

Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Schemes

Continuing Legal Education is a self-regulated scheme, in which practitioners are required to assess the relevance of any particular continuing education to their own career. As such, it is not necessary for courses to be accredited, and indeed the various state Law Societies do not endorse individual courses. The year runs from 1 April until 31 March the following year.

Enrolment in one of the ANU College of Law postgraduate programs or individual courses will count towards mandatory continuing legal education requirements.

Further information on each state is listed below.

NORTHERN TERRITORY

- Continuing Professional Development is compulsory for all Barristers, Solicitors and those holding a current NT practicing certificate.
- Practitioners are required to complete a minimum of 12 CPD points within a year.
- Postgraduate lectures count towards CPD points on a basis of one point per hour, however private study (reading) is not deemed continuing professional development.
- The Northern Territory Law Society recommends providers use the following statement in preference to specific reference to CPD points:

"If this particular educational activity is relevant to your current or future needs in relation to your professional development and practice of the law, then you should claim one point for each hour of attendance"

http://www.lawsocnt.asn.au/fmi/xsl/lsnt/prac_cle.xsl

QUEENSLAND

- Continuing Professional Development is mandatory for practicing solicitors and barristers.
- Practitioners are required to complete a minimum of 10 CPD units within a year.
- Postgraduate studies count towards CPD scheme units.
- Each subject counts for 5 CPD points.

<http://www.qls.com.au/content/lwp/wcm/connect/QLS/For+the+Profession/Continuing+Professional+Development/>

NEW SOUTH WALES

- Continuing Legal Education is mandatory for all practitioners holding a practising certificate.
- Practitioners are required to complete a minimum of 10 MCLE units within a year.
- The New South Wales Law Society suggests providers use the following statements on brochures/websites; rather than specific reference to MCLE points or units:

"If this particular educational activity is relevant to your immediate or long term needs in relation to your professional development and practice of the law, then you should claim one 'unit' for each hour of attendance, refreshment breaks not included."

<http://www.lawsociety.com.au/page.asp?partID=354>

VICTORIA

- Continuing Professional Development is compulsory for all legal practitioners who hold a Victorian Practising Certificate.
- Practitioners are required to complete 10 hours of CPD activities within the CPD year.
- A CPD activity may consist of postgraduate studies relevant to a practitioner's practice needs.

<http://www.cpd.liv.asn.au/Default.asp?c=131639>

SOUTH AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA & AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

- Continuing Professional Development is not yet compulsory.

Please contact the Postgraduate Student Administrator for more information.

E: pgadmin.law@anu.edu.au