



COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

September 2024 Issue



About US

The Council of Legal Education is a corporate body established under the Legal Education Act, Cap 16B of the Laws of Kenya. CLE is mandated to regulate, supervise and license legal education programmes and legal education providers in Kenya. In addition, it administers the Advocates Training Programme (ATP) examination for purposes of admission to the Roll of Advocates in Kenya and advises the Government on matters germane to legal education and training.

Vision

Innovative Legal
Professionals Transforming
Society

Mission

To ensure quality legal
education through
responsive regulation and
administration of Bar
Examination

Core Value

The Council of Legal Education upholds the following values;

- Accountability
- Excellence
- Integrity
- Inclusiveness
- Innovation



Our Strategic Goal is "Transformative Legal Education and Training in Kenya"



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Registration for the ATP Examination

CLE invited eligible Advocate Training Programme candidates to register for the Bar examination that is scheduled to take place in November 2024. The registration process commenced on 2nd September 2024 - 1st October 2024.

Registration for the November 2024 ATP examination has been going on since the 30th of August 2024. It is expected that over one thousand six hundred(1,600), first-time candidates will register for the examination which is set to be administered between the 14th to 26th of November 2024.



The Engagement with Candidates is part of the Council's Strategy to continually improve Service delivery to its Clients.

Council meets the 2024 ATP Candidates

In the 2023-2027 Strategic Plan, Council commits to hold quarterly meetings with candidates to enhance transparency and build confidence among its stakeholders on the processes and services.


The Acting Chief Executive Officer, Council of Legal Education, Ms. Jennifer Gitiri, led a team of staff members in an engagement with the students at the Kenya School of Law on the 25th of September 2024.

This engagement marked a milestone in Council's charm offensive to the ATP candidates. About seven hundred (700) candidates attended the function at Mutula Hall in person with another six hundred(600) others joining the presentation, online. Present were, the CEO Kenya School of Law, the Deputy Director Kenya School of Law, Mr. Daudley Ochiel, a distinguished academic and legal practitioner and Officers from the Directorate of Examination, Council of Legal Education.




COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION

REGISTRATION FOR THE ATP EXAMINATION IS ONGOING



REGISTER NOW



2nd Sept to 1st October 2024

Contact Us
020-698 0100
info@cle.or.ke, www.cle.or.ke



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Development of FY 2023/24 Annual Report

The Chief Executive/Secretary is required by the State Corporations Act Cap 446 of the Laws of Kenya to prepare and submit to the Council a report showing the activities implemented during the year for onward transmission to relevant Government agencies. prepared on the annual basis, the Annual Report should be published and publicized.

Following the closure of FY 2023/2024, the management embarked on the process of developing the Annual Report for the year ending 30th June 2024. The report outlines the programs and activities implemented during the year and the respective achievements. Additionally, the report captures the programming challenges faced by CLE and proposes recommendations to improve service delivery.

During September, the report was finalized, approved by the management, printed, and dissemination is in progress. The reports will satisfy the compliance requirements and keep stakeholders informed.

Negotiation and vetting of FY 2024/25 PC

The Ministry of Public Service, Performance and Delivery Management released the Performance Contracting Guidelines for the FY 2024/2025 (21st Cycle) to support MDAs, Constitutional Commissions and Independent Offices in the identification of their performance indicators and annual targets; undertaking negotiations, and implementation of the Performance Contracts (PC).



Resultantly, the Management developed a draft Council PC for FY 2024/25. The target identification process was elaborate and consultative involving the heads of Directorates, Divisions, Units, and the PC champions. The 21st cycle coincides with the year two implementations of CLE Strategic Plan, and thus the targets are aligned with the SP as well as other institutional policies, plans, and strategies.

Subsequently, the PC was negotiated with the Office of the Attorney General in August 2024 and vetting by the Public Service Performance Management and Monitoring Unit (PSPMMU) scheduled in October 2024. once vetted, the PC WILL BE signed by the Council, the Hon. Attorney General, and the Cabinet Secretary, National Treasury and Economic Planning.



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Working Committee on Legal Education Sector Reforms



The Attorney-General established a Working Committee on Legal Education Sector Reforms on 28th August 2024 to consider and harmonize the concerns and issues raised by students and stakeholders with respect to the legal education sector.

The Committee is convened by the Chairperson, Kenya Law Reform Commission. Members of the Committee are the Law Society of Kenya, the Council of Legal Education, the Kenya School of Law, Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Office of the Attorney-General and Department of Justice. It is expected to deliver a Report to the Attorney-General that will inform the implementation of the requisite reform interventions, including the recommendations of the Taskforce on Legal Sector Reforms within 60 days.

In delivering this mandate, the Committee will, amongst other activities, engage the relevant stakeholders as well as review the reports of previous taskforces that have considered reforms in the Legal Education sector.

The Committee is expected to conclude its work by early November 2024. The Committee has invited submissions from stakeholders on matters relating to its terms of reference and prepared a Call for Submissions which Council has published on its website. Readers are invited to view the Call for Memoranda with a view to making submissions to the Working Committee.

The Committee will also interrogate pertinent issues affecting the execution of the mandate of the Council of Legal Education in particular in relation to accreditation of legal education and training.



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The Homestretch - Admission to the Roll of Advocates



Honourable the Chief Justice and the President of the Supreme Court, Martha Koome giving her remarks in one of the Admission Ceremonies at the Supreme Court Precincts. Looking on is Ms. Jennifer Gitiri, CEO, Council of Legal Education.

No one is much more elated by the mention of the word Gazettement than a qualified ATP candidate. It marks the beginning of a tremendous transition from a lawyer to an advocate of the High Court of Kenya! Gazettement is that very last colorant that Council happily adds to the process of molding the would-be advocates.

Gazettement marks the homestretch moment in the journey of an ATP candidate to stardom. It is the culmination of the hard-work, focus and prayers all aimed at making to the list of the qualified candidates sent every quarter by Council of Legal Education to the government printer for publication in the Kenya Gazette. Moments of anxiety and expectations are often palpable as noted in the numerous hushed inquiries; "am I in the list?". For the successful, the atmosphere is wonderfully joyful, only comparable to the blissful aura that punctuates the great stanzas of the popular Luis Amstrong's lyrics, Oh When the Saints Go Marching In.



A jubilant group of lawyers being admitted into the Bar, at the Milimani Law Courts. Ceremonial Hall

To add to the grandeur, the call to lawyering is formalized in a ceremony held at the Supreme Court buildings graced by none other than the Honourable Chief Justice of the Republic of Kenya and the President of the Supreme Court.

In the first quarter of the 2024/2025 Financial Year, a total of Eight Hundred and Seventeen (817) candidates have been cleared for gazettement.

Since the year 2015, Council has gazetted a total of Thirteen Thousand, Two Hundred and Eighty Two (13,282) candidates, of whom 12,510 have been admitted into the prestigious roll of the Kenyan Bar. In 2024, a lone, a total of one thousand six hundred and six have been gazette.

CLE gazetted 817 candidates on 29th September 2024.



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Stakeholder Engagement

Breakfast meeting with Office of the Data Protection Commissioner - leverages on partnerships with regulators, membership bodies and associations to drive compliance on data protection

On 9th September 2024 CLE had the utmost privilege of attending a breakfast meeting hosted by the Office of the Data Commissioner. The meeting was highly attended, with various representations by CEOs, Directors, and Staff from different regulators, membership bodies, and associations in the Country e.g. the Media Council, Medical Boards Council, Engineers Board, Retirements Benefit Authority, Nursing Council, Matatu Association, the Pub, Entertainment, Restaurant Association of Kenya (PERAK) among others.

The Data Commissioner, Immaculate Kassait, MBS, emphasized on the need for partnerships as it will play an instrumental role in ensuring that entities under the purview of ODPC adhere to the law and that the data handlers understand their legal obligations and take the necessary steps to fulfill them. Further, she raised the rise of data breaches, identity theft, and intrusive surveillance in the digital age, calling personal data protection a moral imperative.

CLE is registered with the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner.





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Stakeholder Engagement

Resolution of Public Complaints

CLE was issued with a Compliance Certificate on resolution of Public Complaints and Implementation of the Citizens Service Delivery Charters by The Commission on Administrative Justice (Office of the Ombudsman). CLE obtained a score of 99% for the 2023/2024 financial year and its performance grade was 'Very Good'.



Congratulations!



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2ND OCTOBER, 2024

Development of the ICT and Supply Chain Management Policy



During the month of September, CLE formulated the ICT and the Supply Chain Management Policies. Once approved by the Council, the policies will go along way in ensuring that CLE staff members and stakeholders adhere to the set guidelines while undertaking different tasks.

The development of these Policies mark a key advancement in the organization's commitment to operational excellence and good governance. The policies are planned for approval and rollout in October 2024.

The Advocate Training Programme Examination (Bar Examination)

CLE is in the process of preparing for the Advocates Training Programme Examination scheduled for November 2024.

CLE is mandated to administer of the Advocate Training Programme Examination by the Legal Education Act CAP16B.





Connect with Us

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