

AMENDED PRACTICE DIRECTION NUMBER 9 OF 2020

SUPREME COURT OF QUEENSLAND

ADMISSION TO THE LEGAL PROFESSION

This practice direction is made pursuant to Rule 27A of the *Supreme Court (Admission) Rules 2004*.

Subject to what appears below, the requirements imposed by Rules 11-15 inclusive continue to apply, with the consequence that the time limits set by those Rules for the taking of steps remain fixed by reference to the admissions sitting date.

Applications for admission made in Brisbane

From and including 27 July 2020, and subject to any adverse change in public health conditions, admission sittings in Brisbane will proceed in the usual way, with the applicant for admission appearing in person and his or her admission applied for by a legal representative. (Applicants and their legal representatives are encouraged to combine to reduce the numbers involved, so that where possible, each lawyer represents more than one applicant for admission.)

Spacing adjustments will be made in the court, but applicants with health concerns may wish to adjourn to a later date.

Applicants will be advised closer to the relevant ceremony whether it is possible for them to bring one or two guests, again depending on public health circumstances. However, applicants must observe these requirements:

1. Applicants wishing to take an oath must bring their own Bibles for that purpose.
2. Applicants should bring their own blue or black ink pen with which to sign the roll of practitioners.

Applications for admission to the legal profession made in Townsville

1. Applicants for admission in Townsville must appear at the admission sittings at the listed time without any legal representative or other person in attendance. Applicants should not bring family or friends to the Court precinct, except with the prior written leave of the Registrar.
2. The presiding judge will ask each applicant by name whether they apply for admission to the legal profession. The applicant will stand and say “yes”.

3. The judge will pronounce the admission of each applicant to the legal profession.
4. The newly admitted practitioners will then take the oaths or make the affirmations of allegiance and office. Those wishing to take an oath must bring their own Bibles for that purpose.
5. The newly admitted practitioners will then sign the roll of practitioners.

Applications for admission to the legal profession made in Cairns

1. Applicants for admission and their legal representatives are permitted to appear in person or by audio-visual link, at their election.
2. Those choosing to appear by audio-visual link must make adequate advance arrangements with the Registry to allow this to occur.
3. Those applicants for admission who are appearing by audio-visual link must, in advance of the ceremony, make an appointment to sign the roll at a time satisfactory to the Registrar and the mover must, in moving the admission, give the Court the admittee's undertaking to meet that appointment.
4. The Court can only guarantee space for two guests per applicant to observe proceedings, and that space may be in another courtroom to which proceedings will be telecast.

Applications for admission to the legal profession made in Rockhampton

Rockhampton admission sittings will proceed in accordance with the Rules, but these requirements are to be observed:

1. In addition to their legal representatives, applicants may bring up to two guests to the admissions sittings.
2. Applicants taking oaths rather than affirmations are to bring their own Bible for that purpose.
3. Applicants should bring their own blue or black ink pen with which to sign the roll of practitioners.



Catherine Holmes
Chief Justice
8 June 2020