year term for VLAB members concludes on 30 June 2021 and new appointments will be made for the next 3 years. I thank David Habersberger for his support and contribution as Deputy Chair. David has overseen many of the responsibilities of the Victorian Legal Admissions Committee over the past 12 months to assist me in the increased workload.

In the expectation that this may be my last year as Chair of VLAB, I personally thank all VLAB members and those who have served on its Committees over the past 6 years. It has been a pleasure to be associated with VLAB, Council of Legal Education and Board of Examiners.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Bernard Teague'.

The Honourable Bernard Teague AO



# 1 Organisational Structure

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The Victorian Legal Admissions Board is a statutory body established under the *Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Act 2014 (Vic)* (the Act). The *Legal Profession Uniform Admission Rules 2015* (the Rules) govern the admission of Australian lawyers in Victoria.

The Victorian Legal Admissions Board is also responsible for the accreditation, monitoring and reviewing of academic law courses and practical legal training providers.

## 1.1 Victorian Legal Admissions Board

The members of the Victorian Legal Admissions Board (the Board) are responsible for the governance, management and strategic direction of the regulatory authority and accountable for upholding its functions in accordance with the Act.

### **The Hon. Bernard Teague AO (Chair)**

Person nominated by the Chief Justice 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2021

### **The Hon. David Habersberger QC (Deputy Chair)**

Retired Judge nominated by the Chief Justice 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2021

### **Suzanne McNicol AM QC**

Person nominated by the Victorian Bar 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2021

### **Caroline Counsel**

Person nominated by the Law Institute 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2021

### **Magda Karagiannakis**

Person nominated by the Attorney-General who has experience in the provision of legal education 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2021

## 1.2 Victorian Legal Admissions Committee

Under an Instrument of Delegation, VLAB established the Victorian Legal Admissions Committee (the Committee) to assess whether an applicant is a fit and proper to be admitted to the Australian legal profession.

**The Hon. Bernard Teague AO (Chair)**

**The Hon. David Habersberger QC (Deputy Chair)**

**Nicholas Green QC - Member**

**Jennifer Batrouney AM QC - Member**

**Ian Waller QC - Member**

**Sam Hay QC - Member**

**Lisa Hannon SC - Member**

**Magda Karagiannakis- Member**

**Caroline Counsel - Member**

**Peter Holloway - Member**

**Mary Padbury - Member**

**Maryjane Crabtree - Member**

**John Mengolian - Member**

**Alison O'Brien PSM - Member**

## 1.3 Academic Course Appraisal Committee

VLAB accredits, monitors and reviews academic law courses in Victoria. Under an Instrument of Delegation, VLAB established the Academic Course Appraisal Committee (ACAC) to carry out these functions.

**Elizabeth Boros (Chair)**

**Simon Evans - Member**

**Breen Creighton - Member**

**Magda Karagiannakis - Member**

**John Duns - Member**

**Jason Harkess – Member**



## 1.4 Practical Legal Training Committee

VLAB accredits, monitors and reviews practical legal training providers in Victoria. Under an Instrument of Delegation, VLAB established the Practical Legal Training Committee (PLTC) to carry out these functions.

**Sandford Clark AM (Chair)**

**Hugh Murray – Member**

**Breen Creighton – Member**

**Mary Anne Noone – Member**

**Rachel Spencer - Member**

## 1.5 Secretariat Committee

Under an Instrument of Delegation, VLAB established the Secretariat Committee to enable the Secretariat to effectively manage the day to day operations of VLAB.

**The Hon. Bernard Teague AO (Chair)**

**The Hon. David Habersberger QC (Deputy Chair)**

**Deborah Jones (Chief Executive Officer)**

## 1.6 Secretariat

VLAB and its Committees are supported by staff employed under Part 3 of the *Public Administration Act 2004*.

<b>Deborah Jones</b>	Chief Executive Officer
<b>Kristen Murray</b>	Principal Policy Officer
<b>Maria Di Palma</b>	Senior Advisor
<b>Sam Botoulas</b>	Finance Coordinator
<b>Irene Boltuc</b>	Finance Compliance Officer
<b>Gayle Camilleri</b>	Executive Assistant
<b>Vanessa Wilde</b>	Compliance Officer
<b>Janette Ibarra</b>	Compliance Officer
<b>Lisa Rozanitis</b>	Compliance Officer
<b>Admira Walter</b>	Compliance Officer
<b>Alannah Jones</b>	Compliance Officer
<b>Petra Chang</b>	Compliance Officer



## 2 Admission to the Legal Profession

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VLAB may grant a compliance certificate to allow the Supreme Court of Victoria to admit a person to the Australian legal profession as an Australian lawyer if the person:

- i. has attained the academic qualification prerequisite;
- ii. has satisfactorily completed the practical legal training prerequisite; and
- iii. is determined to be a fit and proper person to be admitted to the Australian legal profession.

### 2.1 Online Applications

All applications for admission must be made via the online application client portal on VLAB's website. VLAB will consider an application for admission in Victoria upon the commencement of an online application.

### 2.2 Admission Figures

During the reporting period, VLAB issued compliance certificates for the following applications:

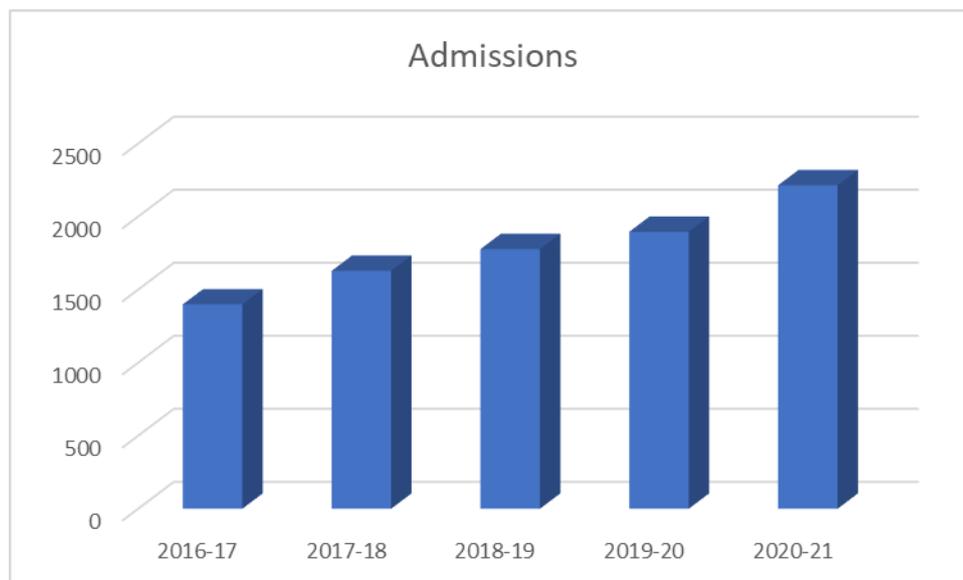
- 2186 applications under s19 of the *Legal Profession Uniform Law* (the Law);
- 27 applications under the *Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1977* (Cth); and
- 1 applicant admitted with conditions. The applicant was admitted with conditions that required the supervision of a partner at the legal practice where they were employed and not engaging as a volunteer at a community legal service or otherwise on a pro bono basis. The applicant was permitted to practise until 30 June 2022.



## 2.3 Total Admissions

During the reporting period there was an increase of 16.8% in total admissions. The following figures include both conditional and Mutual Recognition admissions.

Financial Year	Total Admissions
2016-17	1399
2017-18	1628
2018-19	1777
2019-20	1896
<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2214</b>





## 2.4 Appointment of Public Notary

“The office of public notary can be traced back to Roman times. Today, notaries certify as to the legal effect of documents for international purposes-frequently for use in foreign courts. The essential function of notarial acts is to provide an international guarantee of the authenticity and legality of those documents. The work of public notaries ranges from determining and applying evidentiary procedures in order to notarise a document to preparing documents of legal force. Typical services a notary would perform today include attesting declarations or affidavits, attesting execution of documents and preparation of ships' protests. In many countries, properly executed notarial acts are accepted as conclusive evidence of the facts witnessed. With the continuing emphasis on international trade, it is expected that the role of notaries in a commercial context will grow in importance for Victoria.” (Public Notaries Bill 2011 – Explanatory Memorandum (18/5/2001))

Persons wishing to apply for the appointment of Public Notary, must satisfy the criteria set out in Part 2, Section 4 of the *Public Notaries Act 2001*. A person cannot be appointed as a Public Notary unless the person:

- is a natural person;
- is an Australian lawyer;
- has held a Principal’s Practising Certificate for a period of 5 years; and
- has completed, to the satisfaction of VLAB, a course of study related to notarial practice.

There is only one institution in Victoria, **The Sir Zelman Cowen Centre for Continuing Legal Education**, that offers a course of study which satisfies the criteria.

During the reporting period there were 16 Public Notaries appointed.



## 3 Accreditation

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For the purposes of s. 29 of the Law, VLAB may accredit or reaccredit law courses or practical legal training (PLT) providers in accordance with the Rules. In accrediting a course or provider, VLAB will examine any appraisal criteria and any report of a review conducted in relation to the course or provider.

### 3.1 Academic Course Appraisal Committee

ACAC's membership remained stable during the reporting period. ACAC is chaired by Dr Elizabeth Boros.

The most significant piece of work undertaken by ACAC was the development of a template questionnaire and reaccreditation timetable to guide the process of reviewing providers of accredited law courses. The template questionnaire is designed to assist Victorian law schools in preparing their submission for an accreditation review, which occurs every five years. The template questionnaire, which is modelled on that used in New South Wales, provides guidance and suggestions about how the Law Admissions Consultative Committee's accreditation standards can be addressed.

ACAC consulted with the deans of Victoria's eight accredited law schools in developing the template questionnaire and review timetable. The review of the Australian Catholic University's law courses has commenced and will be the first occasion upon which the template questionnaire will be deployed. Two accreditation reviews per year are now scheduled for the period 2021 to 2025.

ACAC also consulted with the Victorian law deans about the use of external reviewers to conduct accreditation reviews. The establishment of a panel comprised of one or more nominated members of staff from each university was mooted. In the absence of unanimity, ACAC decided to retain the current system, whereby two external reviewers are appointed in consultation with the law course provider, with the reviewers' costs being met by the law school subject to review.

ACAC sought the views of the law deans as to the utility of making a table of Victorian Priestley 11 equivalent subjects available to each law school, and via the VLAB website. The table has been designed as an aid for law schools in considering applications for advance standing for students who have studied at another Victorian university, for the purpose of assessing whether the applicant has met the requirements of the subject or subjects concerned. The Priestley 11 equivalent table was circulated to each law school and is accessible through the VLAB website.



ACAC considered numerous applications for approval to vary the delivery and assessment of courses during the reporting period, generally and specifically in response to COVID-19 health advice. Applications included a proposal to offer an on-line LLB; changes to the assessment regime and weighting for certain Priestley 11 subjects; proposed changes to the ratio of class to seminar time; and for an LLB to be converted from 'embedded honours' to an LLB(Hons).

ACAC continued to receive and scrutinise correspondence from Victorian law schools advising of modified delivery and assessment arrangements in response to the COVID-19 health advice.

### 3.1.1 Academic Institutions

In the State of Victoria, eight academic law institutions have been accredited by the VLAB Board.

#### **Australian Catholic University**

Bachelor of Laws LLB

#### **Deakin University**

Bachelor of Laws LLB, Juris Doctor JD

#### **La Trobe University**

Bachelor of Laws LLB, Juris Doctor JD

#### **Monash University**

Bachelor of Laws LLB, Juris Doctor JD

#### **RMIT University**

Bachelor of Laws LLB, Juris Doctor JD

#### **Swinburne University of Technology**

Dual Award Bachelor of Laws LLB

#### **University of Melbourne**

Juris Doctor JD

#### **Victoria University**

Bachelor of Laws LLB



## 3.1.2 Academic Prerequisites

The 'Priestley 11' are eleven compulsory law subjects required to be completed before seeking a compliance certificate.

The required academic qualification prerequisite is successfully completing a tertiary academic course in Australia, whether or not leading to a degree in law, which:

- (a) includes the equivalent of at least 3 years' full time study of law;
- (b) is accredited by VLAB; and
- (c) VLAB determines will provide for an applicant to acquire and demonstrate appropriate understanding and competence in each element of the academic areas of knowledge, or otherwise determined by the Admissions Committee after consultation with VLAB and NSW Legal Profession Admission Board (NSW LPAB).

The compulsory 'Priestley 11' subjects are:

**Administrative Law**

**Civil Dispute Resolution**

**Company Law**

**Contracts**

**Criminal Law and Procedure**

**Equity (including Trusts)**

**Ethics and Professional Responsibility**

**Evidence**

**Federal and State Constitutional Law**

**Property**

**Torts**



## 3.2 Practical Legal Training Committee

The PTLC's membership remained stable during the reporting period. The PTLC is chaired by Professor Sandford Clark AM.

The most significant piece of work undertaken by the PLT Committee was the assessment of a submission from an applicant seeking accreditation as a new provider of a PLT course. Consideration of the application was complicated by the fact that the applicant had not sought approval from the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency, the independent national quality assurance and regulatory agency for higher education.

The PLTC appointed two external assessors to review the application and to make recommendations to it about whether provider and course accreditation should be granted and, if so, on what conditions. The PTLC met in person to discuss the application and conducted a lengthy meeting with the two external assessors. The assessors also met with numerous personnel associated with the proposed PLT course provider.

Following submission of a detailed report, the PTLC recommended to VLAB that the application be approved on a conditional basis. The PTLC also recommended that the applicants receive dispensation under the Uniform Admission Rules to enable them to offer certain optional subjects that were not otherwise specified under the Rules.

The PLTC considered numerous applications for approval to vary the delivery and assessment of PLTC courses during the reporting period, generally and specifically in response to COVID-19 health advice.

The applications were largely directed towards substituting an on-line learning module for the compulsory three-week work experience component of PLT. The applications were favourably received.



### 3.2.1 PLT Providers

Once a person has successfully completed the academic qualification prerequisite, they must complete practical legal training. To satisfy the specified legal training prerequisite, a person should acquire and demonstrate an appropriate understanding and competence in each element of the Skills, Values and Practice Areas set out in Schedule 2 of the Rules.

The requirement may be fulfilled by completing either a PLT course conducted by a PLT provider or supervised legal training (see 3.2.4 of Report) in a workplace.

In the State of Victoria there are four PLT providers and courses that have been accredited by VLAB.

- **Australian National University School of Legal Practice**
- **College of Law**
- **Leo Cussen Centre for Law**
- **Swinburne University of Technology**  
Dual Award LLB & Leo Cussen Centre for Law



## 3.2.2 PLT Competencies

VLAB must be satisfied that a person has achieved the prescribed competence in the Skills, Compulsory and Optional Practice Areas and Values set out below:

### **Skills**

Lawyer Skills

Problem Solving

Work Management and Business Skills

Trust and Office Accounting

### **Compulsory Practice Areas**

Civil Litigation Practice

Commercial and Corporate Practice

Property Law Practice

### **Any two Optional Practice Areas**

Administrative Law Practice

Banking and Finance

Criminal Law Practice

Consumer Law Practice

Employment and Industrial Relations Practice

Family Law Practice

Planning and Environmental Law Practice

Wills and Estate Practice

### **Values**

Ethics and Professional Responsibility

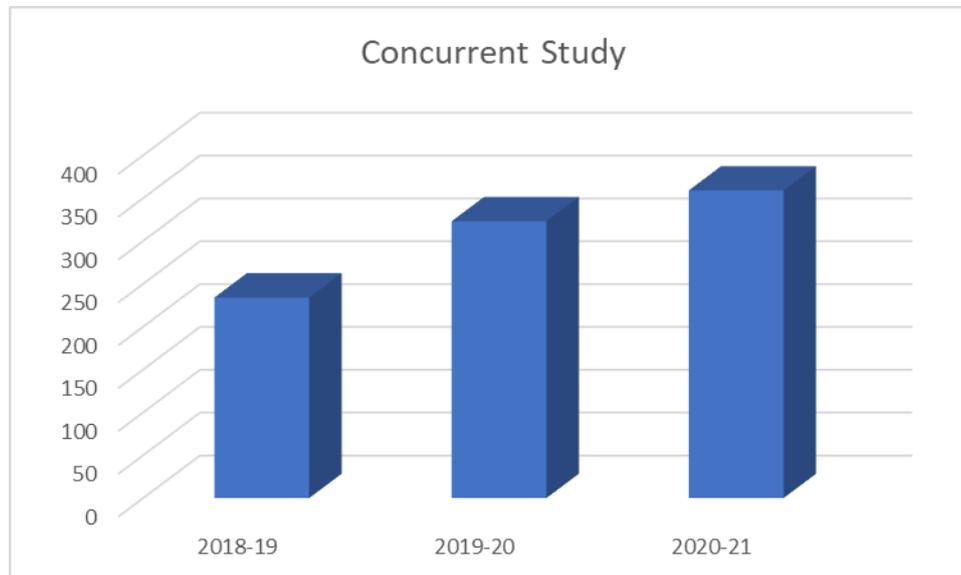
### 3.2.3 Concurrent Study

Concurrent study refers to the commencement of a PLT course before the completion of the academic qualification prerequisite.

The Rules provide for a PLT course to be undertaken simultaneously with an academic qualification if the applicant has completed all 11 Priestley subjects and has no more than two subjects remaining. Prior permission must be obtained from VLAB.

An applicant that commences PLT before completing an academic qualification and has not obtained approval from VLAB is not eligible to apply for admission in Victoria.

VLAB received **359 applications** for consent to commence a PLT course before completion of an academic qualification. This is an increase of 11.15% on the 2019-20 figure of 323 applications and a 53.42% increase on the 2018-19 figure of 234 applications.

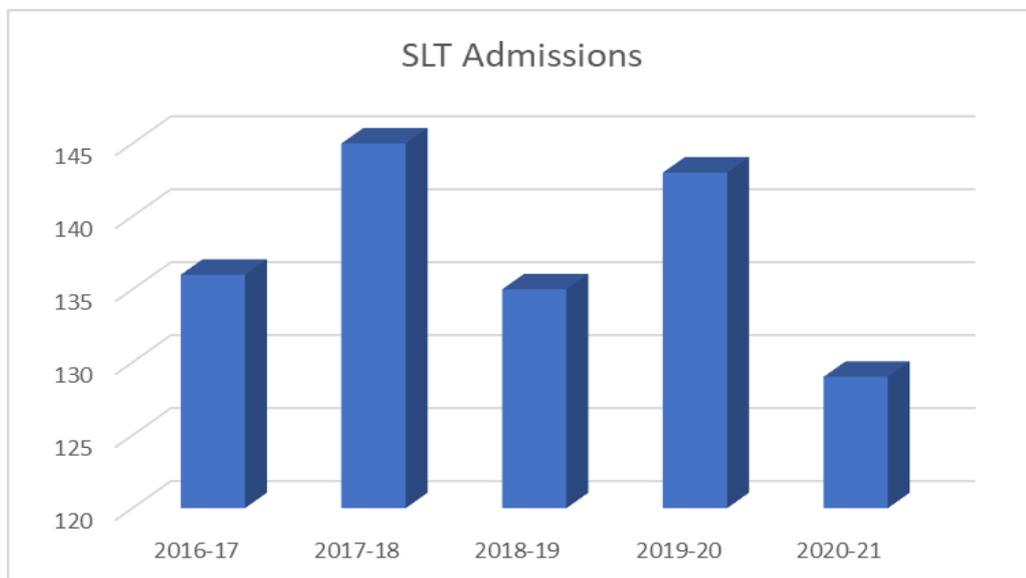




### 3.2.4 Supervised Legal Training

Supervised Legal Training (SLT) is a minimum 12-month period of supervised training under an eligible supervisor. This pathway to admission offers practical placement in legal practice. During this time a person must acquire an appropriate understanding of, and competence in, each element of the Skills, Practice Areas and Values set out in the PLT Competencies. There was a 9.8% decrease in SLT admissions in the 2020-21 reporting period as compared to the 2019-20 period.

Financial Year	Number of trainees
2016-17	136
2017-18	145
2018-19	135
2019-20	143
<b>2020-21</b>	<b>129</b>





## 4 Fitness and Propriety

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### 4.1 Suitability

A person needs to satisfy VLAB that they are of suitable character to be admitted to the Australian legal profession. A person making an application for a compliance certificate must provide a statutory declaration detailing matters which may have bearing on their fitness and propriety. A person may file a disclosure statement which sets out relevant matters that VLAB might regard as not being favourable when considering an application for a compliance certificate. A person may also file a capacity statement which relates to a health condition that may impede on a person's ability to practice law.

### 4.2 Victorian Legal Admissions Committee

During the reporting period, VLAB delegated its powers to the Committee to consider suitability matters and grant compliance certificates. The Committee will consider any relevant material and determine whether the person seeking admission is of good fame and character and a fit and proper person to be admitted to the Australian legal profession. All suitability matters will be reviewed and assessed as follows:

- minor and approved;
- additional information required;
- attendance at an informal meeting;
- referral to a formal meeting; and
- special hearing.

In addition to granting compliance certificates to eligible applicants, the Committee may consider applications for a compliance certificate from any person whose name has been removed from the Supreme Court roll. There were no applications during the reporting period.



The Committee, if of the view that an applicant may be unable, for reasons of health, to carry out the inherent requirements of practice of an Australian legal practitioner, may require the applicant to undertake a health assessment. Two applicants were requested to undertake an assessment.

The Committee approves conditions placed upon compliance certificates in accordance with s.20 of the Uniform Law. There was one application approved for a compliance certificate with conditions. Four Australian Lawyers were provided with letters of support to have previous conditions removed.

The Committee may make a declaration that matters disclosed early by any person, without more, will not adversely affect an assessment by it as to whether the person is a fit and proper person to be admitted. Early suitability applications are generally made by persons who have already commenced an academic qualification leading to a law degree. During the reporting period there were no early suitability assessments.

The Committee referred five applicants to attend a special hearing, of which, one applicant was granted a compliance certificate. The Committee refused to issue compliance certificates to four applicants.

The matters which guide the Committee in deciding whether to grant or refuse a compliance certificates are:

- the applicant's expression of contrition for past misdemeanours and the sincerity of that expression;
- the insight demonstrated in relation to the commission of the misdemeanours; and
- the self-assessment of whether, on reflection, the applicant engaged in appropriate conduct and whether it can lead to a new understanding of the conduct.

The matters above form the basis of whether the Committee is satisfied, at the time of hearing the application, the applicant is a fit and proper person to be admitted to the Australian legal profession.



Of first importance is for the applicant to make full and frank disclosure which often requires the applicant to reveal unpleasant and embarrassing aspects of their past and to do so forthrightly. In the circumstances of the four refusals, the applicants did not discharge the onus of proof incumbent upon them to show they are fit and proper to be admitted.

The Committee received written objections for two applicants who had lodged their intention to be admitted. The objections were examined and both applicants were found to be suitable to be admitted to the Australian legal profession.

General requests for dispensation are considered by the Committee on a regular basis and due to the current pandemic, it has considered special requests. These requests related to supervised legal training, concurrent study requirements and exercised its dispensation powers when it was satisfied that to do so would not materially detract from any of the prerequisites for the issue of a compliance certificate or any other requirements under the Law or Rules.



### 4.3 Disclosure Data

1674 Total Disclosures

1514

Disclosure Statements

14

Capacity Statements

146

Both Disclosure and  
Capacity Statements

76%

of admitted applicants  
made disclosure

24%

of admitted applicants  
did not make disclosure

3%

of admitted applicants  
attended a meeting

38

applicants attended an  
informal meeting

21

applicants attended a  
formal meeting



## 4.5 English Language Proficiency (ELP)

VLAB must be satisfied that any person applying for admission to the legal profession has a satisfactory knowledge of written and spoken English to engage in legal practice in Australia.

VLAB has adopted the Law Admissions Consultative Committee English Language Proficiency Guidelines (the Guidelines). Each individual is required to nominate one of six pathways that best reflects their circumstances.

The Guidelines recognise two English language tests: 'International English Language Testing System' academic module (IELTS Academic) and 'Test of English as a Foreign Language' internet-based test (TOEFL iBT).

The Guidelines also contain a general discretionary category, pathway 6, which can be utilised by applicants who do not satisfy pathways 1 to 5. Any relevant matter can be taken into account under pathway 6. That may include, but is not limited to, evidence of formal instruction in English, periods of residence in an English speaking country, references, resumes or results of English language tests other than IELTS Academic and TOEFL iBT.

All Victorian legal admission applicants' English language knowledge is verified through an online portal to capture and accurately reflect language ability. Documentation, including that submitted in support of the grant of a general discretion, can be uploaded during the online application process.



## 5 Qualification Assessments

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Any person relying on qualifications completed more than five years prior to applying for a compliance certificate must seek an assessment from VLAB.

Common considerations which VLAB may choose to apply when considering the qualifications of an applicant are:

- the nature and quality of previous academic and PLT qualifications including the results obtained in subjects undertaken in Australia;
- the length of time since the person successfully completed an academic or PLT requirement;
- the person's subsequent verifiable experience in the subject's experience in a law-related occupation;
- whether there have been any significant changes in the relevant law since the applicant completed an academic or PLT requirement; and
- any other factor that may bear on the currency or relevance of the applicant's knowledge or experience in relation to an academic or PLT requirement.

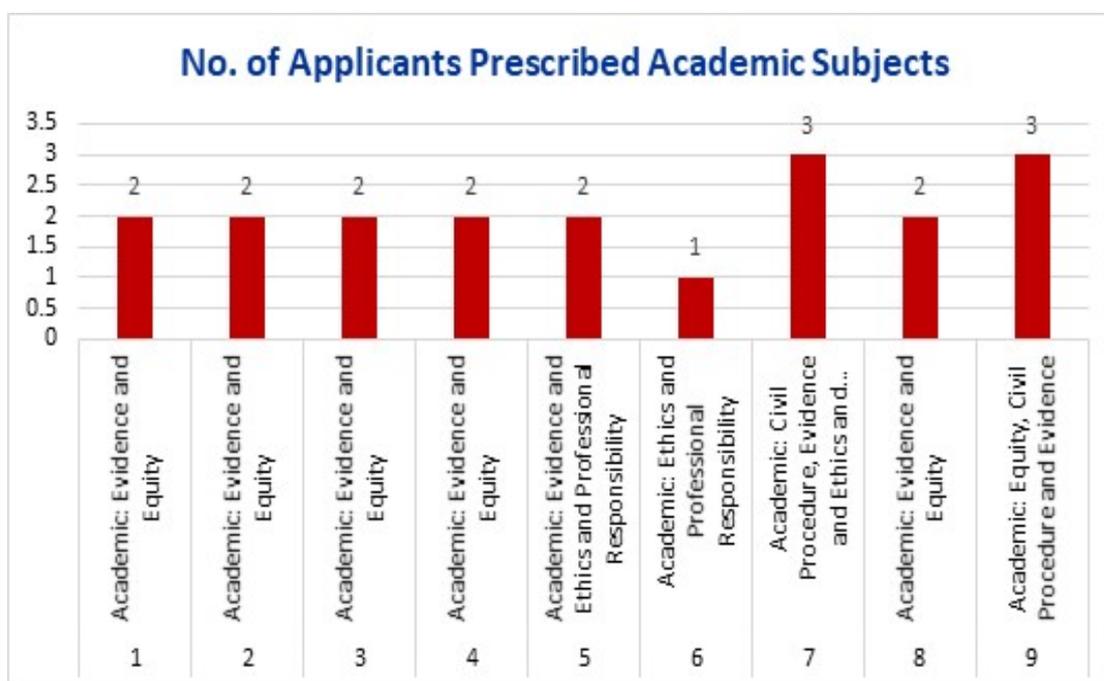
VLAB may impose further requirements to refresh the previous qualification and experience of an applicant. In certain cases where appropriate, VLAB will require an applicant to undertake one or more academic or PLT training areas.

In the reporting period VLAB undertook **47 qualification assessments** including academic and PLT qualifications as compared to the 2019-20 period of 45 assessments.



### Number of Qualification Assessments in reporting period 2020-21

Number exempted	38
Number prescribed academic subjects	9
Number Prescribed PLT subjects	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>47</b>





## 6 Overseas Assessments

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VLAB assesses foreign graduates and lawyers for admission and has regard to the Uniform Principles for Assessing Qualifications of Overseas Applicants for Admission to the Australian Legal Profession (Uniform Principles) prepared by the Law Admissions Consultative Committee (LACC).

To be admitted to the legal profession in an Australian jurisdiction based on qualifications obtained outside Australia, a person must usually have satisfied the requirements set out in the Uniform Principles. A summary of requirements is as follows:

- completion of an academic qualification which is substantially equivalent to a three-year full-time law course that leads to admission to the legal profession in Australia;
- completion of subjects which are the equivalent to areas of study which Australian applicants must successfully complete;
- acquired and demonstrated a proper understanding of, and competence in, specific skills, practice areas, and values, which are substantially equivalent to that of Australian applicants; and
- competently meeting the requirements of English language proficiency

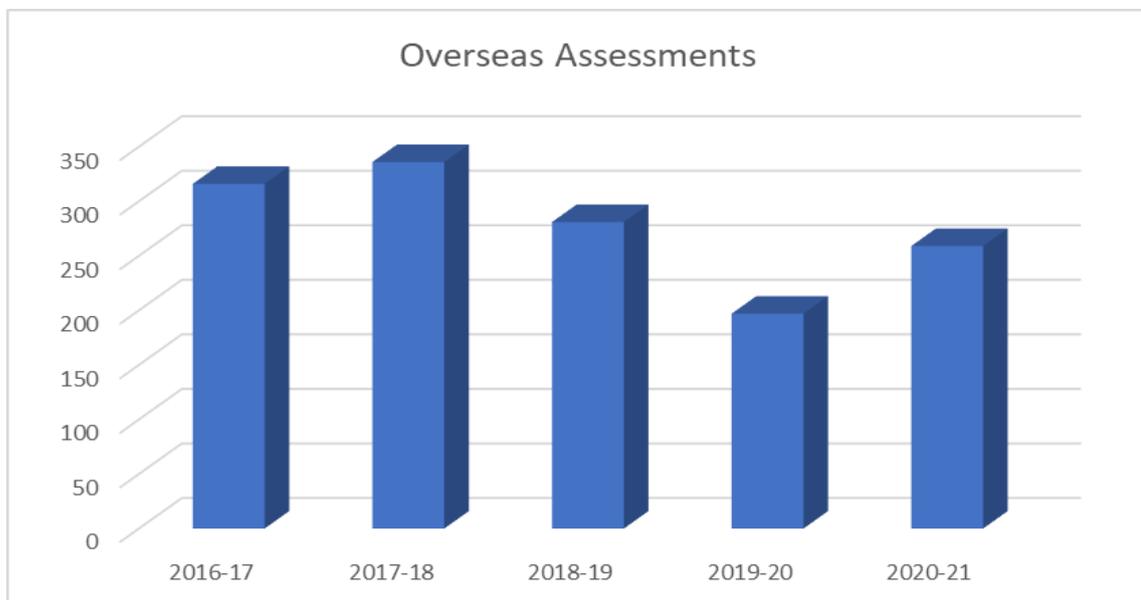
VLAB may dispense with one or more of the requirements in the case of an experienced practitioner from an overseas jurisdiction if it considers the applicant's experience is sufficiently relevant, substantial and current to justify a dispensation.

## 6.1 Overseas Assessment Data

VLAB received **259 applications** for assessment of overseas qualifications, which included assessments for applicants seeking admission in South Australia & Tasmania.

In addition, 30 applications to review an assessment decision during the reporting period were requested.

Financial Year	No. of Assessments	% from previous year
2016-17	316	59% increase
2017-18	336	3% increase
2018-19	281	16% decrease
2019-20	197	30% decrease
<b>2020-21</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>31.5% increase</b>



## 6.2 Overseas Assessment Data by Jurisdiction

In the reporting period there were **259 foreign assessments** recorded from 42 foreign jurisdictions. The following data does not include reviews of assessments.

Country	Assessments	Country	Assessments
United Kingdom	67	Netherlands	2
India	35	Uzbekistan	2
Hong Kong	22	Vietnam	2
Sri Lanka	20	Africa	1
United States	13	Bangladesh	1
South Africa	12	Eritrea	1
Malaysia	8	Italy	1
Pakistan	7	Japan	1
Brazil	6	Jordan	1
Canada	6	Kenya	1
Philippines	6	Lebanon	1
England and Wales	5	Malta	1
Mauritius	5	Mexico	1
Nigeria	4	New Zealand	1
China	3	Poland	1
Ireland	3	Romania	1
Scotland	3	Russia	1
Singapore	3	Serbia	1
Colombia	2	Sweden	1
Fiji	2	Ukraine	1
France	2		
Germany	2	<b>Total</b>	<b>259</b>



## 7 Uniform Law

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The Law is directive of the legal profession and is applied in both NSW and Victoria. The Rules provide for the Law's supporting operative elements.

The Uniform Law harmonises regulation of the legal profession, cuts red tape and creates a single system to govern legal practice. The scheme also promotes informed consumer choice and has strong consumer protection measures. The Uniform Law's overall objectives are to promote the administration of justice and an efficient and effective Australian legal profession through:

- consistency between States and Territories in the law applying to the Australian legal profession;
- ensuring legal practitioners are competent and maintain high ethical and professional standards;
- enhancing the protection of clients and the public;
- empowering clients to make informed choices about their legal options;
- efficient, effective, targeted and proportionate regulation, and
- a co-regulatory framework with appropriate independence for the legal profession.

The Uniform Law is applied in NSW and Victoria by local application Acts. Certain jurisdiction-specific arrangements, such as the operation of local authorities and fees, are dealt with by local application Acts and Regulations.

(Legal Services Council –

<https://www.legalservicescouncil.org.au/Pages/uniform-framework/uniform-law.aspx>)

## 8 Appendix

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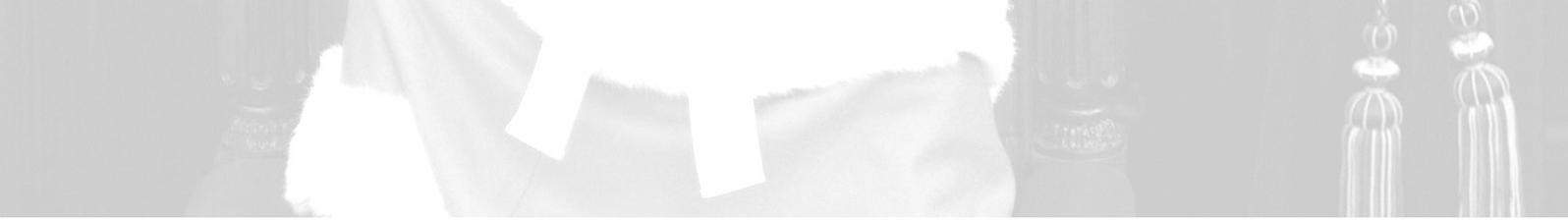
### 8.1 Acronyms

AO	Order of Australia – Officer of the Order
AM	Order of Australia – Member of the Order
ACAC	Academic Course Appraisal Committee
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
ELP	English Language Proficiency
GDLP	Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice
IELTS	International English Language Testing System
JD	Juris Doctor
LACC	Law Admissions Consultative Committee
LLB	Bachelor of Laws
LSC	Legal Services Council
PLT	Practical Legal Training
PLTC	Practical Legal Training Committee
PSM	Public Service Medal
QC	Queen’s Counsel
SLT	Supervised Legal Training
TOEFL iBT	Test of English as a foreign language internet-based test
VLAB	Victorian Legal Admissions Board
VLAC	Victorian Legal Admissions Committee

## 8.2 Glossary

Admissions Committee	Appointed by the Legal Services Council to develop Rules and provide advice to the Council on admission matters
Act	Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Act 2014
Board	Members of the Victorian Legal Admissions Board
Chairperson	Chair of the Victorian Legal Admissions Board or Committees
Committee	Victorian Legal Admissions Committee
Compliance Certificate	The Board's certificate of recommendation
Disclosure Statement	Statement setting out relevant matters the Board might regard as not being favourable when considering an application for a compliance certificate
Eligible Supervisor	A legal practitioner working principally as a solicitor or barrister for a period of at least 5 years
Framework	The Legal Profession Uniform Framework
Instrument of Delegation	Legislation which confers an express power of delegation
Jurisdiction (Australian)	All Australian States and Territories
Jurisdiction (Foreign)	Any country other than Australia from which a person seeking admission to the Supreme Court of Victoria is admitted
Law	Legal Profession Uniform Law

<b>NSW LPAB</b>	New South Wales Legal Profession Admissions Board
<b>Person</b>	Applicant seeking admission to the Australian legal profession or appointment as a Public Notary
<b>Rules</b>	Legal Profession Uniform Admission Rules 2015
<b>Secretariat</b>	The office responsible for the management of the Board
<b>Uniform Principles</b>	Uniform Principles for Assessing Qualifications of Overseas Applicants for Admission to the Australian Legal Profession
<b>VLAB</b>	Victorian Legal Admissions Board



## 8.3 Relevant Legislation

Legal Profession Uniform Admissions Rules 2015

Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Act 2014

Public Administration Act 2004

Public Notaries Act 2001

Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition Act (Cth) 1997



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Justice  
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