



Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Policy

Updated in December 2022

A. Purpose

The purpose of mandatory continuing legal education (CLE) is to ensure that members of the Law Society of Nunavut meet and maintain high standards of competency by undertaking legal education throughout their careers.

The Law Society responds to [TRC](#) Call to Action #27 by ensuring that lawyers receive appropriate training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights and anti-racism.

B. Requirements

All practising members must complete **12 hours of eligible continuing legal education**, which must include:

- **one hour** devoted to **professional responsibility & ethics**; and
- **one hour** devoted to **cultural competency**.

The Law Society is committed to providing and facilitating access to training sessions for those mandatory hours.

Professional Responsibility, Ethics

Content focusing on the professional and ethical practice of law, including:

- Responsibility in terms of a lawyer's professional relationships with clients, the Justice system and the profession;
- Conducting one's practice in a manner consistent with the [Legal Profession Act](#), the [Law Society Rules](#) and the [Nunavut Model Code of Professional Conduct](#).

Cultural Competency

Content that

- engages lawyers with the broader questions of culture and differences in order to increase awareness and understanding of diversity and inclusion;
- provides lawyers with a set of skills, behaviours, attitudes, and knowledge that enable them to provide services that are appropriate to a diverse range of clients.¹

¹ Based on: Parmar, Pooja. "Reconciliation And Ethical Lawyering: Some Thoughts On Cultural Competence" (2019) 97:3 Can. B. Rev 526.

C. Exemptions

A practising member is not required to complete CLE activities during a calendar year, if during that year they:

- completed the bar admission program and were admitted to the Society;
- were inactive for the entire 12 months of the calendar year;
- were on leave or unable to practise because of illness or for any other reason acceptable to the Executive, for the entire 12 months of the calendar year.

Lawyers who are practising members of the Society for less than 12 months during a calendar year are required to complete **1 hour of eligible CLE for each full or partial calendar month** during which the member was engaged in the practice of law in Nunavut (active status).

D. Eligible CLE Activities

Eligible CLE Activities	For Each Hour of CLE Activity, a Member Claims:	Maximum Eligible CLE Hours
Live Programs / Courses	1 CLE Hour	9 CLE Hours
Group Study	1 CLE Hour	6 CLE Hours
Cultural Competency	1 CLE Hour	3 CLE Hours
Member Wellness	1 CLE Hour	3 CLE Hours
Nunavut Official Language Training	1 CLE Hour	3 CLE Hours
Pro Bono (LSN Access to Justice Program)	1 CLE Hour	3 CLE Hours
On-Demand Programs / Courses	1 CLE Hour	6 CLE Hours
Self Study	1 CLE Hour	2 CLE Hours
Invited Speaker – Law-Related Event*	2 CLE Hours	4 CLE Hours
Moot Court (Coaching or Judging)*	2 CLE Hours	4 CLE Hours
Teaching a Course on a volunteer or part-time basis (not as part of full time or regular employment)*	2 CLE Hours	4 CLE Hours

*These activities were given a 1:2 ratio to reflect preparation time. 1 hour (60 minutes) equals 2 CLE hours.

The purpose of setting limits and maximum hours of activity is to ensure that the members have a balanced and diverse approach to completing their CLE requirements

E. Eligible CLE Activities Subject Matters

Eligible CLE activities are those activities that are set out in the Rules of the Society.

Eligible Activities must contain significant substantive or practical content, with the primary objective of protection of the public by increasing the lawyer's professional competence.

Members are responsible for ensuring that the CLE activities they report meet the criteria listed above as well as fall under the definitions provided in section B.

F. Reporting Requirements

Self-reporting through the online member account due by January 31st of each calendar year.

Members will be required to provide the following information in the designated CLE section:

- Course name/activity description
- Identifying information (e.g. format – name of course provider, study group organizer, etc.)
- Role (attendee, author, mentor, presenter, teacher, etc.)
- Date of course
- Number of hours
- Recognized category

Members will be responsible for ensuring that they comply with this policy and for reporting CLE activities to the LSN. Members who are exempt from complying with CLE requirements will identify their exemption in their self-report.

G. Monitoring & Compliance

The Law Society of Nunavut will review the annual self-reporting of CLE by randomly auditing members.

A member who is audited may be asked to provide receipts or other documents to establish the number of hours of recognized CLE and the eligibility of the activities. Members are responsible for retaining records of the CLE activities and to make the records available to the LSN upon request.

A member who fails to comply with the CLE requirements will have their licence to practice suspended unless they complete and report the required hours of eligible CLE within 30 days of receipt of a notice of a failure to comply from the Secretary. The member remains suspended until they have completed and reported the required hours as well as paid the reinstatement fee set out in Schedule A of the Rules of the LSN (as set out in s.71(1)(a) of the Society Rules)

Where the circumstances warrant, irregularities may be referred to the Chair of the Discipline Committee for further investigation.