



## **Lawyers and Conveyancers Act (Lawyers: Ongoing Legal Education—Continuing Professional Development) Amendment Rules 2021**

Pursuant to sections 97(1)(b) and 103 of the Lawyers and Conveyancers Act 2006, the New Zealand Law Society, with the approval of the Minister of Justice and after consultation in accordance with section 103 of that Act, makes the following rules.

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### **Rules**

- 1 Title**  
 These rules are the Lawyers and Conveyancers Act (Lawyers: Ongoing Legal Education—Continuing Professional Development) Amendment Rules 2021.
- 2 Commencement**  
 These rules come into force on 1 July 2021.
- 3 Principal rules**  
 These rules amend the Lawyers and Conveyancers Act (Lawyers: Ongoing Legal Education—Continuing Professional Development) Rules 2013 (the **principal rules**).
- 4 Rule 3 amended (Interpretation)**  
 Replace rule 3.1(b) with:
 

(b) **activities** means learning that—

- is structured with identifiable aims and with outcomes relevant to a lawyer’s identified learning needs as contained in the lawyer’s continuing professional development plan and record;
- provides an opportunity for interaction and feedback;
- is verifiable by documentation;
- is not part of a lawyer’s usual day-to-day work; and
- includes any mandatory component required by the New Zealand Law Society

**5 Rule 4 amended (Continuing professional development requirements)**

In rule 4.1(b), after “rule 6”, insert “, including any mandatory component required by the New Zealand Law Society”.

**6 Rule 6 amended (Minimum hours of activities)**

In rule 6.1(a), after “each yearly period”, insert “, including any mandatory component required by the New Zealand Law Society”.

Dated at Gisborne this 26th day of March 2021.

Tiana Epati,  
President, New Zealand Law Society.

### **Explanatory note**

*This note is not part of the rules, but is intended to indicate their general effect.*

These rules amend the Lawyers and Conveyancers Act (Lawyers: Ongoing Legal Education—Continuing Professional Development) Rules 2013 (the **principal rules**). They come into force on 1 July 2021.

The rules are published in the Legislative Instruments series in accordance with section 106 of the Lawyers and Conveyancers Act 2006. The rules have been published on the New Zealand Law Society website.

#### **Background to amendments to principal rules**

The amendments to the principal rules arise from the recommendations of a report prepared by a 5-person independent working group established by the Law Society and chaired by Dame Silvia Cartwright. The working group was established in March 2018 and reported in December 2018. It reviewed the regulatory processes for lawyers if unacceptable workplace behaviour occurs.

A copy of the working group's report is available at: <https://www.lawsociety.org.nz/professional-practice/practising-well/bullying-and-harassment/resources-and-reports/>  
The Law Society undertook public consultation on the proposed amendments to the principal rules in June and July 2020.

**Effect of amendments to principal rules**

The effect of the amendments is that the Law Society is able to include a mandatory component in the hours of continuing professional development activities that a lawyer is required to undertake.

Issued under the authority of the Legislation Act 2012.  
Date of notification in *Gazette*: 1 April 2021.  
These rules are administered by the Ministry of Justice.