

SRA Authorisation of Individuals Regulations [20XX]

Part 1 - Admission as a solicitor

Eligibility for admission

- 1.1 You will be eligible for admission as a *solicitor* if the *SRA* is satisfied:
- (a) you have successfully and satisfactorily passed an assessment which is designed to assess your competence against the *prescribed* competences for *solicitors* and is conducted by an assessment organisation appointed by the *SRA* for the purpose;
 - (b) you hold a *degree* or qualifications or experience which the *SRA* is satisfied are equivalent to a *degree*;
 - (c) you have completed qualifying work experience which meets the requirements of regulation 2; and
 - (d) as to your *character and suitability* to be a *solicitor*.

Qualifying work experience

- 2.1 Qualifying work experience must:
- (a) comprise experience of providing legal services which provides you the opportunity to develop the *prescribed* competences for *solicitors*;
 - (b) be of a duration of a total of at least two years' full time or equivalent; and
 - (c) be carried out under an arrangement or employment with no more than four separate firms, educational institutions or other organisations.
- 2.2 In respect of each organisation under regulation 2.1(c) above, you must arrange for confirmation in the *prescribed* form of the matters set out in regulation 2.3 to be given by a person specified in (a) to (c) below who has taken sufficient steps to satisfy themselves as to those matters:
- (a) the organisation's COLP;
 - (b) a solicitor working within the organisation; or
 - (c) if neither (a) or (b) are applicable, a solicitor working outside of the organisation who has direct experience of your work and who has, in order to be so satisfied:
 - (i) undertaken a review of the work you have done during the relevant period of work experience, which may include review of a training diary or portfolio of work; and
 - (ii) received feedback from the person or persons supervising your work.

2.3 The matters in respect of which confirmation by a person specified in regulation 2.2 must be given are:

- (a) details of the period of work experience carried out;
- (b) that it provided you with the opportunity to develop some or all of the **prescribed** competences for **solicitors**; and
- (c) that no issues arose during the period of work experience that raise a question as to your **character and suitability** to be admitted as a **solicitor**, or if such confirmation cannot be given, then details of any such issues.

Eligibility for admission of qualified lawyers and part-qualified lawyers

3.1 You will be eligible for admission as a **solicitor** if the **SRA** is satisfied:

- (a) you hold a legal professional qualification that is recognised by the **SRA**, which confers rights to practise in England and Wales or in an **overseas** jurisdiction; and
- (b) subject to regulation 3.2, you meet the criteria in regulation 1.1(a), (b) and (d).

3.2 If you hold a qualification recognised under regulation 3.1(a) and the **SRA** is satisfied that your qualifications or experience demonstrate that you meet some or all of the **prescribed** competences, the **SRA** may decide you are not required to pass the assessment under regulation 1.1(a) or such parts of it as it considers appropriate.

3.3 If you are:

- (a) a national of an EU member state; or
- (b) part-qualified as a legal professional under the rules of an EU Member State other than the UK; and

the **SRA** is satisfied that your qualifications or experience demonstrate that you meet some or all of the **prescribed** competences, the **SRA** may decide you are not required to:

- (i) pass the assessment under regulation 1.1(a) or such parts of it as the **SRA** considers appropriate; or
- (ii) complete all or part of the period of qualified work experience under regulation 1.1(c).

Commencement

4.1 These regulations come into force, and this regulation is revoked, on a date to be determined in an order made by the **SRA** Board.

Supplemental notes

Made by the SRA Board on 10 November 2017

Made under sections 2, 28, 79, and 80 of the Solicitors Act 1974.

Approved by the Legal Services Board under paragraph 19 of Schedule 4 to the Legal Services Act 2007, on [date]

Commencing on the date determined in accordance with regulation 4.1.

SRA Handbook Glossary 2012 (Amendment) Rules [20XX]

Rule 1

In rule 2 of the SRA Handbook Glossary 2012, after the definition of “defence costs” insert the following:

“degree

means a UK degree, awarded at level 6 (or above) of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, by a recognised degree awarding body.”

Rule 2

These rules come into force on the date determined by the **SRA** Board in accordance with regulation 4.1 of the SRA Authorisation of Individuals Regulations.

Supplemental notes

Made by the SRA Board on 10 November 2017

Made under sections 2, 28, 79, and 80 of the Solicitors Act 1974.

Approved by the Legal Services Board under paragraph 19 of Schedule 4 to the Legal Services Act 2007, on [date]

Commencing on the date determined in accordance with regulation 4.1 of the SRA Authorisation of Individuals Regulations [20XX].