



Regulating  
Property  
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Lawyers



Scottish  
Qualifications  
Authority

# **Recognition of Law Degrees or Other Legal Qualifications Obtained Outside England and Wales**

**Council for Licensed Conveyancers**

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**Document Purpose:**

Universal Requirements for Applicants with Foreign Legal Qualifications, Including Cross-Qualifying Lawyers Seeking an Individual Licence from the CLC

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## Recognition of Law Degrees or Other Legal Qualifications Obtained Outside England and Wales

The Council for Licensed Conveyancers (CLC) requires all applicants for individual licences to demonstrate their knowledge and competence through the CLC's recognised qualifications: the Level 4 and Level 6 Diplomas in Conveyancing or Probate Law and Practice.

Applicants who hold a law degree or other legal qualifications obtained outside of England and Wales, including qualified lawyers seeking to cross-qualify, may be eligible for direct entry onto the Level 6 Diploma. To qualify for this route, candidates must provide evidence that their previous legal education and training deliver equivalent learning outcomes to those assessed by the CLC's qualifications. The CLC operates an exemption policy for this purpose, and all applicants must adhere to the requirements of this policy.

### 1 ELIGIBILITY FOR EXEMPTIONS

To be considered for exemption from any units within the Level 4 Diploma in Conveyancing or Probate Law and Practice, applicants with legal qualifications obtained outside England and Wales must demonstrate that their qualification originates from a jurisdiction based on English Common Law. Applicants must supply evidence of this to the CLC and/or an SQA-approved training provider as part of their exemption request and licence application.

If an applicant is unable to demonstrate that their legal qualification is grounded in a Common Law jurisdiction, the CLC will deem their prior qualification to be *substantially different* from the CLC's professional qualifications. In such cases, exemptions will not be granted, and the applicant will be required to complete the full CLC qualification pathway to ensure acquisition of the essential knowledge and skills required to practise as a CLC lawyer in England and Wales.

### 2 QUALIFYING PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

All applicants—whether first-time entrants or cross-qualifying lawyers—must also complete and submit a Statement of Practical Experience (SoPE) as part of their licence application. The SoPE must evidence a minimum of 1,200 hours of relevant practical work experience undertaken in a qualifying legal workplace setting.

For full details, please refer to the [CLC Qualifying Practical Experience Requirements](#).