

**Statement by the Standing Committee on
Legal Education and Training**

Entry Requirements for the Postgraduate Certificate in Laws (PCLL)

Core Subjects

To be eligible for admission to the PCLL in Hong Kong from September 2008 onwards, all students will have to demonstrate competence in 11 Core Subjects. These are:

- Contract
- Tort
- Constitutional Law
- Criminal Law
- Land Law
- Equity
- Civil Procedure
- Criminal Procedure
- Evidence
- Business Associations
- Commercial Law

Graduates who hold a Bachelor of Laws degree from a university, other than one of the three universities offering such degrees in Hong Kong, or other recognised law qualification, acceptable to the PCLL providers may be able to demonstrate competence in these 11 Core Subjects when such have been completed as follows:

- as part of their non-Hong Kong common law qualification; and / or
- as a visiting “internal” student in one of the three universities awarding LLB and / or JD degrees in Hong Kong and passing the requisite examination; and / or
- by passing the relevant subject in the *Hong Kong Conversion Examination for PCLL Admission*.

Top-up Subjects

Students who have not passed all of the following three subjects at a university LLB / LLB double degrees / JD course in Hong Kong must also demonstrate competence in the following three Top-up Subjects:

Hong Kong Constitutional Law
Hong Kong Legal System
Hong Kong Land Law

Such students can demonstrate competence in the three Top-up Subjects in any one of the following ways:

- a. as a visiting “internal” student in one of the three universities awarding LLB or JD degrees in Hong Kong and passing the requisite examination; and / or
- b. as part of the Graduate Diploma in English and Hong Kong Law taught and awarded in Hong Kong; and /or
- c. by passing the relevant subject in the *Hong Kong Conversion Examination for PCLL Admission*.

Transitional Arrangements

Students who, on or before 1 September 2006, have successfully completed courses in Business Associations and / or Evidence which are currently recognized for admission to the PCLL will be exempted from the above requirements in respect of these two Core Subjects.

The Hong Kong Conversion Examinations for PCLL Admission

Students who do not meet the above eligibility requirement for PCLL admission are **not** required to attend any conversion courses. There will not be any mandatory Conversion Courses. Students may prepare for the Hong Kong Conversion Examinations for PCLL Admission through self-study or attend courses to prepare themselves for the Conversion Examinations. The attendance at such courses is in itself insufficient to demonstrate competence in the Core Subjects or Top-up Subjects.

Conversion Examinations will be offered twice a year in the following subjects:

Core Subjects: Civil Procedure
 Criminal Procedure
 Commercial Law
 Evidence
 Business Associations

Top-up Subjects: Hong Kong Constitutional Law
 Hong Kong Legal System
 Hong Kong Land Law

All other Core Subjects must be completed as part of a student's main law qualification.