

Application for a waiver



One of our conditions for granting a waiver is that there was no other way for the outcome to be achieved. We have now authorised some Professional Skills Course (PSC) providers to deliver it remotely. We therefore expect trainees to have the option to take the PSC this way where possible.

We may grant a waiver when we are satisfied that, in the applicant's specific circumstances, a waiver is compatible with the regulatory objectives in section 1 of the Legal Services Act 2007. These are:

- a) protecting and promoting the public interest
- b) supporting the constitutional principle of the rule of law
- c) improving access to justice
- d) protecting and promoting the interests of consumers
- e) promoting competition in the provision of services within subsection (2)
- f) encouraging an independent, strong, diverse and effective legal profession
- g) increasing public understanding of the citizen's legal rights and duties
- h) promoting and maintaining adherence to the professional principles.

We generally publish a summary of waiver decisions, including the reasons and any conditions.

Section 1 - Your details

1.1 Applicant name

SRA number

1.2 Applicant status

Solicitor, REL or RFL

Other regulated person

Other lawyer

Non-regulated person

If **Other** provide your role, title or position

1.3 Firm name (if applicable)

SRA number

Section 2 - Waiver details

If you are applying to defer completion of the Professional Skills Course before admission as a solicitor, please see our guidance on page 5.

2.1 Set out the relevant requirement(s) in our Standards and Regulations that your application for a waiver relates to

2.2 Explain the purpose of your application for a waiver and the outcome you would like to achieve

2.3 Explain why you consider that granting the application will be compatible with the regulatory objectives in Section 1 of the Legal Services Act 2007

2.4 List any documents you are providing in support of this application

- 2.5 We will publish our waiver decisions, including those where we have refused your application. If you have good grounds for us to either withhold publication or to publish the waiver without disclosing the identity of you or your firm or avoiding certain key details, explain below

If we propose to publish this information about the waiver, we will give you appropriate notice of our intention to do so

Section 3 - Declaration

If you knowingly or recklessly give false or misleading information, or fail to inform us of significant information we may reject the notification and/or take disciplinary action.

You should not assume that information is known to us because it is in the public domain, or has previously been disclosed to us or another regulatory body.

In making this declaration on behalf of the firm, you confirm that:

- 3.1 I confirm that I have read the SRA's guidance on granting waivers
- 3.2 I confirm I have the authority to make this application and declarations on behalf of the Applicant
- 3.3 I confirm that the information in the application is correct and complete
- 3.4 I confirm I will notify you as soon as any information provided in this application changes
- 3.5 I authorise the SRA to make such enquiries and seek such further information as it considers appropriate as part of considering and/or verifying information about this application

3.6 Forename(s)	<input type="text"/>	Surname	<input type="text"/>
Date of birth	<input type="text"/>	SRA no	<input type="text"/>
Role	<input type="text"/>	Email	<input type="text"/>
Signed	<input type="text"/>	Date	<input type="text"/>

If completed electronically, tick to say that you confirm the declaration

Section 4 - Returning the form

To help us process your application, check that you have provided all of the information needed. We cannot accept incomplete applications.

Once complete, send your form by email to

Section 5 - What we will do with your data

Privacy notice

Guidance - Applying to defer completion of the Professional Skills Course due to Covid-19

Guidance for applying to defer completion of the Professional Skills Course before admission as a solicitor.

Below is information you may find helpful when completing Section 2

2.1 Set out the relevant requirement(s) in our Standards and Regulations that your application for a waiver relates to

Your application will be for a waiver of part of regulation 3A.1(a) (ii) of the SRA's Authorisation of Individuals Regulations, which says that an individual will be eligible for admission as a solicitor if the SRA is satisfied that they have completed the academic and vocational stages of training. The vocational stage of training includes completing and passing all core modules and electives of the Professional Skills Course (PSC).

2.2 Explain the purpose of your application for a waiver and the outcome you would like to achieve

This is where you confirm that you are applying for a waiver of our requirements to successfully complete the PSC before admission as a solicitor. Please explain that it has not been possible to complete the PSC (either in full or in part) before your desired admission date, due to being unable to complete the course or assessment for a reason related to the Covid-19 outbreak.

You should also use this section to confirm that if your application is successful, you intend to successfully complete the PSC within 12 months of your date of admission.

2.3 Explain why you consider that granting the application will be compatible with the regulatory objectives in Section 1 of the Legal Services Act 2007

You should use this section to explain how granting the waiver will be compatible with the regulatory objectives. If you are granted this waiver, a condition will be that you complete the PSC within 12 months of admission.

You should also note that if and when you practise as a solicitor, you will be bound to comply with the requirements to make sure that the service you deliver to clients is competent (as set out in the SRA's Principles and the SRA's Code of Conduct for Solicitors, RELs and RFLs).

2.4 List any documents you are providing in support of this application

If relevant, please tell us about the PSC modules you have or have not completed and document you will be providing.