SUPREME COURT OF BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

CHIEF REGISTRAR'S CIRCULAR NO. 2 OF 2026

PETITIONS FOR ADMISSION

AND

APPLICATIONS FOR ANNUAL PRACTISING CERTIFICATES FOR 2027

This Circular serves to clarify the requirements for the submission of Petitions for Admission and applications for annual Practising Certificates (PCs), with a view to ensuring consistency and facilitating the efficient processing of applications by the Registry.

A. PETITIONS FOR ADMISSION

1. Submission of Documents

All Petitions for Admission and supporting documents shall be submitted to the High Court Registry in **four (4) complete and identical sets**.

Advocates and Solicitors are reminded to ensure that all four sets contain the same documents, in the same order, and that where certified true copies are required, the necessary certification is included in each set.

For example, where one set contains a certified true copy of an educational certificate, the corresponding document in each of the remaining sets must likewise be a certified true copy, rather than an ordinary photocopy.

Incomplete or inconsistent sets may be returned for rectification before further processing.

B. ANNUAL PRACTISING CERTIFICATES FOR 2027

2. Submission of Applications

Applications for Practising Certificates for the year 2027 may be submitted to the Supreme Court Registry commencing **26 October 2026**.

All applications should be submitted **before 21 December 2026** to allow sufficient time for verification and processing.

Applications submitted on or after 21 December 2026 may result in delays in the issuance of Practising Certificates for the commencement of the 2027 practising year.

3. Professional Indemnity Insurance

All applicants are reminded to ensure that they are covered by valid Professional Indemnity Insurance in accordance with the applicable Rules.

Where insurance is obtained by a law firm, the insurance policy or supporting confirmation must clearly establish that all practising Advocates and Solicitors within the firm are covered.

Insurance coverage must be maintained throughout the practising year for which the Practising Certificate is sought.

Where an insurance policy expires during the practising year, renewal must be arranged before its expiry to ensure uninterrupted coverage. Evidence of the renewed insurance must be submitted to the Registry within seven (7) days after the expiry of the previous policy.

Failure to maintain the required insurance coverage may affect the continued validity of the Practising Certificate and may result in appropriate action being taken in accordance with the applicable law and Rules.

4. Declaration under Form 5

All applicants are reminded to complete the prescribed Form 5 under the Legal Profession (Practising Certificate) Rules fully and accurately.

In particular, applicants must clearly indicate either:

a) That an Accountant's Report under section 24 of the Legal Profession Act (Cap. 132) is attached; or

b) That an Accountant's Report is unnecessary, stating the specific circumstances justifying its omission in the space provided in Form 5.

Applicants are reminded to provide clear and sufficient reasons where an Accountant's Report is considered unnecessary. General statements without adequate explanation should be avoided.

5. Foreign Advocates and Solicitors

Foreign Advocates and Solicitors applying for Practising Certificates must clearly state the number of days they have been physically present and in active practice in Brunei Darussalam during the relevant statutory period.

The information provided should be sufficient to establish compliance with the applicable requirements under the Legal Profession Act (Cap. 132), including any supporting documents where necessary.

6. General

All Advocates and Solicitors are reminded to ensure that applications and supporting documents are complete, accurate and submitted within the stated timeframe to avoid unnecessary delays in processing.

The cooperation of all Advocates and Solicitors in complying with these requirements is appreciated.

This Circular takes effect immediately.

ACTING CHIEF REGISTRAR
Supreme Court of Brunei Darussalam

Date: 31st October 2026