

## CLP – Frequently Asked Questions



### What is it?

The acronym CLP stands for Certificate in Legal Practice. It is the examination conducted by the Legal Profession Qualifying Board (Lembaga Kelayakan Profesion Undang – Undang). It is one of those qualifications entitling the holder to become a "Qualified Person in order to practice law in Malaysia as an Advocate & Solicitor.

The exam is for all graduates in law from foreign universities. The only law degree holders that are exempt from having to do the CLP exams are as laid down in the Legal Profession Act:-

- Universiti Malaya (UM)
- Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)
- Universiti Islam Antarabangsa (UIA)
- Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM)
- National University of Singapore (NUS)

### What subjects do I study?

The students attempting the CLP examination are required to take 5 compulsory papers. They are:-

- Civil Procedure
- Criminal Procedure
- Evidence
- Professional Practice
- General Paper

There are no optional papers and the candidate is required to pass all 5 papers in one sitting.

The candidate may be referred in one paper and referrals are at the discretion of the LPQB.

Exams will be in July every year and the referral exams will be in November.

### What are the requirements to sit for the CLP?

The requirements to qualify to sit for the Malaysian CLP Examination as set by the Legal Profession Qualifying Board of Malaysia had been the same as imposed by the Council of Legal Education (CLE) in England for the Bar Finals Examinations there.

Please refer to attachment.

## **What if I don't satisfy the requirements?**

In certain **limited cases**, mature students may be admitted to pursue the CLP exam.

- they must have a minimum of 3 credits in their SPM examination;
- Must have a minimum of 5 years proven working experience in the related field
- Must be accepted by the CLP Board

**If you have pre - tertiary qualifications other than that allowed (a-levels or STPM) then you will have to appeal to the LPQB and your acceptance will be at their discretion.**

## **How much do I pay for the CLP?**

The candidate will be required to pay to the LPQB a total of RM 4000 (as at 2008):-

- RM 3000.00 is for the registration fee. This registration lasts for 4 attempts of the exam.
- They can re-register after the 4 attempts. They are NOT barred from the exam
- RM 1000.00 is the exam fee. This must be paid at every attempt the student makes at the exam.
- These fees may be raised every year by the board.

## **Why is it so difficult to pass the CLP?**

- It is a professional exam and as such naturally would be difficult.
- Many candidates pass the exam on the first try, it is not impossible.
- Do not believe rumours of quota etc.

## **Where will the CLP exams be held?**

It is held every year at the University Malays examination hall. There is only one venue for this exam nationwide.

## **Where can I get more information about the exams?**

For more information and latest guidelines or copy of the new guidelines, you can contact

Legal Profession Qualifying Board Malaysia  
(Lembaga Kelayakan Profesion Undang-Undang Malaysia)  
27th Floor,  
Menara Tun Razak,  
Jalan Raja Laut,  
50350 Kuala Lumpur,  
Malaysia.

**Telephone :** +6 03 269 10054 or 269 10080; **Facsimile :** +6 03 269 10054

## Why prepare for the CLP examination in ATC?

- Unrivalled faculty
  - Focus on Mr. Joseph Low (Formerly of Brickfields College)
  - Majority of faculty are practitioners – actual practical knowledge for the students
    - Mariette Peters – Zul Rafique and Co
    - Ravindran Shanmuganathan – Sivananthan & Co
    - Kevin Joshua – Syed Alwi & Co
    - Amerjit Singh
  - Other members of faculty are former practitioners
- Extensive notes
  - Answer Guides
  - Revision Planners
  - Charts
  - Special Memory techniques
- Free textbooks and statutes
  - Textbooks for the subjects. Some of the faculty members are the authors of the textbooks
  - All the statute books that you are allowed to bring into the exam hall are given
- Cheaper fee
  - Show them the fee structure
- Better facilities
  - Focus on our classrooms, some lectures conducted with Power Point presentation
  - Library
- Smaller classes
  - Classes last year was at about 100 students only as opposed to up to 400 in some other colleges

## ATTACHMENT

### CRITERIA TO BE SATISFIED BEFORE A LAW DEGREE IS RECOGNIZED

#### RULES

##### 1. Achievement at SPM or its Equivalent

All candidates must have obtained a minimum of 3 credit which must be obtained in the one and the same sitting of the examination.

##### 2. Achievement at STPM level or its equivalent

1. All candidates must have obtained a minimum of 2 principal which must be obtained in the one and same sitting of the examination

And

2. The duration of the STPM course of study or its equivalent SHALL be a minimum of one academic year.

##### 3. Duration of the law degree

1. The duration for the law degrees SHALL be a minimum of 3 academic years. PROVIDED THAT the duration may be less than 3 academic years BUT SHALL have a total of at least 80 lecture weeks

And

2. In the case of a full-time study at a university, the law degree which is obtained must be completed within 6 years of initial registration with that university

But

##### 3. For the LL.B. London degree, studied as an External Student,

- candidates must complete the degree within 4 years upon successful completion of the intermediate examination or a referral thereof.
- (Note: With effect from 1st January 2001, the Board will only allow students who achieve a lower second class degree (2.2) or above on the London LLB obtained as an External Student to read for the CLP.)

##### 4. Subjects

1. The law degree SHALL contain a minimum of 12 substantive law subjects,

And

2. The 12 law subjects SHALL include the following 6 core subjects :
  - Law of Contract
  - Law of Torts
  - Constitutional Law
  - Criminal Law
  - Land Law and
  - Equity and Trusts

And

3. Each of the core-subjects as in [Rule 3.2](#) above SHALL be studied for the duration of one academic year

And

4. Candidates must have passed all the core-subjects mentioned in [Rule 3.2](#) above.

## 5. Twinning Programs

Such programs are recognized provided they satisfy the following criteria :

1. The twinning arrangement SHALL consist of one academic year study in Malaysia followed by at least two academic years of study in the United Kingdom

And

2. The curriculum of the one academic year study in Malaysia shall be the same as the conducted internally by that United Kingdom university which is the twinning partner in the arrangement and SHALL be validated annually and supervised by the same United Kingdom university
3. Any law program of less than 3 years duration recognized by the Legal Profession Qualifying Board shall be wholly pursued in the United Kingdom only.

## 6. Joint Degrees

Such degrees are NOT recognized. An example of such a degree would be where law is combined with another discipline.

EXCEPT where such degree is extended for a duration of 5 years or more.

## 7. Transfers

1. A law degree from any university or Law college is NOT recognized for admission to the Bar if the student was in the first place a failed student from another law school who had obtained transfer to his present college from which

be graduates with a LL.B. degree and who was not required to commence the course afresh

2. Where a student has failed a part of his course or obtained only a conditional pass in any university and subsequently transfers his studies to another university where he is provided credit for any part of the course which he has passed and is allowed to proceed to the next year of study without being required to pass the complete examination diet of the equivalent year that he failed or was referred in his original university, his final law degree is NOT accepted to sit for CLP Examination and for admission to the Bar. This does not include a failed student who commences his course afresh at a different university after failure at his original university and thereafter successfully completes his course and awarded a degree.

#### 8. Part-time, External and Distance Learning Modes of Study

Generally, the Legal Profession Qualifying Board has not been satisfied with most part-time, external and distance learning modes of study. After careful examination of these modes of study the Legal Profession Qualifying Board has decided to recognize only the [University of London external law degree](#).

**Note:** With effect from 1st January 2001, the Board discontinues recognition of any external law degree programme from overseas. This qualification will not affect those candidates who have registered for the law degree programme before 1st January 2001.