

## Draft SRA Authorisation of Individuals Regulations [20XX]

### Part 1 - Admission as a solicitor

#### Eligibility for admission

- 1.1 You will be eligible for admission as a *solicitor* if the *SRA* is satisfied:
- (a) you have successfully and satisfactorily passed an assessment which is designed to assess your competence against the *prescribed* competences for *solicitors* and is conducted by an assessment organisation appointed by the *SRA* for the purpose;
  - (b) you hold a *degree* or qualifications or experience which the *SRA* is satisfied are equivalent to a *degree*;
  - (c) you have completed qualifying work experience which meets the requirements of regulation 2; and
  - (d) as to your *character and suitability* to be a *solicitor*.

#### Qualifying work experience

- 2.1 Qualifying work experience must:
- (a) comprise experience of providing legal services which provides you the opportunity to develop the *prescribed* competences for *solicitors*;
  - (b) be of a duration of a total of at least two years' full time or equivalent; and
  - (c) be carried out under an arrangement or employment with no more than four separate firms, educational institutions or other organisations.
- 2.2 In respect of each organisation under regulation 2.1(c) above, you must arrange for confirmation in the prescribed form of the matters set out in regulation 2.3 to be given by a person specified in (a) to (c) below who has taken sufficient steps to satisfy themselves as to those matters:
- (a) the organisation's COLP;
  - (b) a solicitor working within the organisation; or
  - (c) if neither (a) or (b) are applicable, a solicitor working outside of the organisation who has direct experience of your work and who has, in order to be so satisfied:

- (i) undertaken a review of the work you have done during the relevant period of work experience, which may include review of a training diary or portfolio of work; and
  - (ii) received feedback from the person or persons supervising your work.
- 2.3 The matters in respect of which confirmation by a person specified in regulation 2.2 must be given are:
  - (a) details of the period of work experience carried out;
  - (b) that it provided you with the opportunity to develop some or all of the **prescribed** competences for **solicitors**; and
  - (c) that no issues arose during the period of work experience that raise a question as to your **character and suitability** to be admitted as a **solicitor**, or if such confirmation cannot be given, then details of any such issues.

### Eligibility for admission of qualified lawyers and part-qualified lawyers

3.1 You will be eligible for admission as a **solicitor** if the **SRA** is satisfied:

- (a) you hold a legal professional qualification that is recognised by the **SRA**, which confers rights to practise in England and Wales or in an **overseas** jurisdiction; and
- (b) subject to regulation 3.2, you meet the criteria in regulation 1.1(a), (b) and (d).

3.2 If you hold a qualification recognised under regulation 3.1(a) and the **SRA** is satisfied that your qualifications or experience demonstrate that you meet some or all of the **prescribed** competences, the **SRA** may decide you are not required to pass the assessment under regulation 1.1(a) or such parts of it as it considers appropriate.

3.3 If you are:

- (a) a national of an EU member state; or
- (b) part-qualified as a legal professional under the rules of an EU Member State other than the UK; and

the **SRA** is satisfied that your qualifications or experience demonstrate that you meet some or all of the **prescribed** competences, the **SRA** may decide you are not required to:

- (i) pass the assessment under regulation 1.1(a) or such parts of it as the **SRA** considers appropriate; or
- (ii) complete all or part of the period of qualified work experience under regulation 1.1(c).

## Commencement

4.1 These regulations come into force, and this regulation is revoked, on a date to be determined in an order made by the **SRA** Board.

## Supplemental notes

Made by the SRA Board on [date]

Made under sections 2, 28, 79, and 80 of the Solicitors Act 1974.

Approved by the Legal Services Board under paragraph 19 of Schedule 4 to the Legal Services Act 2007, on [date]

Commencing on the date determined in accordance with regulation 4.1.

## SRA Handbook Glossary 2012 (Amendment) Rules [20XX]

### Rule 1

In rule 2 of the SRA Handbook Glossary 2012, after the definition of “defence costs” insert the following:

#### “degree

means a UK degree, awarded at level 6 (or above) of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, by a recognised degree awarding body.”

### Rule 2

These rules come into force on the date determined by the **SRA** Board in accordance with regulation 4.1 of the SRA Authorisation of Individuals Regulations.

## Supplemental notes

Made by the SRA Board on [date]

Made under sections 2, 28, 79, and 80 of the Solicitors Act 1974.

Approved by the Legal Services Board under paragraph 19 of Schedule 4 to the Legal Services Act 2007, on [date]

Commencing on the date determined in accordance with regulation 4.1 of the SRA Authorisation of Individuals Regulations [20XX].