

UNISA | 
university
of south africa



LAW SOCIETY
OF SOUTH AFRICA



PROFESSIONAL
AFFAIRS

DE REBUS

2025

LSSA-UNISA DISTANCE PVT SCHOOL FOR LEGAL PRACTICE

Practical Legal
Training Online Course



+27 12 441 4600



161 Lynwood Road, Corner Jan Shoba, Brooklyn, Pretoria



www.LSSALEAD.org.za

LSSA 2025 GUIDE FOR APPLICANTS

LAW SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA

Tel: +27 (12) 366 8800

Fax: +27 (12) 362 0969

Postal address:

PO Box 36626
Menlo Park 0102
Docex 82 Pretoria

Website:

www.LSSA.org.za

LEGAL EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Tel: +27 (12) 441 4600

Postal address:

PO Box 27167,
Sunnyside 0132

Docex 227 Pretoria

Physical address:

161 Lynnwood Road,
Brooklyn Pretoria, 0001

E-mail:

See individual campus
e-mail addresses on application form.

Website:

www.LSSALEAD.org.za



LAW SOCIETY
OF SOUTH AFRICA



PROFESSIONAL
AFFAIRS

DE REBUS

Please note that the School is discretionary in nature. Its focus is to provide all candidate legal practitioners who are unable to secure practical vocational training (PVT) contracts with enhanced and best-practice practical legal skills training. This will equip candidates to be more proficient in legal practice, thereby increasing their chances of access to the legal profession by attaining a PVT contract. The School is open for candidates who want to be registered as legal practitioners (attorneys or advocates). Candidates in PVT contracts can register with a Night School. The minimum training requirement for a candidate in a PVT contract is the 21-days PVT short course.

Admission as a legal practitioner is subject to the Rules of the Legal Practice Act 28 of 2014 (LPA). Candidates are advised to confirm the criteria. Please visit the Legal Practice Council (LPC) website at www.LPC.org.za or contact the regional LPC office.

1 ABOUT THE DISTANCE SCHOOL

The PVT School, established by the Law Society of South Africa (LSSA) and implemented via its Legal Education and Development division (LEAD), provides a postgraduate vocational training course for law graduates and is registered by SAQA and accredited by the LPC.

2 WHAT IS THE DISTANCE LEARNING SCHOOL FOR LEGAL PRACTICE?

This is a practical law school offered jointly by the LSSA and the University of South Africa (UNISA) on a distance-learning basis. It is an intensive, postgraduate blended vocational course and students have the flexibility of studying at their own pace. LLB graduates who successfully complete the course qualify to reduce their PVT contract period by 12-months should they wish to be admitted as attorneys.

3 OBJECTIVE OF THE COURSE

To allow law graduates to acquire and develop practical legal skills to become effective legal practitioners. Training is provided by practising legal practitioners.

The primary benefit of attending the course is that law graduates gain a full spectrum of skills and knowledge, which they may not gain as candidate legal practitioners during their period of service under a PVT contract. As an ancillary outcome, candidates are trained in preparation for the competency-based admission examinations written by candidate legal practitioners intending to practice as an attorney.

4 NATURE OF STUDY

The School course consists of modules as prescribed by the regulations as per the LPA (as amended). Training is practice-orientated to ensure that candidates can perform most tasks at entry-level with minimal supervision once they have completed the course.

Candidates are trained in a practical context, in a simulated law firm environment. Each candidate is allocated to a 'law firm'. Moot courts and practical work form the foundation of the training activities. Candidates exchange pleadings and draft the necessary court papers in action and application proceedings.

5 MODULES

The programme is standardised and uniform throughout South Africa and is based on experiential training defined as 'notional hours'. Regulation 6 of the LPA is for candidates who want to be admitted as attorneys.

Please click here (www.LSSALEAD.org.za/regulations-subject-comparisons/) to view the subjects included in the regulations.

6 INSTRUCTION

The medium of instruction is English.

7 SCHOOL HOURS LSSA-UNISA DISTANCE

Fully online course - schedule will be provided once selected.

8 ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND SELECTION

- 8.1 Consideration will be given to candidates -
- who have completed the LLB degree at a South African university;
 - who have been awarded a South African BProc degree; or
 - who have completed a law degree in another country, which is equivalent to the South African LLB degree and recognised by SAQA as equivalent.
 - Non-SA citizens must attach a study permit valid for the duration of training. **NB: Confirmation of foreign accreditation by SAQA is the responsibility of the applicant.**

8.2 A selection committee will consider the applications. The committee may require applicants to attend interviews.

8.3 Due to the large number of applications, preferences will be given to applicants who reside within the School's region.

8.4 Non-SA Citizens must please note the requirements of the LPA regarding admission to practice for non-SA Citizens.

9 DATES

The School's Advisory Committee reserves the right to change dates and/or cancel any course if the number of applicants or registrations is not sufficient. Applicants will be given adequate notice of cancellation.

- **Intake 1: January 2025 - end July 2025**
Closing date for Applications: 30 November 2024.
- **Intake 2: May 2025 - end November 2025**
Closing date for Applications: 15 April 2025.

10 TUITION FEE

**The fee is subject to subvention by the LPC.
Due to uncertainty about the subvention,
the estimated fee is
R 20 250 (15 % VAT included).**

If your application is successful, the fee must be paid before the course commences. The fee includes study material but excludes stationery. Candidates are responsible for their own arrangements, accommodation and travelling expenses. Candidates may wish to defer making accommodation and travelling arrangements until it is confirmed that the course is proceeding.

11 CANDIDATE EVALUATION AND CERTIFICATION

- 11.1 A student's progress is monitored throughout the duration of the course.
- 11.2 Preparation and participation are of paramount importance to complete the programme successfully. Candidates are expected to be proficient in knowledge of the substantive law prior to attending the programme. Due to severe time constraints, candidates are expected to do independent self-study prior to attending lectures, where applicable.

11.3. Formative and summative assessments will be conducted.

11.4 For the UNISA Distance School, a minimum of 50% per summative assessment and assignments is required to complete the programme successfully.

12 DOCUMENTS TO BE INCLUDED

To be considered for the course, applicants must submit the following documents with their application forms –

- 12.1 a certified copy of the applicant's South African identity document; and
- 12.2 proof of law degree –
 - a certified copy of the applicant's LLB degree from a South African university or an original letter from the Dean of Law of the University concerned, stating that the student has completed their LLB degree in the current year; alternatively, will have no more than two modules outstanding by the time the School commences; or
 - a certified copy of the applicant's BProc degree; or
 - a certified copy of written proof of a completed law degree in another country, which SAQA recognises as an equivalent to the South African LLB degree, and a certified copy of written proof of such recognition by SAQA.

13 CONTACT INFORMATION

APPLICATIONS AND ENQUIRIES:

LSSAUNISA@LSSA.ORG.ZA

APPLICATION ENQUIRIES

Dorcas Kanyuchi | Tel: (012) 441 4662

Linda Sokopo | Tel: (012) 441 4649

ENQUIRIES:

Zukiswa Kala | Tel: (012) 441 4641

Phyllis Mphasha | Tel: (012) 441 4603

PHYSICAL ADDRESS:

161 Lynnwood Road, Brooklyn Pretoria, 0001

POSTAL ADDRESS:

PO Box 27167, Sunnyside, 0132

PRINCIPAL:

Kay Malema

14 HOW TO APPLY FOR THE COURSE

Kindly note that you can only apply online and that there are limited places available. Candidates must be apply individually.

STEP 1:

[CLICK TO APPLY ONLINE.](#)

STEP 2:

Ensure you have all relevant documentation saved. This information will need to be uploaded on the 'online application' form. It is your responsibility to ensure that the application is completed correctly, and that the correct supporting documentation is attached.

Confirmation e-mail:

Once you have successfully applied, you will receive confirmation that the school has received your online application documentation.

Further communication

You will receive correspondence from the relevant course coordinator before the commencement of the course, if your application has been successful. The correspondence will contain all registration links and programme details.