



## SENIOR SCL ACCREDITED IT LAWYER

### **Introduction**

**A lawyer accredited by SCL as a Senior IT Lawyer is a current SCL member who has the training and relevant practical experience to undertake work at a high level in the information technology law ("IT law") field. Accreditation by SCL requires evidence of both training and experience.**

An SCL Senior IT Law Accredited member is a competent and experienced IT lawyer. This is defined as "*a practitioner who can competently identify and advise on IT law and related issues based on his or her current knowledge, skills and expertise and who has a commitment to continuous learning, improvement and excellence*".

No special privileges are attached to being an SCL Senior IT Law Accredited member other than the right to use the title to demonstrate that the individual (and not the organisation of which they are a part) is the accredited member. SCL does not guarantee or undertake to verify the quality of any work undertaken by the lawyer.

Accreditation lasts until the next renewal date of the individual's membership of SCL and thereafter on a year by year basis provided that:

- The member pays the requisite fee as decided by SCL from time to time;
- The member remains on the roll of practicing solicitors or barristers;
- The member maintains and is able to demonstrate satisfactory continuing professional education in the field of IT law over the prior year

An SCL Senior IT Law Accredited member has the individual right to use the title "SCL Senior Accredited IT Lawyer" and to display the "SCL Senior Accredited IT Lawyer" logo issued by SCL with his or her professional profile while the accreditation is current.

### **Rules**

#### **1. General**

These are the rules for applying to become an SCL Senior IT Law Accredited Member ("Accredited"). They have been approved by the SCL Trustees. SCL reserves the right to amend and supplement these rules from time to time. Any such amendment or supplementation will be available on the SCL web site ([www.scl.org](http://www.scl.org)).

#### **2. Eligibility**

A solicitor or a barrister who is a member of SCL can apply if they can demonstrate that they are a competent and experienced IT lawyer as set out above. In general, this will mean that the applicant at least meets the following requirements:

- The applicant has practised as a solicitor or barrister for a cumulative period of at least seven years and has held a practicing certificate throughout that period;
  - Any member who has not held a practicing certificate at any point can apply for an exemption from SCL for this requirement if the applicant can demonstrate that they have been acting as a practicing lawyer at all times when a practicing certificate has not been held;

- Any member who feels they meet the overall definition of a Senior IT Law Accredited member but does not meet the requirement of having practiced for a minimum of seven years as a solicitor or barrister may still apply, but may be asked for further information to demonstrate that they have achieved the required standard for accreditation at this level
- The applicant's CV must demonstrate that over the prior 3 years they have spent the majority of their legal practice time practicing IT Law within an established IT law practice;<sup>1</sup>
- The applicant must be able to demonstrate completion of sufficient continuing professional education in the field of IT law over the prior 3 years<sup>2</sup>
- The applicant must have contributed to the wider practice of IT Law through the publication of at least one article in the SCL magazine or a recognized publication of similar standing and active participation in conferences, lectures, presentations, roundtables or similar industry in-house equivalents
- The applicant must have been a member of SCL for a minimum period of two years and hold a current membership of SCL.

SCL retains the discretion to decide on accredited IT lawyer status in all circumstances.

### **3. Applications**

Application for Accreditation should be made on the relevant form which is available on the SCL website.

The required total experience, and compliance with the minimum experience and CPD requirements, should be set out on the form and self-certified. A suitable referee must be provided.

The form should be accompanied by appropriate and reasonable evidence.

### **4. Assessment**

Applications will be assessed by the SCL Trustees and such assessment will normally be completed within 28 days of receipt by SCL of an application.

SCL reserves the right to request that an applicant provides additional evidence and/or that the applicant provides a suitable additional reference.

All information submitted as a part of an application will be treated in confidence by SCL.

### **5. Review and Right of Appeal**

In the event of SCL refusing an application, the applicant may ask SCL to reconsider its decision within 28 days of intimation of that refusal and may submit additional material in support of that request. The Trustees will review the refusal and in the event that the review results in a further refusal, the applicant's fee will be refunded.

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<sup>1</sup> This would normally be a law firm or barristers' chambers or in-house legal department which SCL might approve. For further guidance contact SCL.

<sup>2</sup> The courses should evidence a clear focus on IT Law and a record of the courses will need to be submitted. If non-SCL courses are submitted, detailed agendas and evidence of materials must be provided.

The decision of the SCL Trustees shall be final.

## **6. Re-accredited status**

Accreditation lasts until the renewal date of the member's membership with SCL. Provided the member pays the requisite fee and has completed a minimum of 16 continuing professional education hours in the field of IT Law over the prior year, their Accreditation shall be renewed for a further 12 months to run concurrently with their SCL membership.

## **7. Suspension**

The SCL Trustees may suspend the accreditation of any individual if circumstances come to the attention of the Trustees which would make this course of action appropriate. The SCL Trustee's decision in this regard shall be final.

An SCL IT Law Accredited member will cease to be an SCL Senior IT Law Accredited member if they cease to be a member of SCL for any reason. Reapplication for Accreditation is required on rejoining SCL.

**July 2025**



## APPLICATION FOR SENIOR SCL ACCREDITED IT LAWYER

Please read the accompanying rules before completion. If you have any queries please contact the SCL team at [hello@scl.org](mailto:hello@scl.org). Please type or print when completing the application form.

\*Please delete as appropriate

PERSONAL DETAILS			
First name:		Surname:	
SCL Membership no:		Date of joining SCL:	
Name of firm/chambers/organisation:			
Present position:			
Address:			
City:		Postcode:	
Telephone no:	Mobile no:		Email address:
Qualified solicitor: Yes/No*		Qualified barrister: Yes/No*	
Practicing Certificate no:		Date of admission:	
IT LAW EXPERIENCE			
1. Please provide a brief CV and attach it to this application form.			
2. Please indicate the types and volumes of IT Law you have practiced over the immediately preceding 3 years and provide brief examples of the type(s) of work ( <i>do not mention names of clients or any other confidential details</i> ) e.g. advising on a cybersecurity breach for a UK PLC;			
IT LAW EDUCATION			
Please list the date, title of event and speaker(s), course provider and number of hours earned during the past three years (use a continuation sheet if necessary):			
Date	Title of event and speakers	Course provider	Hours

[illegible]

		<b>Total</b>	

#### YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO IT LAW

Please provide details of articles published by you and conferences/webinars/events spoken at by you in the format set out below (use a continuation sheet if necessary):

**\*\*Please provide link to article or copy of article or link to the event**

1. Title of article\*\*:

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Date of publication:

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Name of publication/website:

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Length of article:

--

2. Title of conference/webinar/event\*\*:

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Date of event:

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Name of session presented (if different):

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Other speakers (if relevant):

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#### DECLARATION BY CANDIDATE

I wish to apply to become a Senior SCL Accredited IT Lawyer

I am not currently, nor have I ever been, subject to complaint to or disciplinary action by my professional body.

I hereby declare that the information contained within this form and on the accompanying sheets are correct to the best of my knowledge.

Please send me an invoice for £250 + VAT to cover the cost of my application

Signed:

Date:

<b>REFERENCE</b>			
Please ask your department head/head of chambers/manager to complete this section.			
Name:		Surname:	
Position:		Number of years you have known the applicant:	
Name of firm/chambers/organisation:			
Address:			
City:		Postcode:	
Tel:	Mobile:	Email:	
<b>DECLARATION BY REFEREE</b>			
I hereby declare that the information contained within this form and on the accompanying sheet(s) are correct to the best of my knowledge.			
Signed:		Date:	
Please return this completed form to: <a href="mailto:hello@scl.org">hello@scl.org</a>			