

Objective

The HKSAR Government launched the Maritime Services Traineeship Scheme – Legal in September 2023 under the Maritime and Aviation Training Fund (“MATF”). It aims at incentivising law firms and barristers with maritime business to provide traineeship for those who aspire to a career in maritime law, with a view to nurturing more home-grown maritime lawyers and enhancing Hong Kong’s high value-added maritime services.

Eligibility

Applicants (law firms or barristers) should have office or a place of business in Hong Kong with business related to maritime or shipping sector. In this regard, applicants are required to provide records that show their continual maritime-related businesses. Law firm applicants should be registered in Hong Kong under the Business Registration Ordinance (Cap. 310) and must not be a government or subvented organisation.

A trainee (trainee solicitor or pupil) whom applicants may register under the Scheme must be a Hong Kong permanent resident being –

- (a) a Postgraduate Certificate in Laws (PCLL) graduate of The University of Hong Kong, City University of Hong Kong or The Chinese University of Hong Kong; or
- (b) a holder of qualifications recognised for training purposes by the Law Society of Hong Kong or the Hong Kong Bar Association.

The above qualifications must be obtained by the trainee in or after the induction year of the Scheme, i.e. 2023.

Funding and Duration

Successful applicant will be provided with a monthly subsidy of **\$20,000** in respect of each trainee, subject to a cap of **two trainees** per applicant at any one time.

Trainees are subject to a maximum registration period of **24** months for a trainee solicitor and **12** months for a pupil.

How to Apply

Law firms or barristers who wish to apply for the Maritime Services Traineeship Scheme should submit the completed Application Form (**Form 1**) with supporting documents to the Secretariat **by hand or post** as follows –

Secretariat of Maritime and Aviation Training Fund
(Attn: Maritime Services Traineeship Scheme – Legal)
Transport and Logistics Bureau
20/F., East Wing, Central Government Offices
2 Tim Mei Avenue, Hong Kong

Submission by email or fax will **NOT** be processed. Please read the “**Guidance Notes for Application**” before completing the Application Form. Both are available on the MATF webpage: <https://www.tlb.gov.hk/matf/eng/maritime/msts-legal.html> .

For enquiries, please email to matf@tlb.gov.hk.