



## **LICENSING EXAM SUBMISSIONS**

We have been hearing concerns regarding whether Candidates can expect an email confirmation upon licensing exam submission. We have confirmed the following with the Law Society: “Candidates do not receive any confirmation email following submission of their answers. However, candidates receive a confirmation at the time that their responses to the exam have been submitted when the candidate selects the “submit” button.”

## **LICENSING AND RECRUITMENT CHANGES IN RESPONSE TO COVID**

Over the last several months, we have heard from countless students about difficulties, concerns, and feedback related to the impact of the pandemic on recruitment, licensing, employment, and both law school and the legal profession in general.

This feedback enabled the LSSO to advocate on behalf of students with stakeholders in active consultations with employers and the Law Society, among many others, and in particular in relation to recruitment and licensing changes.

Click **here** to read the LSSO's open letter on the process, with a sincere thank you to all of our partners for the collaboration, and to students and council for their voices. These are ongoing conversations, and so we ask students to continue to share feedback so we can continue to work to address it.

## **UPDATED RECRUITMENT TIMELINES**

Recruitment timelines for the 2021-2022 Articling recruit and the 2021 Toronto Summer recruit have been posted.

2021-2022 Articling Recruitment Procedures

<https://lso.ca/becoming-licensed/lawyer-licensing-process/articling-candidates/finding-a-placement/2021-22-articling-recruitment-procedures>

and

2021 Toronto Summer Student Recruitment Procedures

<https://lso.ca/becoming-licensed/lawyer-licensing-process/articling-candidates/finding-a-placement/2021-toronto-summer-student-recruitment-procedures>

The Articling recruit has been pushed back to ensure that both candidates and employers are able to participate fully in the recruit. To the extent that COVID-19 isolation measures are still in place, employers are working on alternate arrangements and opportunities to connect.

The LSO has reduced minimum requirements for articling terms for the 2020-2021 articling period from 10 months to 8 months. This is to account for delayed starts as a result of COVID-19, and to reduce the impact to students' call dates in 2021.

Candidates completing an 8-month articling term can still apply for an abridgement based on compassionate grounds if their timelines are further impacted.

**Discussions related to the licensing process and format are ongoing. If you have feedback, please let us know.**

The 2021 Toronto Summer recruit has been moved to Winter 2021 so that students are able to accumulate an additional semester of grades and also to ensure adequate time to network and prepare applications.

### **LSSO STANDS IN SOLIDARITY AGAINST RACISM**

This is a challenging time – challenging in so many different and difficult ways. The reality, however, is that there is nothing unprecedented about the violence and anti-Black sentiment that continues to pervade in society. We grieve the loss of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Sean Reed, Tony McDade, Nina Pop, and George Floyd - every one of them deserved to be able to live their life without the threat of violence and prejudice. They are among countless other Black lives that have been lost as a result of anti-Black hatred. Racism infects and festers, and the egregious result is a long line of senseless deaths.

Silence is not an option. Those that believe that this isn't their fight are contributing to a world in which systemic racism and prejudice can thrive. The LSSO stands in solidarity with BLSA Canada and condemns anti-black racism and violence. Statements without action hold no merit, and we are committed to educating ourselves and our student members, and ensuring that the LSSO provides a platform to draw attention to these important issues with the Law Society, and in the broader legal community and beyond.

The evidence of racial disparities in the North American justice system is well documented. The history of the justice system is interwoven with the marginalization of Black people, which continues to help to support many active and systemic barriers, and inequalities for Black people today. We are taught in law school that as lawyers we must recognize our inherent privilege, and that we have a responsibility to the communities we work in. That means ensuring that Black lawyers and Black students are not marginalized within our profession, and that our system works equitably for all people.

The legal community that we are all part of has the ability to evoke change. We as law students have a responsibility to help guide the future of the profession. The first step is being honest with ourselves, being open to dialogue and education on Black issues, and committing to addressing these issues within our communities. As the future of the profession, we encourage all law students to work actively to educate themselves and engage with issues of racial justice. Deciding to act is a conscious choice to do better – and we all need to do better.

In solidarity,

The Law Students' Society of Ontario

**CLICK HERE TO READ BLSA CANADA'S STATEMENT**

Ceci est un temps difficile, dans nombreuses façons. Cependant, la violence et les sentiments anti-noirs qui envahissent notre société ne sont pas sans précédent. Nous compatissons la peine d'avoir perdu Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Sean Reed, Tony McDade, Nina Pop, et George Floyd - chacun d'eux méritait pouvoir vivre leur vie sans menace de violence et préjudice. Ils sont parmi les nombreux perdus à cause de l'haine anti-noire. Le racisme infecte et demeure, et les résultats flagrants sont toujours plus nombreux de morts.

La silence n'est pas une option. Ceux qui croient que cette lutte ne leur appartient pas contribuent toujours à un monde dans lequel le racisme systémique prospère. La SÉÉDOO exprime solidarité avec la BLSA Canada et condamne la violence et le racisme anti-noir. Les messages sans action tiennent aucune valeur, et nous nous engageons à éduquer nos étudiants, ainsi que nous-mêmes, en assurant que la SÉÉDO fournit une plateforme à élever ces problèmes avec le barreau, et dans la communauté juridique plus généralement.

Les preuves des disparités raciales dans le système juridique nord-américain sont bien documentées. L'histoire du système juridique est entrecroisée avec la marginalisation de la population noire, qui continue à supporter de nombreuses barrières systémiques et inégalités pour la population noire aujourd'hui. Nos facultés de droit nous enseignent qu'en étant avocat, il est nécessaire à reconnaître son privilège inhérent, et qu'on tient responsabilité aux communautés avec lesquelles on travaille. Ceci signifie assurer que les avocats et étudiants noirs dans notre profession ne sont pas marginalisés, et que le système fonctionne dans une façon équitable pour tous.

La communauté juridique dont on appartient possède la capacité à changer. Étant étudiants en droit, nous tenons la responsabilité à guider le futur de la profession. La première étape est à devenir honnêtes avec nous-mêmes, à devenir plus ouverts au dialogue et à l'éducation sur les problèmes qui concernent la population noire, et à nous engager à adresser ces problèmes au sein de nos communautés. Étant le futur de la profession, nous encourageons tous les étudiants en droit à s'éduquer et à s'intéresser aux problèmes de justice raciale. La décision d'agir est un choix délibéré - nous devons tous faire mieux.

Avec solidarité,

La société des étudiants et étudiantes en droit de l'Ontario

**Cliquez-ici afin de lire le message de la BLSA Canada**

**LAWYER LICENSING EXAMINATION MATERIALS**

The in-person distribution of lawyer licensing examination study materials for the 2020/2021 licensing year is postponed until further notice.

Online access to the licensing examination materials for both lawyer and paralegals is unaffected and will occur as planned.

LSO's COVID-19 update page can be found here: <https://lso.ca/news-events/news/corporate-statement-re-covid-19>

**BENCHER MOTION TO REMOVE EQUITY ADVISOR GROUP'S ADVISORY  
STATUS TO LSO EQUITY AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS COUNCIL TABLED  
INDEFINITELY**

The motion was tabled at March 2020 Convocation. You can find the EAG's open letter to convocation [here](#).