

14 October 2024

Singapore Institute of Legal Education

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NOTICE: IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP FOR THE REFORM OF LEGAL EDUCATION AND THE ETHICS AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE

- In consultation with the Reform of Legal Education Standing Committee and the Ethics and Professional Standards Committee ("EPSC"), the Singapore Institute of Legal Education will be implementing recommendations of the Working Group for the Reform of Legal Education ("the RLE Working Group") and the recommendations of the EPSC relating to the CPD Scheme from CPD Year 2025 onwards. CPD Year 2025 commences on 1 January 2025.
- 2. In its Report, available at https://www.mlaw.gov.sg/files/news/press-releases/2024/legal_ed ucation reform report.pdf the RLE Working Group recommended, *inter alia*, that:
 - (a) CPD requirements be harmonised to a 16-point requirement for all practising lawyers through phased increments as follows:
 - (i) for Group 2 Lawyers from 8 to 10 points, from 10 to 13 points, and from 13 to 16 points, over three years; and
 - (ii) for Group 3 Lawyers from 4 to 7 points, from 7 to 10 points, from 10 to 13 points, and from 13 to 16 points, over four years;
 - (b) lawyers still be able to obtain CPD points through teaching, but the rate at which CPD points are obtained be adjusted to two times the standard rate (instead of three times);
 - (c) Group 1 Lawyers and Group 2 Lawyers be allowed to obtain a maximum of 50% of the required CPD points through teaching (Group 3 Lawyers will be allowed to obtain all of their required CPD points through teaching);
 - (d) all lawyers be required to obtain CPD Points from activities relating to professional ethics and regulatory matters, including obligations relating to anti-money laundering, countering the financing of terrorism, and proliferation financing.
- 3. In the Interim Report of the EPSC available at https://www.judiciary.gov.sg/docs/default-source/news-docs/interim-report-of-the-ethics-and-professional-standards-committee(final).pdf, the EPSC recommended, inter alia, that all lawyers be required to obtain 3 CPD Points from activities relating to ethics and professional standards. Such content may be embedded within some longer programmes or accessible in standalone programmes. Accredited CPD Activities from which such CPD Points may be obtained will be listed on the Calendar of Accredited Learning Activities at https://www.silecpdcentre.sg/calas/.

- 4. The changes at paragraph 2 and 3 will take effect from 1 January 2025.
- 5. Further details may be found in the implementation paper available at https://silecpdcentre.sg/Documents/pdf/SILE_Implementation_Paper_on_Changes_to_CPD_Scheme October 2024.pdf.

Office of Continuing Professional Development Singapore Institute of Legal Education