

Temporary Articles

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Who is eligible for enrolment in temporary articles?

Pursuant to Law Society Rule 2-70, a person may apply for enrolment in temporary articles if he or she is:

- a student at a faculty of law in a Canadian university who intends to be enrolled as a temporary articulated student for the purpose of summer articles or for participating in a clinical program at the University of British Columbia, the University of Victoria or Thompson Rivers University;
- qualified for enrolment as an articulated student and is awaiting an enrolment start date, which will commence in not less than six weeks; or
- qualified to practise law in a Commonwealth country and has actually practised in that country for two years or more. In this case, the temporary articling period cannot exceed three months. The student may appear in court only on a summary conviction matter and under the direct supervision of a member of the Law Society of BC.

The time spent in temporary articles **will not be considered in the calculation of or reduce the nine-month articling period**. A person enrolled in temporary articles is deemed to be enrolled as an articulated student.

The Credentials Committee may revoke a person's temporary articles at any time for any reason that the Committee considers sufficient, without giving notice to the student and without holding a hearing.

How do I apply for temporary articles?

To apply for temporary articles, you must submit the following to the Law Society:

- Application: Temporary Articles Enrolment;
- Temporary Articles Agreement; and
- application fee of \$157.50 (\$150, plus GST) **or** \$52.50 (\$50, plus GST) only if enrolled in a clinical program at the University of British Columbia or the University of Victoria.

What is the application deadline?

The deadline for submission of all documents and fees is **30 days before** your enrolment start date. Applications will NOT be processed in less than 30 days.

What do I need to know about completing the temporary articles enrolment form?

The privilege of practising law in British Columbia is exclusive to members of the Law Society of BC. For the protection of the public and the profession, the *Legal Profession Act* imposes a statutory obligation on the Benchers to be satisfied that each applicant for enrolment as an articulated student is of good character and fit to become a barrister and solicitor of the Supreme Court. The onus is placed on the applicant to satisfy the Benchers in this regard.

You are advised to answer all questions fairly and fully and to disclose to the Society anything that you consider might adversely affect your application so that it can be considered at an early date. You should give the fullest details possible and supporting documentation.

When considering past criminal charges or convictions, the Credentials Committee assesses these factors:

- applicant's age at the time of the conduct in question;
- recentness of the conduct reliability of the information;
- seriousness of the conduct;
- factors underlying the conduct;
- cumulative effect of the conduct or information;
- evidence of rehabilitation;
- applicant's positive social contributions since the conduct;
- applicant's candour in the admissions process; and
- materiality of any omissions or representations.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding disclosures under this section, please contact the Credentials Officer at the Law Society.

At the end of the temporary articles term, the Law Society requires a Final Report from the articulated student's principal. The Final Report should be in the form of a letter and must contain a brief assessment of the articulated student's progress at the end of the temporary articles term.

How can I obtain more information?

If you have questions about temporary articles, please contact:

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Law Society of British Columbia
8th Floor, 845 Cambie Street
Vancouver, BC V6B 4Z9

Tel: 604.605.5311
BC Toll-free: 1.800.903.5300
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The information in this package is based on the Law Society Rules as they exist at this time. You must comply with the Rules that are in effect at the time you apply for temporary articles and with any changes in the Rules that may occur while you are enrolled in temporary articles. If you have any questions about temporary articles, contact Registration and Licensee Services at the Law Society of British Columbia.

LAW SOCIETY RULES**Temporary articles**

- 2-70 (1) A person may apply for enrolment in temporary articles by filing with the Executive Director, not less than 30 days before the enrolment start date,
- (a) an application for enrolment in a form approved by the Credentials Committee, including a written consent for the release of relevant information to the Society,
 - (b) an articling agreement in a form approved by the Credentials Committee, and
 - (c) the fee for temporary articles specified in Schedule 1.
- (2) The Executive Director may enrol the following in temporary articles: (a) a student at a common law faculty of law in a Canadian university;
- (b) a person whose application for enrolment as an articulated student has been approved, but whose articling term has not yet begun;
 - (c) a person who is qualified to practise law in a Commonwealth country and has actually practised law in that country for 2 years or more.
- (3) Temporary articles granted under subrule (2)(a) are void if the student ceases to be a student at a common law faculty of law in Canada.
- (4) The Executive Director may only grant temporary articles under Subrule (2)(a) that are subject to a definite termination date.
- (5) The Executive Director must not grant temporary articles under subrule (2)(b) effective more than 6 weeks before the beginning of the person's articling term.
- (6) The Executive Director may not grant temporary articles under subrule (2)(c) for a period exceeding 3 months
- (7) Time spent in temporary articles is not part of the articling term.
- (8) Except as otherwise specified in these Rules, a person enrolled in temporary articles has the rights, privileges and responsibilities of an articulated student.
- (9) The Credentials Committee may revoke temporary articles at any time for any reason without giving notice to the temporary articulated student and without holding a hearing.

[(2) amended 09/01; (3) amended 03/03]