

Annex

Admission Proceedings - Notification to Hong Kong Bar Association and The Law Society of Hong Kong

In view of the latest public health considerations, the General Adjourned Period (“GAP”), during which all hearings of the courts/tribunals will generally be adjourned, will continue from 14 April 2020 to 3 May 2020. If the public health situation permits, proceedings for the admission of barrister and solicitors (“Admission Proceedings”) listed on 18 April 2020 onwards will proceed on the scheduled date.

2. Due to public health consideration and to avoid the gathering of crowd and with a view to facilitating the orderly conduct of the Admission Proceedings, applications for admission will proceed in the manner described below.

- (a) The applications will be listed in sessions of 15 minutes each. Three applications will be listed for each session.
- (b) The applications will be heard in open court. There will be no oral speeches moving the admission. An applicant may lodge with the court a written speech moving his/her admission. The speech shall not exceed two pages and should reach the clerk of the presiding judge not less than 2 clear days before the hearing. At the hearing, the speech will be taken as read, and placed into the court file.
- (c) For application to be admitted as barrister, the attendance of the applicant and his/her mover is excused.
- (d) For application to be admitted as solicitor, the applicant and his/her mover must attend and be properly robed. After the presiding judge has made the order admitting the applicant as a solicitor, the applicant shall then take the affirmation/oath before the judge and sign the Roll of solicitors in court.

- (e) Each applicant may be accompanied by not more than five persons (including the mover) at the admission hearing. Seating inside the court room will be spaced out. Applicants are reminded that all court users have to undergo body temperature checks when entering Judiciary premises and wear surgical masks at all times. A court user whose body temperature is higher than 37.5°C or who does not wear a surgical mask will be refused entry into or directed to leave Judiciary premises.
- (f) At the conclusion of their 15-minute session, applicants and those accompanying them shall leave the court room. They may then take photographs at a designated area on the floor where the admission hearing is held. After this, they shall then leave the court building. Please refer to the Notice to Applicants in the Appendix for details of the arrangement.
- (g) For safety and crowd management purposes, applicants and those accompanying them will not be able to take photos on the vehicular access and the area immediately outside the G/F entrance of the High Court Building.

3. As admission hearings will be split into small sessions, applicants will be separately informed by the court of the specific time allotted for their applications.

The Judiciary
9 April 2020

Appendix

Admission Proceedings -

Notice to Applicants

Due to public health consideration and to avoid the gathering of crowd and with a view to facilitating the orderly conduct of the Admission Proceedings and the taking of photographs, we ask your understanding and cooperation in complying with the arrangements set out below.

2. You and your accompany guests (including the mover) must wear surgical masks at all times while on Judiciary premises.
3. Please wait in the designated waiting area(s) as directed by the court staff. When it is time for your session, you will be informed and directed by the court staff to proceed to the court room where the admission hearing will take place. At the conclusion of your admission hearing, please leave the court room promptly as directed by the court staff.
4. Photo-taking:
 - (a) You may take photographs only after the admission hearing at the designated area on the floor where your admission hearing is held. The taking of photographs at any other time is not permitted.
 - (b) The order of photo-taking at the designated area shall follow the order of the application of the session. Hence, the first applicant of the session shall take photographs first, followed by the second applicant and then the third applicant. Court staff will be present at the photo-taking area to assist and regulate the taking of photographs.
 - (c) When taking photographs, except the applicant, all other people must not remove their masks. As part of the precautionary measures, an applicant must not talk when his/her mask is removed for taking photographs.
 - (d) Please leave the court once your photo-taking session is finished.

- (e) For safety and crowd management purposes, you must not take photographs on the vehicular access and the area immediately outside the G/F entrance of the High Court Building.

The Judiciary
9 April 2020