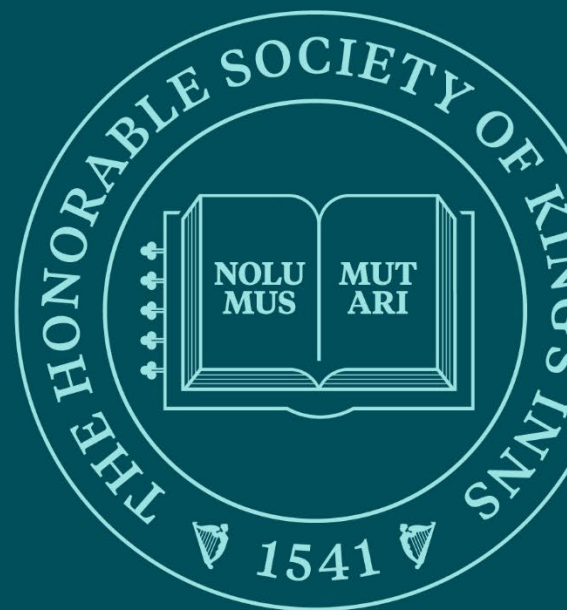


The Honorable Society of King's Inns

# EDUCATION RULES

EDITION OF May 2024



**KINGS**  
**INNS**<sup>15</sup><sub>41</sub>

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# CONTENTS

## **PART I INTRODUCTION**

1. The Honorable Society of King's Inns

## **PART II THE SOCIETY'S DIPLOMA IN LEGAL STUDIES**

2. Educational Qualifications for admission to Diploma Course
3. The Society's Diploma in Legal Studies

## **PART III THE BARRISTER-AT-LAW DEGREE COURSE**

4. Definitions
5. Accreditation Board
6. Entrance Examination
7. Eligibility to sit the Annual Entrance Examination
8. Disqualifications
9. Marks and Standards
10. Exemptions
11. Eligibility to re-sit the Annual Entrance Examination
12. Allocation of Places in the Barrister-at-Law Degree Course
13. Annual Entrance Examination Fee
14. Examination Board
15. Completion of the Barrister-at-Law degree course
16. Commons
17. Admission to the Degree of Barrister-at-Law
18. Precedence for Honours at Call to the Bar
19. Prizes

## **PART IV RULES APPLICABLE TO SPECIALLY QUALIFIED APPLICANTS**

20. Northern Ireland Barristers
21. English Barristers
22. Barristers of Reciprocating Countries
23. Solicitors
24. Qualified Lawyers from other EU Member States
25. Admission of Barristers qualified in England and Wales (post Brexit)

## **PART V SPECIALIST DIPLOMAS**

26. Specialist Diplomas

**PART VI            FELLOWSHIPS, BURSARIES AND SCHOLARSHIPS**

- 27.    Fellowships, Bursaries and Scholarships
  - The Gaffney Scholarship
  - The Denham Fellowship (in conjunction with the Bar of Ireland)
  - The McCarthy Bursary

**PART VII           DISCIPLINE AND PLAGARISM**

- 28.    Discipline
- 29.    Plagiarism

**PART VII           MISCELLANEOUS**

- 30.    Relaxation of Rules
- 31.    Variation of Rules
- 32.    Forms of Memorials
- 33.    Admission of the Society's Courses of Education
- 34.    Amendment of Rules
- 35.    Gender

# PART I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1. The Honorable Society of King's Inns

The Honorable Society of King's Inns is the body which governs entry to the profession of barrister-at-law. The Society provides courses of education and training for students, conducts examinations, and confers the Diploma in Legal Studies and the Degree of Barrister-at-Law. Only holders of this degree may be called to the Bar of Ireland by the Chief Justice and admitted to practise in the courts of Ireland as members of the Bar of Ireland.

The Society also provides specialist courses of education and training leading to the award of Diploma and Advanced Diploma.

# PART II

## THE SOCIETY'S DIPLOMA IN LEGAL STUDIES

2. Educational qualifications for admission to the Diploma Course
  - a. Every person who seeks a place on the Diploma in Legal Studies course shall:
    - (i) Hold a degree from a third level institution (as defined in Rule 4(b) other than an approved degree (as defined in Rule 4(c), or
    - (ii) be at least twenty-three years of age on the **1 of May** in the year in which he presents himself for examination in Part I of the diploma examination. Consideration will be had to (a) academic and professional qualifications and (b) occupation and work experience. An applicant who holds an approved degree may not apply for a place reserved for mature applicants.
    - (iii) Any other information provided by the applicant which demonstrates the capacity to undertake a course of this level.
  - b. Every person who seeks a place in the diploma course must lodge the appropriate application form not later than the 31 May in the year in which he seeks a place. In the case of an applicant who is in the process of acquiring the necessary educational qualifications to be eligible for a place in the diploma course, the application may be made on a provisional basis not later than the 31 May and shall be treated as conditional upon such educational qualifications being acquired not later than the 1 July in the year in which he seeks a place. Applications are also accepted on payment of a late fee up to 1 July in the year which he seeks a place. Fees must be paid in accordance with the directions that are laid down by the Society.
  - c. An applicant who has been allocated a place shall be notified in writing by ordinary post to the address given in his application form or a subsequently amended address which must be notified in writing to King's Inns. He shall signify his acceptance of such place not later than ten days from the date of posting by payment of such fee as may be laid down from time to time. If he fails either to indicate his acceptance or to pay the required fee within the specified time, his place may be offered to another candidate designated by the Education Committee. The decision of the Education Committee as to the allocation of places in the diploma course shall be final.

### 3. The Society's Diploma in Legal Studies

- a. The Society's diploma examination shall be an examination of equivalent standard as that of the approved degrees in law for the purposes of eligibility to sit the entrance examination.
- b. The Society's diploma examination shall be an examination in the following subjects:

#### Part 1

- Introduction to the Legal System
- Irish Constitutional Law
- Criminal Law
- Land Law (including Law of Succession)
- Law of Contracts
- Law of Torts
- Family Law

#### Part 2

- Human Rights Law
- Administrative Law
- Company Law
- Equity and the Law of Trusts
- Law of the European Union
- Law of Evidence
- Jurisprudence

(Note: The Education Committee shall be entitled to vary, from time to time, the contents of the course)

- c. Each student of the diploma course must complete the course of education provided in each of the two years of the course by attending at lectures & Tutorials in accordance with regulations made from time to time by the Education Committee.
- d. Each student must submit coursework for each subject on the dates & times determined by the Education Committee.
- e. The annual examination in the subjects of the diploma course shall be taken on such dates as shall, from time to time, be determined by the Education Committee. Such examinations shall be held at King's Inns or such other place or places as the Education Committee may appoint.
- f. Each student must present himself for his first attempt at the annual examinations in the academic year for which he has registered (as a full-time student). Each student is allowed two attempts only at Part 1 and two attempts only at Part 2.
- g. Supplemental examinations may be held before the beginning of Michaelmas term but only those students who have taken the annual examination in the same year and failed to obtain a pass shall be eligible to take the supplemental examination. Notification of intention to take the supplemental examination shall be given on or before the 31 July preceding the examination and the appropriate fee must be paid.

A student who is unable to take his second attempt at the supplemental examinations must apply for permission to take his second attempt at the annual examination in the following year. The application must be made to the Education Committee before 15 July in the year that he failed. If the application is granted, notification of intention to present for the second attempt shall be given on or before 15 February preceding the examination and the appropriate fee shall be paid.

- h. A student who takes the diploma examination (Part 1 or Part 2 as the case may be) and who fails to pass in any one or more subjects of such examination after two attempts at such examination shall not be allowed to present himself for examination again.
- i. To be awarded a pass in Part 1 or Part 2, a student must receive marks of at least 40% in each component of the assessment (coursework and examination) for each subject.
  - (i) A student who fails one component of the assessment (either the examination or the coursework) must re-sit only the failed component of the assessment provided he has attained 40% or more in the element passed.
  - (ii) A student may compensate whereby he has failed one component of the assessment in one subject only provided that the fail mark is 36% or over and that the aggregate mark for that subject is 40% or over. A student who fails more than one assessment may not compensate.
  - (iii) A student who obtains an overall pass in a subject (i.e. both coursework and examination) will be exempted from further examination in that subject.
  - (iv) A student will not be awarded a mark of more than 40% in a re-sit.
- j. **All assessments, examinations and resits must be completed sequentially save in exceptional circumstances and in any event within five years of the commencement date of the course.**
- k. A student who obtains aggregate marks of 70% or over shall be awarded first class honours. A student who obtains aggregate marks of 60% or over shall be awarded second class honours.
- l. No student will be allowed to proceed to Part 2 of the diploma course unless he shall have successfully passed the examination for all subjects in Part 1.
- m. A diploma in legal studies shall be awarded to all candidates who pass the Society's diploma examination in all subjects. The award shall be designated second class honours where the candidate shall have been awarded aggregate marks in the examinations (Part 1 and Part 2) of 60% or more but below 70% and first class honours for aggregate marks of 70% or more.



# PART III

## THE BARRISTER-AT-LAW DEGREE COURSE

### 4. Definitions

- a. 'annual entrance examination' means the annual entrance examination leading to the admission to the Barrister-at-Law degree course.
- b. 'third level institution' means:
  - (i) an Irish university with degree awarding powers as listed in the Universities Act, 1997; or
  - (ii) Dublin Institute of Technology; or
  - (iii) an Irish third level educational institution which is either an institution recognised by HETAC pursuant to The Qualifications (Education and Training) Act 1999, section 24, or an institution which provides degrees and/or post-graduate diplomas validated by HETAC; or recognised by QQI pursuant to the Qualifications and Quality Assurance (Education and Training) Act 2012; or
  - (iv) a university or third level institution in another jurisdiction with degree awarding powers as recognised by the relevant body in that jurisdiction.
- c. 'approved degree' means:
  - (i) a degree, conferred by a third level institution, in the law of Ireland or in the law of Northern Ireland approved by the Society conferred on a student who has been examined in and who has passed each of the core subjects;
  - (ii) a degree conferred by a third level institution, in which the law of Ireland or of Northern Ireland is a principal or dominant element approved by the Society conferred on a student who has been examined in and who has passed each of the core subjects.
  - (iii) in the case only of a student who before 1 August 2003 commenced a course of study leading to the award of a degree that was at that time an approved degree within the meaning of these rules as then in force, the degree awarded to such person following such course of study, provided:
    - 1. the person has been examined in and passed each of the core subjects, or
    - 2. has been examined in and passed each of the core subjects with the exception of Jurisprudence and either has passed or will pass the Society's Diploma examination in Jurisprudence.
  - (iv) in the case only of a student who before 1 August 2006 commenced a course of study leading to the award of a degree that was at that time an

approved degree within the meaning of these Rules as then in force, the degree awarded to such person following such course of study, provided:

1. the person has been examined in and passed each of the core subjects, or
  2. has been examined in and passed each of the core subjects with the exception of Company Law and/or Administrative Law and either has passed or will pass the Society's Diploma examination in such of these subjects which they have not already been examined in and passed.
- d. 'A post graduate diploma in law' shall mean a diploma, degree or other award which is conferred by a third level institution following the successful completion of a course which:
- (i) is primarily open to persons holding primary degrees (the availability of a limited number of places for non-graduate mature students shall not exclude a course coming within this definition); and
  - (ii) is considered by the Accreditation Board to be of equivalent standard to a course leading to an approved degree in the law of the State or Northern Ireland having regard to teaching methods (including availability of tutorials); library and research facilities and range of subject choices.
- e. "An approved post graduate diploma" means:
- (i) the Diploma in Legal Studies from the Honorable Society of King's Inns; and
  - (ii) such other post graduate diplomas in the Law of Ireland or of Northern Ireland approved for the purposes of these Rules and conferred on a student who has been examined and passed each of the core subjects.
- f. A list of approved degrees and approved post-graduate diplomas shall be published by the Council from time to time.
- g. 'core subjects' means Land Law (including Law of Succession), Company Law, Equity and the Law of Trusts, Law of the European Union, Jurisprudence, Administrative Law.
- h. 'the Council' means the Council of the Society.

## 5. Accreditation Board

- a. There shall be nominated in January of each year an Accreditation Board (as set out below)
- to consider applications from third level institutions for recognition of a particular degree as an approved degree for the purpose of these rules,
  - to consider applications from third level educational institutions for recognition of a post-graduate diploma in law as an approved post-graduate diploma for the purposes of these Rules.

- b The Accreditation Board shall comprise the following members:
- (i) One member nominated by the Council of King's Inns,
  - (ii) Two members of the Education Committee nominated by the chairman,
  - (iii) The Dean,
  - (iv) The Registrar,
  - (v) A person of academic standing nominated by the Chairman of the Council of King's Inns.

The Accreditation Board shall elect its own chairman.

- c. Any application for recognition as an approved degree or as an approved post-graduate diploma shall be made not later than the 1 March (or such later date as may be agreed by the Accreditation Board) in any given calendar year. The Accreditation Board shall be entitled to request from the third level institution such information and assistance as it deems necessary.
- d. The decision of the Accreditation Board shall be final. In the absence of agreement the decision shall be made by simple majority and the chairman shall have a casting vote.

## 6. Entrance Examination

There shall be an annual entrance examination for admission to the Barrister-at-Law degree course. The entrance examination shall be held once annually in the month of August or September.

It shall comprise the following subjects:

- Law of Contracts
- Criminal Law
- Irish Constitutional Law
- Law of Evidence
- Law of Torts

No person shall be admitted as a student member of the Society (subject to the provisions of rule 12) for the course of education leading to the Barrister-at-Law degree course unless he has passed the annual entrance examination in all subjects.

### 6A Mode of delivery of Barrister-at-law degree.

- a. The Barrister-at-Law degree will be delivered in two modes:
- (i) one-year full time course to be offered and provided on an annual basis, and
  - (ii) two-year modular course to be offered on at least a biennial basis provided it is considered viable to do so in a particular year.
- b. The modular course shall be considered to be viable in a particular year if there are at least 32 successful candidates who accept places and register on it. The Society may at its discretion provide the modular course if there are fewer than 32 successful candidates.
- c. In the event that the modular course is not provided in a particular year because it is not considered viable to do so, the modular course will be offered the following year and will be provided that following year so long as it is considered viable to do so.

## 7. Eligibility to sit the Annual Entrance Examination

- a. In order to be eligible to sit the entrance examination a candidate shall be required to hold either:
  - (i) an approved degree, or
  - (ii) an approved post-graduate diploma.
- b. A candidate seeking to take the entrance examination must lodge the appropriate application form not later than the 30 May in the year in which he seeks to undertake the examination. An applicant who is in the process of acquiring the necessary educational qualifications may apply on a provisional basis not later than the 31 May and the application shall be treated as conditional upon such qualifications being acquired not later than the 1 July in the year in which he seeks to undertake the examination. Applications are also accepted on payment of a late fee up to 1 July in the year which he seeks to undertake the examination. Fees must be paid in accordance with the directions that are laid down by the Society.
- c. A candidate shall pay the prescribed fee with the application.
- d. All candidates will be required to indicate when applying for the entrance examination whether they wish to attend the one-year full-time course or the two-year modular course.
- e. Eligible candidates who wish to undertake the modular course shall be permitted to sit the entrance examination whether or not the modular course is being offered that year. If successful they shall be permitted to defer (subject to the provisions in rule 12 below).

## 8. Disqualifications

No person shall be eligible to be a candidate for the annual entrance examination if:

- (i) he is engaged in any occupation which, in the opinion of the benchers of King's Inns, is incompatible with the position of a student seeking to be called to the Bar; or
- (ii) he is for any reason considered by the benchers to be unsuitable for admission.

## 9. Marks and Standards

- a. To be awarded a pass in the entrance examination a candidate must achieve marks of at least 50% in each subject. A Candidate who fails more than one subject shall not be permitted to pass the examination. A candidate who fails one subject shall be permitted to pass provided that the failure in that one subject does not fall below 45% and the candidate has an aggregate mark of 50% or more.
- b. A candidate who attains aggregate marks of 70% or over shall be awarded first class honours. Candidates who receive aggregate marks of 60% or over shall be awarded second class honours.

## 10. Exemptions

Candidates who take the annual entrance examination shall pass all subjects in one sitting subject to the above provision concerning compensation. No exemptions in any subject shall be allowed. Candidates will not be allowed to transfer results from one year into a subsequent year.

## 11. Eligibility to re-sit the Annual Entrance Examination

- a. Candidates who sit and fail the entrance examination shall be permitted two further attempts only to re-sit the entrance examination in all subjects in two subsequent years only. In order to re-sit the entrance examination, the candidate must submit a new application.
- b. Candidates who sit and pass the entrance examination and who have declined to take up their place [except candidates who are permitted to defer in accordance with rule 12(c)] shall have two further attempts at the entrance examination. In order to re-sit the entrance examination, the candidate must submit a new application.

## 12. Allocation of Places in the Barrister-at-Law Degree Course

- a. All candidates for the full-time course who pass the entrance examination will be offered a place on the degree course in the year in which they pass the examination, save in the exceptional circumstance that the number of those passing exceeds the available teaching capacity.
- b. In the event that the number of candidates for the full-time course passing the entrance examination exceeds the available teaching capacity, the available places will be allocated to successful candidates in order of merit determined by the aggregate marks obtained at a specific sitting. Candidates not offered a place on the full time course in the year in which they pass the examination shall be offered a place on the modular course if it is being provided in that year.
- c. All candidates for the modular course who pass the entrance examination will be offered a place on the modular degree course in the year in which they pass the examination unless:
  - (i) the modular course is not being offered that year
  - (ii) the modular course is being offered that year but is not being run due to it not being considered viable.
- d. Where the modular course is not run in a particular year, candidates for that course who pass the entrance examination will be offered the choice of:
  - (i) attending the full-time course that year; or
  - (ii) deferring their place on the modular course for a year (whilst the modular course will be offered there will be no guarantee that it will be provided in the following year).
- e. Where a candidate has deferred his place on the modular course pursuant to subsection (d)(ii) above and where the modular course is not provided the following year the candidate will again be offered the choice of:
  - (i) attending the full-time course that year; or
  - (ii) deferring his place on the modular course for one further year (whilst the modular course will be offered there will be no guarantee that it will be run in the following year), subject to the provision that no candidate will be permitted to defer for more than two years in total. If the modular course is still not available after two years, the candidate must either undertake the full-time course or refuse their offer of a place.

- f. A candidate who has been offered a place on the Barrister-at-Law degree course shall not be allowed to defer the offer to any subsequent year save with the consent of the Examination Board. Offers of places must be accepted in accordance with the time frame laid down by the Education Committee.
- g. The Examination Board shall only permit a candidate to defer an offer of a place on the Barrister-at-Law degree course to a subsequent year, other than pursuant to subsections (d)(ii) or (e)(ii) of this rule, upon one of the following exceptional grounds:
  - (i) exceptional personal circumstances which could not have been foreseen at the date of application to sit the entrance examination and which preclude the candidate from taking up the place on the Barrister-at-Law degree course in the relevant year; or
  - (ii) an exceptional professional, academic or employment opportunity which, in the opinion of the Examination Board, would significantly contribute to the candidate's future practice at the Bar.
- h. An application to defer may be made prior to the allocation of a place and conditional upon the allocation and must be made within ten days from the date upon which notice of the offer of the place on the Barrister-at-Law degree course is given.
- i. Any consent of the Examination Board to a candidate to defer a place shall be for a maximum of two years.

### 13. Annual Entrance Examination Fee

- a. Each candidate shall attach to his application form for the annual entrance examination such fee as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Council of the Honorable Society of King's Inns.

### 14. Entrance Exam Board

- a. There shall be nominated in January of each year an Examination Board comprising the following members:
  - (i) a judge of the Superior Courts nominated by the Chief Justice,
  - (ii) a member of the Bar nominated by the Council of King's Inns,
  - (iii) a member of the Bar nominated by the Bar Council of Ireland,
  - (iv) three members of the Education Committee nominated by the Chairman of that Committee,
  - (v) the Registrar, *ex officio*,
  - (vi) the Dean, *ex officio*.

The Examination Board shall elect its own chairman.

- b. All decisions concerning the entrance examination shall be taken by the Examination Board the decisions of which shall be final. In the event of a lack of agreement, decision shall be by simple majority and the chairman shall have a casting vote.
- c. The functions of the Examination Board shall include:
  - (i) appointing examiners and external examiners for the entrance examination,
  - (ii) reviewing the results of the entrance examination,
  - (iii) publishing the results relating to the entrance examinations.

- d. The Examination Board shall meet from time to time as it deems necessary. The quorum of the Examination Board shall be not less than three for all meetings.
- e. Not more than one person involved in teaching or examining in either the diploma or the degree course shall be eligible to be appointed as an examiner or as an external examiner in the entrance examination or be a member of the Examination Board.

## 15. Completion of the Barrister-at-Law degree course

Before being admitted to the degree of Barrister-at-Law a student must successfully complete the Society's Barrister-at-Law degree course. Regulations concerning the successful completion of the degree course shall be made by the Education Committee and may be amended by it from time to time.

The Society shall make available to barrister and students an optional advanced advocacy and legal drafting course through the medium of Irish.

## 16. Commons

- a. Students on the full-time Barrister-at-Law degree course are required to dine in the hall on 10 occasions during the academic year. Details are available from the Under Treasurer.
- b. Students on the modular Barrister-at-Law degree course are required to dine in the hall on five occasions during the first academic year of the course and five occasions during the second academic year of the course. Details are available from the Under Treasurer.

## 17. Admission to the Degree of Barrister-at-Law

Every student who has complied with these rules and who wishes to be admitted to the degree of Barrister-at-Law must lodge at the Under Treasurer's office a completed declaration for admission to the degree of Barrister-at-Law. The certificate which is included in the declaration must be signed by a practising barrister who has been practising at the Bar of Ireland for ten years at least and the proposal which is included in the memorial must be signed by a bencher of the Society.

The declaration for admission to the degree of Barrister-at-Law shall include an undertaking by the applicant that, if admitted to practise at the Bar of Ireland, he will comply with the General Rules of the Society and any applicable professional codes in force from time to time.

Any person seeking to be called to the Bar must meet the requirements of the Legal Practitioners (Irish Language) Act 2008, unless exempt, and must undertake, in full, the course provided by King's Inns in order to fulfil the requirements of that Act.

## 18. Precedence for Honours at Call to the Bar

At each call to the Bar those students who have obtained scholarships, exhibitions and prizes shall take rank and seniority over all other students who shall be called on the same day and those who have obtained scholarships, exhibitions and prizes shall take rank and seniority among themselves according to their respective merits.

## 19. Prizes

### ***a. The Arthur Browne Prize***

The Arthur Brown Prize is awarded to the student who takes first place in the entrance examination.

### ***b. The John Brooke Scholarship***

The John Brooke Scholarship is awarded to the student who obtains the highest aggregate marks in the examinations conducted by the Society including marks awarded for assessments through the year. The scholarship shall be payable only to a student who proceeds to practise at the Bar. A student who qualifies for the scholarship must take his call to the Bar within six months of publication of the results of the annual examinations, but the benchers may, for special reasons, permit him to postpone his practice for not more than 18 months from such call.

### ***c. The Society's Exhibition***

The Society's Exhibition is awarded to the student who obtains the second highest aggregate marks in the examinations conducted by the Society including marks awarded for assessments throughout the year. The conditions for the award of the Exhibition shall be the same as those for the award of the John Brooke Scholarship.

### ***d. The James Murnaghan Memorial Prize***

The James Murnaghan Memorial Prize is awarded to the student who obtains the third highest aggregate marks in the examinations conducted by the Society including marks awarded for assessments throughout the year. The conditions for the award of the Prize shall be the same as for those for the award of the John Brooke Scholarship.

With the exception of the Arthur Browne Memorial Prize (awarded to the student who takes first place in the entrance examination), prizes are only awarded during the admission ceremony to the degree of Barrister-at-Law in Trinity term even if a first attempt student in the supplemental examinations obtains a higher mark than the recipient of a prize in the annual examinations.



# PART IV

## RULES APPLICABLE TO SPECIALLY QUALIFIED APPLICANTS

### 20. Northern Ireland Barristers

- a. A member of the Bar of Northern Ireland who has been in practice for at least three years immediately preceding his application may, at the discretion of the benchers of the Society, be admitted to the Society and to the degree of Barrister-at-Law without submitting to any examination and without keeping terms provided he complies with the requirements set out in paragraph (b).
- b. Every such applicant shall:
  - 1) Produce a certificate of his call to the Bar of Northern Ireland and a certificate from the Lord Chief Justice stating that he is a fit and proper person to be called to the Bar of Ireland and a certificate from the proper officer stating that he has been practising for at least three years immediately preceding his application,
  - 2) Lodge at the Under Treasurer's office a completed declaration for admission to the Society and to the degree of Barrister-at-Law (the certificate part of the declaration must be signed by a practising barrister who has been practising at the Bar of Ireland for ten years at least and the proposal part must be signed by a Bencher of the Society), and
  - 3) Pay the degree fee set out in the schedule of fees.
  - 4) Keep two terms commons (3 dinners each term) after call during the first two years of practice

### 21. English and Welsh Barristers<sup>1</sup>

- a. A member of the Bar of England and Wales who has been in practice for at least four years immediately preceding his application may, at the discretion of the Benchers of the Society, be admitted to the Society and the degree of Barrister-at-Law without submitting to any examination provided he complies with the requirements of paragraph (b) and provided that, at the date of his application for admission, there are in existence reciprocal arrangements in like terms or such other terms as are acceptable to the Benchers for the time being.
- b. Every such applicant shall:
  - 1) Produce a certificate of his call to the Bar of England and Wales and a certificate from the Attorney General of England and Wales stating that he is a fit and proper person to be called to the Bar of Ireland,
  - 2) Produce certificates from the chairman of the Bar Council and his head of chambers (or former pupil master) or a practising barrister of 10 years standing who knows the applicant stating that he has been practising for at least four years immediately preceding his application,

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<sup>1</sup> This reciprocal arrangement in abeyance at the time of printing (1 January 2002)

- 3) Give an undertaking to accept work in the Courts of Ireland if instructed by a solicitor in that jurisdiction,
- 4) Give an undertaking to take out or extend his existing insurance to cover him for work undertaken in this jurisdiction for an amount and on terms equivalent to those required for an Irish barrister,
- 5) Give an undertaking that he intends to continue in practice as a barrister in England and Wales or Ireland,
- 6) Lodge at the Under Treasurer's office a completed memorial for admission as a barrister (the certificate part of the memorial must be signed by a practising barrister who has been practising at the Bar of Ireland for ten years at least and the proposal part must be signed by a bencher of the Society),
- 7) Keep commons, unless excused from doing so by special permission of the benchers of the Society, and
- 8) Pay the appropriate fee for admission to the degree of Barrister-at-Law.

## 22. Barristers of Reciprocating Countries

- a. In this rule 'reciprocating country' means any country, state, or province where separate rolls are kept of members of the legal profession of such country, state or province who practise as solicitors and barristers respectively and which in the opinion of the Society affords corresponding advantages to members of the Bar of Ireland. 'Member of the Bar' means a person having the general right of audience before the superior courts.
- b. A member of the Bar of a reciprocating country who has been in practice for at least three years immediately preceding his application may, at the discretion of the benchers of the Society, be admitted to the Society and the degree of Barrister-at-Law without submitting to any examination and without keeping terms provided he complies with the requirements set out in paragraph (c).
- c. Every such applicant shall:
  - 1) Produce a certificate of his admission to practise as a member of the Bar and a certificate from the attorney general or senior law officer of the reciprocating country stating that he is a fit and proper person to be called to the Bar of Ireland and a certificate from the proper officer stating that he has been practising as a member of the Bar for at least three years immediately preceding his application,
  - 2) Lodge at the Under Treasurer's office a completed memorial for admission as a barrister (the certificate part of the memorial must be signed by a practising barrister who has been practising at the Bar of Ireland for ten years at least and the proposal part must be signed by a Bencher of the Society), and
  - 3) Pay the appropriate fee for admission to the degree of Barrister-at-Law.
- d. If the law of the reciprocating country is not based on common law and a member of the Bar of Ireland before becoming eligible to practise at the Bar of such country is required to pass an examination in the local law, this rule shall apply subject to the qualification that such applicant may, before call to the Bar of Ireland, be required to pass an examination in such subjects as may be prescribed from time to time by the Education Committee.

## 23. Solicitors

- a. A solicitor on application made by him in writing to the Society who in the period expiring at any time within six calendar months prior to the date of receipt of application has been in continuous practice in the State for three years or more and has held a practising certificate from the Law Society of Ireland for the entire of that period (or is exempted by statute from any requirement to hold such certificate) may, at the discretion of the benchers of the Society, be admitted into the Society and called to the Bar without undertaking the Society's course of education and without keeping terms provided he complies with the requirements set out in paragraph (b) hereof.
- b. Every such applicant shall:
  - 1) Following acceptance by the Society of such application satisfactorily complete the next available course of study (if any) as may be provided by the Society and as may be determined from time to time by the Education Committee
  - 2) Cause himself to be removed from the Roll of Solicitors and cease to practice as a solicitor prior to admission to the degree of Barrister-at-Law.
  - 3) Lodge at the Under Treasurer's office at least 10 days prior to admission to the degree:
    - (i) a letter from the Law Society of Ireland certifying his removal from the Roll of Solicitors;
    - (ii) where applicable, letters from the Solicitors Regulation Authority and Law Society of any other Jurisdiction in which the person has practiced as a solicitor certifying his removal from the Roll of solicitors
    - (iii) a statutory declaration that he has ceased to have any financial interest in any solicitor's business or practice;
    - (iv) a certificate of good standing or a certificate of standing, as defined in the Solicitors Acts 1954 to 2008 (Sixth Schedule) Regulations 2011, to be issued by the Law Society of Ireland;
    - (v) a completed declaration for admission to the Society and to the degree of Barrister-at-Law (the certificate which is included in the declaration must be signed by a practising barrister who has been practising at the Bar of Ireland for ten years at least and the proposal therein must be signed by a bencher of the Society); and
    - (vi) an undertaking in writing to keep two terms of commons in accordance with paragraph (b)(5) of this Rule,
  - 4) at least 10 days prior to admission to the degree pay the degree fee as set out in the Schedule of Fees, and
  - 5) keep two terms of commons (3 dinners each term) after call during the first two years of practice at the Bar of Ireland.
- c. Notwithstanding paragraph (b)(1) an applicant will be entitled (on payment of the appropriate fee in respect of such course) to take such course of study, if any, as may be determined by the Education Committee pursuant to paragraph (b)(1) of this Rule once he has been in practice as a solicitor in the State and has held a practising certificate (unless exempted by statute from any requirement to hold such certificate) for a period of not less than two years immediately preceding the commencement of the said course

of study. On satisfactory completion of the said course of study the solicitor shall be deemed to have complied with the requirement of paragraph (b)(1) of this Rule provided such course of study is completed within twelve calendar months of application being made under Rule (a) above.

d. If an applicant fails:

- (i) to undertake and complete satisfactorily the next available course of study in accordance with paragraph (b)(1) of this Rule; or
- (ii) to cause himself to be admitted to the Society and called to the Bar of Ireland at the first available opportunity following satisfactory completion of the said course

the application made by the applicant shall be deemed to be withdrawn.

## 24. Qualified Lawyers from other EU Member States

- a. A person who is entitled to seek to practise the profession of barrister in Ireland pursuant to Directive 2005/36 of the European Parliament and Council on the recognition of professional qualifications (OJ L 255 p. 22) ('the Directive') and the regulations implementing same in Ireland (hereinafter called 'the migrant') may apply to be admitted to the Society and to the degree of Barrister-at-Law in accordance with this rule. Only holders of the degree may be called to the Bar of Ireland by the Chief Justice and admitted to practise in the Courts of Ireland as members of the Bar of Ireland.
- b. The Council of King's Inns ('The Council') is the designated and the competent authority for the profession of Barrister in Ireland for the purpose of applying the Directive and shall make all necessary decisions on an application under this rule.
- c. A migrant shall apply to be admitted to the Society and the degree of Barrister-at-Law in such form as may be specified by the Council. Such application shall include or be accompanied by:
  - (i) particulars of the diploma, attestation of competence issued by a competent authority in the home Member State or other evidence of training and qualifications relied upon by the migrant as entitling him to practise as a barrister in Ireland under the terms of the Directive,
  - (ii) the original or a duly authenticated copy of every such diploma, certificate or other document relied upon by the migrant,
  - (iii) such evidence as is relied upon by the migrant to establish:
    - 1) that he is of good character and repute; and
    - 2) that he has not been declared or adjudged bankrupt or had a similar order made against him or in relation to his estate where such bankruptcy or similar order remains undischarged or in force; and
    - 3) that he has not on the ground of professional misconduct, or the commission of a criminal offence been prohibited from practising in any member state in which he formerly qualified or practised and is not currently suspended from so practising,
  - (iv) such representations or evidence as the migrant may wish to make in support of any application that he be wholly or partially exempted from passing an aptitude test in accordance with paragraph (f) of this rule,
  - (v) any other representations or material upon which the migrant may wish to rely in support of his application, and

- (vi) the migrant's application fee as set from time to time by the Council.
- d. Any document or certificate presented by the migrant pursuant to sub-paragraph (iii) of paragraph (c) above must be presented no more than three months after its date of issue.
- e. The Council shall consider the migrant's application as soon as is reasonably practical and shall issue to the migrant a reasoned decision thereon not later than four months after all documents relied upon by the migrant have been lodged. Such decision may be:
  - (i) that the migrant be admitted to the Society and degree of Barrister-at-Law by the benchers without being required to pass any part of the aptitude test,
  - (ii) that the migrant be admitted to the Society and degree of Barrister-at-Law by the benchers subject to the migrant passing the whole or any part of the aptitude test, or
  - (iii) that the migrant's application be refused.

In reaching the foregoing decision the Council shall consider the diploma or other qualification of each migrant relied upon in his application and may only require the migrant to pass those parts of the aptitude test which cover matters which differ substantially from those covered by his diploma or other qualification.

- f. The migrant may be required to pass all or part of an aptitude test. The following shall apply in relation to the aptitude test:
  - (i) the aptitude test shall be in such form as may be decided *from time to time* by the Education Committee and shall comprise written papers and an oral assessment,
  - (ii) the written papers shall include:
    - 1) A paper on the Irish Legal System and Irish Constitutional Law;
    - 2) A paper on the Laws of Torts, Contracts and Property (including Equity and Trusts);
    - 3) A paper on Evidence and Civil Practice and Procedure of the Superior Courts and the Circuit and District Courts; and
    - 4) A paper on Criminal Law and Criminal Practice and Procedure of the Superior Courts and the Circuit and District Courts
  - (iii) the oral assessment shall evaluate the migrant's preparation and oral presentation of a case and his knowledge of the rules of ethics and code of conduct for barristers,
  - (iv) the written part of the aptitude test will be held twice a year upon such dates as may be determined by the Education Committee,
  - (v) a migrant shall not be eligible to take the oral assessment until such time as he shall have successfully passed such written parts of the aptitude test as he is required to take,
  - (vi) a migrant who is required to pass the aptitude test must take all parts of the test (or all parts which he is required to pass) at the same occasion on which the test is held,
  - (vii) a migrant who is required to pass the aptitude test must take the test (or the relevant parts of the test) within two years after the date of the issue of the decision referred to in paragraph (e) above.

- g. Every migrant shall keep not less than two terms commons. The Council may permit a migrant to give an undertaking to comply with all or part of this obligation after call to the Bar or may exempt the migrant from all or part of this obligation. Every migrant shall keep two terms commons (3 dinners each term) after call during the first two years of practice at the Bar of Ireland.
- h. A migrant who has received a decision from the Council in terms of paragraph (e) (i) or (ii) above shall (upon successfully passing all or part of the aptitude test where applicable) and subject to compliance with paragraph (g) above be admitted to the Society and to the degree of Barrister-at-Law by the benchers upon lodging at the Under Treasurer's office:
  - (i) a completed declaration for admission to the Society and to the degree of Barrister-at-Law (the certificate part of the declaration must be signed by a practising barrister who has been practising at the Bar of Ireland for ten years at least and the proposal part must be signed by a bencher of the Society),
  - (ii) if permitted by the Council pursuant to paragraph (g) above to keep terms after call to the Bar, a written undertaking to do so, and
  - (iii) the degree fee as set from time to time by the Council.
- i. Upon being admitted to the Society and the degree of Barrister-at-Law a migrant is entitled to be called to the Bar of Ireland by the Chief Justice and admitted to practise in the courts of Ireland as a member of the Bar of Ireland.

## 25. Admission of Barristers qualified in England and Wales (post Brexit)

- a. A member of the Bar of England and Wales who is fully qualified to practise in that jurisdiction having undertaken a full pupillage as required by the Bar Standards Board of England and Wales may, at the discretion of the Benchers of the Society, be admitted to the Society and to the degree of Barrister-at-Law provided he complies with the requirements set out in paragraphs (b) to (d) of this Rule.
- b. Every such applicant shall be required to pass a written aptitude test on the Irish Legal System and Irish Constitutional Law, unless in the opinion of the Benchers of the Society it is appropriate to exempt the applicant from this requirement.
- c. Every such applicant shall be required to submit the following to the Society:
  - (i) an application in such form as may from time to time be prescribed by the Society;
  - (ii) a certificate of his call to the Bar of England and Wales;
  - (iii) a certificate of good standing from the General Council of the Bar of England and Wales which certifies:
    - 1) that the applicant has completed full pupillage and is entitled to practise at the Bar of England and Wales,
    - 2) that he is not an undischarged bankrupt, and
    - 3) that he has not been prohibited from practising on the grounds of professional misconduct or the commission of a criminal offence;
  - (iv) a practising certificate issued by the Bar Standards Board of England and Wales;
  - (v) such representations and/or evidence (if any) on which the applicant relies in support of an application for an exemption from the aptitude test provided for in paragraph (b);
  - (vi) a completed declaration for admission to the degree of Barrister-at-Law;

- (vii) an undertaking to keep at least two terms commons (unless excused from doing so by special permission of the Benchers of the Society);
  - (viii) the applicable fee as may from time to time be prescribed by the Society.
- d. The documents required at paragraphs (c)(iii) and (c)(iv) above must be presented no more than three months after their date(s) of issue.

# PART V

## SPECIALIST DIPLOMAS

### 26. Specialist Diplomas

- a. The Society may establish specialist courses of training and education leading to the award by the Society of a Diploma or Advanced Diploma.
- b. Regulations concerning admission to and the successful completion of each such course shall be made and promulgated by the Dean, with the prior approval of the Education Committee, and may be amended from time to time in like manner. In relation to all other matters the rules in Parts VI, VII and VIII shall apply.



# PART VI

## FELLOWSHIPS, BURSARIES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

### 27. Fellowships, Bursaries and Scholarships:

The Society offers the following fellowships, bursaries and scholarships:

The Gaffney Scholarship;

The Denham Fellowship (in conjunction with the Bar of Ireland);

The McCarthy Bursary.

The eligibility requirements for these awards shall be set by the Society, and, in the case of the Denham Fellowship, by the Society and the Bar of Ireland.

The Society reserves the power to establish such further of other fellowships, bursaries and scholarships as may be established by the Society subject to the requisite finance being available to the Society as determined by the Standing Committee

# PART VII

## DISCIPLINE AND PLAGIARISM

### 28. Discipline

Save as provided for herein, alleged or suspected breached of discipline will be dealt with under the Student Code of Conduct. Alleged or suspected breached of academic integrity, including plagiarism, shall be dealt with under Rule 29 hereof.

### 29. Breaches of Academic Integrity, including Plagiarism

At King Inns academic integrity is an essential aspect of our learning and teaching environment. Students and staff are expected to demonstrate intellectual honesty and transparency, including acknowledgement and referencing the work of others. All work submitted by students, including course work and assessments, is received by King's Inns on the understanding that it is the student's own work and written in their own words, save where explicitly referenced using accepted norms of citation.

#### 1. Definitions

(a) Breach of Academic Integrity comprises a lack of intellectual honesty and transparency, including plagiarism or other failure to acknowledge and reference the work of another or others which has been incorporated into or which forms a significant part of or basis for a piece of academic work.

(b) Plagiarism is the act of passing off the work of another as one's own. This may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- i. using material from a source such as a book, article, or website, whether verbatim or in paraphrase, without appropriate acknowledgement and citation;
- ii. copying another student's work, with or without the knowledge or consent of that other student;
- iii. using material purchased from or provided by another person or agency;
- iv. representing collaborative work as one's own;
- v. knowingly permitting another student to copy one's own work.

(c) Save in the case of v above, plagiarism occurs whether the act is intentional or unintentional.

(d) "respondent" means a person against whom an allegation of a breach of academic integrity has been made or a person suspected of such breach as the case may be.

#### 2. Burden and standard of proof

It shall be a matter for the party alleging a breach of academic integrity to prove such breach on the balance of probabilities.

### 3. Minor and Major breaches

(a) Minor and Major breaches of academic integrity are defined as follows for the purpose of this Rule:

i. A 'minor breach of academic integrity' involves a breach where the Registrar, the Academic Integrity Committee or the Academic Integrity Appeals Committee, as the case may be, considers that the breach in question does not warrant the imposition of a penalty other than those provided for at paragraph 4(a) hereof and in coming to such a conclusion particular regard shall be had to whether the respondent has not previously been found guilty of a breach of academic integrity and whether the breach was unintentional.

ii. A 'major breach of academic integrity' involves a breach where the Registrar, the Academic Integrity Committee or the Academic Integrity Appeals Committee, as the case may be, considers that the breach in question warrants the imposition of a penalty other than those provided for at paragraph 4(a) hereof and in coming to such a conclusion particular regard shall be had to whether the respondent has previously been found guilty of a breach of academic integrity and whether the breach was intentional.

(b) A record shall be kept by the Registrar of all findings of breach of academic integrity, whether major or minor, which record may be inspected by the Registrar, the Academic Integrity Committee or the Academic Integrity Appeals Committee, for the purpose of determining whether an allegation or suspicion of a breach of academic integrity, if proven, would represent a first or subsequent breach of academic integrity by the respondent.

### 4. Penalties

#### (a) Minor Breaches

In the case of a minor breach of academic integrity, one or more of the following penalties may be imposed on the student concerned:

- i. a written warning furnished by the Registrar;
- ii. offering the respondent an opportunity to repeat the course work or assessment in question as a first attempt, with or without a limitation on the maximum grade that may be awarded;
- iii. offering the respondent an opportunity to repeat the course work or assessment in question as a second attempt, with the maximum grade that may be awarded capped at the pass mark;
- iv. the imposition of a reduced mark on the work submitted, including a mark that constitutes a failing mark.

#### (b) Major Breaches

In the case of a major breach of academic integrity, one or more of the following penalties may be imposed on the student concerned:

- i. a written warning furnished by the Registrar;
- ii. offering the respondent an opportunity to repeat the course work or assessment in question as a first attempt, with or without a limitation on the maximum grade that may be awarded;

- iii. offering the respondent an opportunity to repeat the course work or assessment in question as a second attempt, with the maximum grade that may be awarded capped at the pass mark;
- iv. the imposition of a reduced mark on the work submitted, including a mark that constitutes a failing mark.
- v. failing the course work or assessment in question;
- vi. temporary or permanent exclusion from the course of study being undertaken;
- vii. suspension or permanent expulsion from the King's Inns;
- viii. notification to the Bar Council and/or any other appropriate professional body.

## 5. Procedure where Breach of Academic Integrity is suspected

(a) These procedures shall apply wherever a member of teaching staff, a course-coordinator, an examiner, an external examiner, the Registrar, or the Dean suspects that [work submitted by a student, whether course work or an assessment, constitutes] [a breach of academic integrity has occurred].

(b) The person, being a person other than the Registrar, who suspects that a breach of academic integrity has occurred shall notify the Registrar as soon as reasonably practicable. That person shall submit to the Registrar a short report, in writing, including a copy of any work suspected to constitute the breach of academic integrity and setting out the basis on which it is suspected that such a breach has occurred. Where the Registrar is the person who initially suspects that a breach of academic integrity has occurred the Registrar shall prepare such report.

(c) Where the Registrar considers that the suspected breach of academic integrity, if proven, is likely to constitute a minor offence, the following procedure shall apply:

- i. The Registrar shall, as soon as reasonably practicable, notify the respondent of the suspected breach of academic integrity and shall furnish the respondent with a copy of the report referred to at sub-rule (b) above.
- ii. The Registrar shall have the power to consult with the Course Coordinator and with teaching staff.
- iii. The Registrar shall interview the respondent, allowing the respondent an opportunity to respond to the allegation that plagiarism has occurred.
- iv. If, having interviewed the respondent concerned, the Registrar is satisfied that a minor breach has occurred, they may impose any of the penalties specified at sub-rule 4(a) above and shall provide to the respondent advice on avoiding further breaches.
- v. If, having interviewed the respondent, the Registrar considers that the respondent may have committed a major breach, the procedure set out at sub-rule 5 (d) below shall apply.
- vi. If, having interviewed the respondent, the Registrar is satisfied that a breach of academic integrity did not occur, they shall take no further action.
- vii. The Registrar shall notify the respondent in writing of their findings and of any penalty to be imposed.
- viii. The respondent shall be entitled to appeal a decision of the Registrar under this sub-rule to an Academic Integrity Committee, convened pursuant to these Rules. The finding of the Academic Integrity Committee on such an appeal shall be final.

**(d) Procedure re major breaches**

Where the Registrar considers that the suspected breach of academic integrity, if proven, is likely to constitute a major breach, the following procedure shall apply:

- i. The Registrar shall, as soon as reasonably practicable, notify the Dean of the suspected breach of academic integrity and shall furnish to the Dean the report referred to at sub-rule 5 (b) above.
- ii. The Registrar shall, as soon as reasonably practicable, notify the respondent of the suspected breach and shall furnish the respondent with a copy of the report referred to at sub-rule 5 (b) above.
- iii. The Registrar shall have the power to consult with the Course Coordinator and with teaching staff.
- iv. The Registrar shall interview the respondent, allowing the respondent an opportunity to respond to the allegation that plagiarism has occurred.
- v. If, having interviewed the respondent, the Registrar is satisfied that the suspected breach, if proven, would constitute a minor breach the matter shall be dealt with in accordance with subrule 5(c).
- vi. If, having interviewed the student concerned, the Registrar remains of the view that the suspected breach, if proven, would constitute a major breach the matter shall be referred to the Academic Integrity Committee which shall hold a hearing into the matter as soon as reasonably practicable.
- vii. In the event that the Academic Integrity Committee determines that student concerned has been guilty of a minor breach, any of the penalties specified at sub-rule 4 (a) may be imposed and the Registrar shall provide to the student concerned advice on avoiding further breaches
- viii. In the event that the Academic Integrity Committee determines that the respondent has been guilty of a major breach, any of the penalties specified at sub-rule 4 (b) may be imposed.
- ix. In the event that the Academic Integrity Committee determines that the respondent has not been guilty of any breach, no further action shall be taken.
- x. The Registrar shall notify the respondent in writing of the outcome of the Academic Integrity Committee's determination and of any penalty to be imposed as soon as reasonably practicable.
- xi. The respondent or the Registrar shall be entitled to appeal the Determination of the Academic Integrity Committee as regards the alleged breach and/or any penalty to be imposed to the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel, convened pursuant to these Rules.
- xii. The finding of the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel on such an appeal shall be final.

**6. Academic Integrity Committee**

(a) The Education Committee shall establish an Academic Integrity Committee consisting of the chairman and two members for the time being of the Education Committee.

(b) The chairman may delegate the duty to sit upon the Academic Integrity Committee to any other member for the time being of the Education Committee.

(c) Each member of the Academic Integrity Committee shall hold office while remaining a member of the education Committee or until resignation or until removal from office by the Education Committee, whichever shall be first in time.

(d) The Chair of the Academic Integrity Committee shall be taken by the Chairman of the Education Committee or, in case of a delegation as provided above, by the longest serving member of the Education Committee present.

## 7. Academic Integrity Appeals Panel

(a) The Council of King's Inns shall establish an Academic Integrity Appeals Panel consisting of the chairman and either

(i) two members for the time being of the Council of King's Inns, or

(ii) a member for the time being of the Council of King's Inns and a person from an academic or professional institution at third level or above

(b) The Chairman may delegate the duty to sit upon the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel to any other member for the time being of the Council of King's Inns.

(c) Each member of the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel shall hold office while remaining a member of the Council of Kings Inns or until resignation or until removal from office by the Council of King's Inns, whichever shall be first in time.

(d) The Chair of the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel shall be taken by the chairman of the Council of King's Inns or, in case of a delegation as provided above, by the longest serving member of the Council of King's Inns present.

## 8. Procedures prior to Hearing before the Academic Integrity Committee

(a) Upon receipt of the Report, the Academic Integrity Committee shall, as soon as reasonably practicable, convene a hearing at a time and venue set at its discretion and to be notified to the Registrar.

(b) The Registrar shall give notice of the Hearing ("the Notice") to the respondent and to such other person(s) as the Registrar or the Academic Integrity Committee in their discretion shall deem appropriate, by personal service or electronically by email or by posting the Notice to the last known address of the recipient.

(c) The Notice shall:

(i). Give the date, time and place of the hearing;

(ii). Give details of the nature of the allegation of breach (if appropriate by reference to the Report)

(iii). Enclose copies of any document which the Registrar intends to introduce at the hearing;

(iv). Set out a list of witnesses, if any, whom the registrar intends to call at the hearing;

- (v). Direct the respondent to give within a specified time a written response to the allegation(s) (“the Response”) and informing them that the response should include: (a) an indication whether the alleged breach is admitted or denied; (b) any specific matter which the respondent wishes to raise by way of positive defence at the hearing; (c) any other matter which the respondent wishes the Academic Integrity Committee to consider when considering their case; (d) a list of witnesses, if any, which the respondent intends to call at the hearing; (e) copies of such documents which the respondent intends to rely upon at the hearing; (f) indicate whether the content of any statement upon which the Registrar intends to rely is disputed; (g) indicate whether the respondent intends to be represented by or assisted by any other person and, if so, furnish details of such other person.
  - (vi). Inform the respondent that any real evidence which the Registrar intends to adduce shall be made available for inspection, upon request by the respondent at a convenient time prior to the hearing.
  - (vii). Inform the respondent that they may be accompanied by a person of their choice who may assist or represent them during the oral hearing.
- (d) Prior to the hearing the Registrar shall circulate to the respondent, and the members of the Academic Integrity Committee, as well as such other person(s) as the Registrar shall deem appropriate, a copy of all relevant materials, including the Notice to the respondent and the respondent’s response thereto.

## 9. Conduct of the Hearing before the Academic Integrity Committee.

- (a) The Registrar shall outline the notice to the respondent and any response thereto and shall briefly summarise the nature of the case against the respondent.
- (b) Evidence may be called by the Registrar and / or by the respondent and any witness called by one Party may be cross-examined by or on behalf of the other Party.
- (c) Either Party may make such observations or submissions in the course of or at the conclusion of the hearing, subject to the power of the Academic Integrity Committee to regulate its own procedures.
- (d) Witness statements may be admitted without the necessity of oral evidence so long as:
  - (i). The evidence contained in the witness statement is not disputed; or
  - (ii). The respondent and Registrar have consented to the admission of the witness statement as evidence of the facts contained therein without need for oral testimony; or
  - (iii). In the view of the Academic Integrity Committee, the fair disposal of the matter does not require that the evidence be given orally.
- (e) The hearing shall be conducted in private.
- (f) The Academic Integrity Committee’s deliberations shall be private and confidential.
- (g) A written record of the hearing and any *ex tempore* decision shall be made by a person appointed by the Academic Integrity Committee for that purpose.
- (h) No party may record the hearing without the express prior written permission of the Academic Integrity Committee.

- (i) The Parties have the right to be assisted or represented by solicitor and/or by counsel and solicitor or by one other person at the hearing and such representative(s) may address the Academic Integrity Committee and conduct all other aspects of the Parties' respective cases.
- (j) The Parties have the right to be heard in evidence and to call witnesses subject to the powers of the Academic Integrity Committee to regulate its affairs as set out herein.
- (k) The Parties may make submissions on any matter which is relevant to the fair determination of the case. The Academic Integrity Committee shall permit all such submissions subject to the orderly and efficient running of the hearing and shall in any event be entitled to impose any time limits which it deems necessary so long as same are in accordance with fair procedures.
- (l) The Academic Integrity Committee shall have the power to design, regulate and supplement its own procedures, such measures to be in accordance with fair procedures.
- (m) The Academic Integrity Committee shall be entitled, whether of its own motion or at the request of a party to the proceedings, to adjourn the hearing to a later time or date at its absolute discretion, subject to fair procedures being adhered to.
- (n) The Academic Integrity Committee shall have the power to proceed in the absence of any person, including a respondent who fails to attend, so long as it is satisfied that reasonable notice of the Hearing has been given to such person.
- (o) The Academic Integrity Committee shall have the power to hear from any person which any party wishes to call and which the Academic Committee regards as relevant for determination of the matter.
- (p) Where satisfied it is necessary for the fair and orderly conduct of the hearing, and in compliance with fair procedures, the Academic Integrity Committee may limit the number of witnesses from whom it hears evidence.
- (q) It shall be for the Registrar to satisfy the Academic Integrity Committee on the balance of probabilities that the has been guilty of a breach of academic integrity.
- (r) The Academic Integrity Committee shall deliver one Determination only and shall not record dissenting opinions. The reasons for the Determination shall be set out therein.
- (s) Upon a finding that a breach of academic integrity has not been proven against the respondent, the Academic Integrity Committee shall issue a determination, as soon as reasonably practicable, to that effect;
- (t) Upon a finding that a breach or breaches of academic integrity has/ have been proven as against the student, the Academic Integrity Committee shall impose such sanction as provided for under the Code as it deems just and appropriate and shall issue a determination, as soon as reasonably practicable to that effect.
- (u) The Determination of the Academic Integrity Committee may be reserved or delivered *ex tempore* at the Academic Integrity Committee's discretion. A determination may be delivered in person on the day of the hearing or at a later date, either at a reconvened hearing or electronically or by post to the Parties and to any other person



to whom the Academic Integrity Committee considers appropriate.

- (v) The Academic Integrity Committee shall have discretion to publish or withhold publication of its Determination provided that the Parties are given the opportunity to make representations as to whether the Determination should be published or not. The terms and conditions of the publication will be set by the Academic Integrity Committee. Onward publication is not permitted without the express written permission of the Academic Integrity Committee.

## 10. Procedure and Hearing before the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel

- (a) Both the Registrar and the respondent shall have a right of appeal to the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel against a determination of the Academic Integrity Committee in accordance with the appeals process set out herein.
- (b) Notice of Intention to appeal shall be sent to the Under Treasurer (or such person as is nominated by the Under Treasurer) before the expiry of 14 days from the delivery of the determination of the Academic Integrity Committee and shall specify:
  - (c) whether the appeal is to be made against the determination of the Academic Integrity Committee in respect of the alleged breach of the Code, or in respect of the sanction imposed, or both;
  - (d) the grounds of appeal;
  - (e) Any other matter which the party appealing wishes to put before the Appeal Committee.
- (f) Where a Party serves a Notice of Appeal, the other Party shall be entitled to serve a cross Notice of Appeal within 7 days of receipt of the original notice of Appeal.
- (g) An appeal or cross appeal shall not be allowed where a Notice of Appeal or cross Appeal has not been delivered within the time provided for herein unless the Appeal Committee is satisfied there is a good and sufficient reason for the lateness of such Notice and that it is in the interests of justice that the appeal be allowed to proceed notwithstanding that the Notice is out of time.
- (h) An appeal against a Determination of the Academic Integrity Committee in respect of the alleged breach of academic integrity is available only where it is grounded upon an allegation that the Academic Integrity Committee:
  - (i). Made a procedural error which is likely to have affected the outcome of the hearing before it or which was in breach of fair procedures such that the determination of the Academic Integrity Committee ought to be set aside in the interests of justice;
  - (ii). Made a finding of fact which was unsustainable on the evidence where such finding is likely to have affected the Determination of the Academic Integrity Committee;
  - (iii). Made incorrect inferences from primary facts which are likely to have affected the outcome of the hearing;

- (iv). Misconstrued or misunderstood some governing principle where such error is likely to have affected the outcome of the hearing;
- (v). In exceptional cases, where upon the admission of fresh evidence, the Determination of the Academic Integrity Committee should be set aside.
- (i) An appeal in respect of the sanction imposed by the Academic Integrity Committee (including the failure to impose any sanction) is available only when it is grounded upon an allegation that the sanction imposed was disproportionately severe or lenient, as the case may be.
- (j) Upon receipt of a Notice of Appeal the Under Treasurer shall:
  - (i). Furnish the Notice of Appeal to the other party for them to provide a written response within a prescribed period.
  - (ii). Furnish the Notice of Appeal to the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel;
- (k) No person who sat on an Academic Integrity Committee hearing may sit on an Academic Integrity Appeals Panel in the same case.
- (l) The Academic Integrity Appeals Panel shall arrange a date and time for the hearing of the appeal, as soon as reasonably practicable, and inform the Under Treasurer of same.
- (m) The Under Treasurer shall then write to the parties as follows:
  - (i). Informing the Parties of the place, date and time of the hearing of the Appeal.
  - (ii). Informing the Parties that they can be accompanied by a solicitor, or by a solicitor and counsel, or by one other person, whom they wish to assist or represent them in the conduct of the Appeal;
  - (iii). Requiring the Parties to exchange any documents not used in the original hearing but which either Party may seek to rely upon at the Appeal and to furnish a copy of same to the Under Treasurer.
- (n) The Under Treasurer shall prepare a Book of Appeal to include all relevant documents and in particular all documents which formed part of the original hearing together with the Determination of the Academic Integrity Committee, all Notices served in respect thereof and any other documents upon which either party has indicated an intention to rely at the appeal.
- (o) The Under Treasurer shall furnish a copy of the Book of Appeal to the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel and to the parties to the appeal within a reasonable period prior to the hearing of the appeal.
- (p) The Academic Integrity Appeals Panel shall be bound by any findings of fact made by the Academic Integrity Committee save where such findings are considered by the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel to be unsustainable on the evidence.
  - (i) An appeal against a Determination of the Academic Integrity Committee in respect of an alleged breach of academic integrity shall only succeed where the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel is satisfied by the Party appealing that the Academic Integrity Committee:
    - Made a procedural error which is likely to have affected the outcome of the hearing before it or which was in breach of fair procedures such that the determination of the Academic Integrity Committee ought to be set aside in the interests of justice;

- (ii) Made a finding of fact which was unsustainable on the evidence where such finding is likely to have affected the Determination of the Academic Integrity Committee;
  - (iii) Made incorrect inferences from primary facts which are likely to have affected the outcome of the hearing;
  - (iv) Misconstrued or misunderstood some governing principle where such error is likely to have affected the outcome of the hearing;
  - (v) In exceptional cases, where upon the admission of fresh evidence, the Determination of the Academic Integrity Committee should be set aside.
- (q) An appeal against a sanction imposed by the Academic Integrity Committee shall only succeed if the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel is satisfied by the Party appealing that the sanction imposed was disproportionately severe or lenient.

## 11. Conduct of the Appeal

- (a) The Academic Integrity Appeals Panel has a like power to regulate its procedures as the Academic Integrity Committee, and all powers and rights of the Academic Integrity Committee apply mutatis mutandis to the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel.
- (b) The Parties have the right to be assisted or represented by solicitor and/or by counsel and solicitor or by one other person at the Appeal Hearing and such representative(s) may address the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel and conduct all other aspects of the Parties' respective cases.
- (c) The Parties to an appeal have the right to address the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel in submissions.
- (d) The Academic Integrity Appeals Panel may, in exceptional cases and for stated reasons, admit fresh evidence subject to fair procedures being adhered to.
- (e) The Academic Integrity Appeals Panel may allow or reject an appeal in whole or in part;
- (f) In cases where it deems it appropriate to do so, the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel may remit the matter to be reheard again by the original or a differently constituted Academic Integrity Committee.
- (g) The Academic Integrity Appeals Panel's powers of sanction are those of the Academic Integrity Committee, if satisfied that the original sanction ought to be adjusted, the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel may impose such sanction provided for herein as it sees fit in substitution for the original sanction.
- (h) The decision of the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel is final.
- (i) The Academic Integrity Appeals Panel shall deliver one Decision only and shall not record dissenting opinions. The reasons for the Decision shall be set out therein.
- (j) The Decision of the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel may be reserved or delivered *ex tempore* at the Academic Integrity Appeal Panel's discretion. A decision may be delivered in person on the day of the Appeal Hearing or at a later date, either at a reconvened hearing or electronically or by post to the Parties and to any other person to whom the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel considers appropriate.
- (k) The Academic Integrity Appeals Panel shall have absolute discretion to publish or withhold publication of its Decision provided that the Parties are given the opportunity to make representations as to whether the Decision should be published

or not. The terms and conditions of the publication will be set by the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel. Onward publication is not permitted without the express written permission of the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel.

## 12. Costs

Neither the Academic Integrity Committee nor the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel shall have the power to order or direct that any party to the hearing before the Academic Integrity Committee or the Academic Integrity Appeals Panel shall be responsible for the discharge of any costs incurred by the other party arising out of the procedures herein.

# PART VIII

## MISCELLANEOUS

### 30. Relaxation of Rules

In addition to any powers exercisable by the Benchers or the Council of King's Inns under these rules, the Education Committee may in any particular case, either unconditionally or subject to conditions

- (a) modify or relax or dispense with any requirement or provision of these rules,
- or
- (b) excuse any breach of or non-compliance with any such requirement or provision.

### 31. Variation of Rules

All students shall be bound by such alterations and variations (whether of a fundamental character or not) as may from time to time be made in these rules.

### 32. Forms of Memorials

All memorials referred to in these rules shall be in such form as the Education Committee may from time to time prescribe.

### 33. Admission to the Society's Courses of Education

The numbers to be admitted to the Society's courses leading to the award of the Diploma in Legal Studies and the degree of Barrister-at-Law shall be determined from time to time by the Council of King's Inns and admission to the said courses shall at all times be a matter for the discretion of the Education Committee subject to such directions as may be given in relation thereto by the Council of King's Inns from time to time.

### 34. Amendment of Rules

These rules may be amended from time to time by resolution of the Council of King's Inns at a meeting of which not less than seven days notice is given and the notice of any such meeting shall give details of any changes proposed in the rules. Notice of any amendments to the rules shall be published by displaying a notice in a prominent position in the Hall of the King's Inns and by incorporating a note of any changes in copies of the rules to be issued after such change has been agreed upon by the Council.

### 35. Gender

References in these rules to the male gender are equally applicable to the female gender.