

Law Society of Nunavut
The Articling Process
July 20, 2022

Notice to the Profession – The Articling Process

The Law Society of Nunavut (Law Society) aims to ensure that the people of Nunavut are served by lawyers who meet high standards of competence, learning, and professional conduct, and to uphold the independence, integrity, and honour of the legal profession.

As part of the Law Society's admissions process, students-at-law must complete 12 months of continuous service, pursuant to subsection 18(2)(a) of the Legal Profession Act (LPA), under a principal and during that time complete the Practice Readiness Education Program (PREP) administered by the Canadian Centre for Professional Legal Education (CPLED) and write the Nunavut Statutes examination.

Admission as a student-at-law and submission of materials before the commencement date of the articling period

Students apply for student-at-law status online in the [Law Society portal](#). There is a fee¹ for both application and admission for articling. The fee must be paid at the time of application and is required as part of a complete application.

It is recommended that students submit all materials to the Law Society at least one month in advance of the commencement date of the articling period so that the Membership and Admissions Committee (MAC) has sufficient time to consider the application before the anticipated start date.

On the admission of an applicant as a student-at-law, the Secretary issues a certificate of admission as a student-at-law.

Commencement of Articles

All documents and fees required for admission as a student-at-law must be received by the Law Society before the commencement of Articles. An application is not considered complete and will not be reviewed for approval until the required documentation and any other requested documentation has been received.

¹ Current applicable fee is of \$367.50

When the MAC has recommended and the Executive has approved an application for admission as a student-at-law, the applicant's term of service under the articles shall begin no earlier than the date that a complete application for admission (all the documents and fees) was received. Only in the case of extenuating circumstances will the Executive consider using discretion and approve a retroactive commencement date.

Special Circumstances

An applicant for admission as a student-at-law may request a waiver or variation of the admission requirements pursuant to subsection 17(3) of the LPA. The applicant must do so in writing at the time the Application documents are submitted.

Articling Changes

A student-at-law who wishes to permanently or temporarily assign their articles to a new principal or who wishes to add a rotation to the articling term or make any other change, must complete and submit the required documentation for approval before the date the change is intended to take effect. All documentation should be submitted online in the Portal.

Reporting and Evaluation Requirements

The principal and student-at-law must meet at approximately the half-way point of the articling term to discuss the progress of the student and prepare and submit the mid-term evaluation to the Law Society. At the end of the articling term, the principal must submit a final evaluation to the Law Society.

The articling evaluations mirror the skills and competencies that students are expected to gain and develop. The final evaluation assesses whether the student-at-law is adequately trained and sufficient competent to begin the practice of law on their own.

Court Agents

If you are providing legal services during your article term “in relation to a matter for which a defendant is liable, on summary conviction, to imprisonment for a term of more than six months”, we invite you to take note of Regulation R-009-022 *Court Agents Order*.²

² <https://www.nunavutlegislation.ca/en/regulation/r-009-2022-court-agents-order>

Extension of Student-at-Law Status

Upon completion of the articling term, a student may, if all the requirements have been satisfied, apply for enrolment as a member of the Law Society (call to the Nunavut Bar).

If a student wishes to continue to provide legal services as a student-at-law after the articling term has ended, they must notify the Law Society by submitting the required form provided by the Law Society. The Law Society will grant a 120-day extension provided the student remains working with their current principal and the principal agrees to continue to provide supervision.