



SOCIETY OF ADVOCATES
OF NAMIBIA

SOCIETY OF ADVOCATES OF NAMIBIA
Member of the International Bar Association
Member of the International Council of Advocates and Barristers
Member of the General Council of the Bar of South Africa (GCB)

Tel: +264 81 243 1499
Email: socadv@afol.com.na

PO Box 1323
WINDHOEK
NAMIBIA
1st Floor
Namlex Chambers
333 Independence Ave
WINDHOEK
NAMIBIA

25 March 2026

Dear Legal Practitioner,

SOCIETY OF ADVOCATES NOTIFICATION - PUPILLAGE PROGRAMME 2026 / 2027

May 2026

- The application deadline is Friday, 29 May 2026 at 14h00.
- The completed original application, together with all required annexures, must be delivered to the Secretary General, Advocate Eva Shifotoka, at Jacob Marengo Chambers.
- Delivery arrangements may also be made with the Manager, Retha Steinmann (081 243 1499).
- A scanned copy of the complete application must additionally be emailed to: retha@steinmann.com.na / socadv@afol.com.na / evashifotoka@gmail.com

June 2026

- All applications received by the deadline will be circulated to the SOA membership for comments, if any.
- The Pupillage Committee will conduct interviews with all applicants.
- All applicants will be required to write and pass a basic admission test set by the Pupillage Committee.
- The Bar Council will consider the Committee's recommendations, based on the interview and the written test results.

July 2026

- Applicants will be notified whether their applications were successful or unsuccessful.
- Successful applicants must resign from their current employment, or if employed at a law firm as a Director, Partner, or Sole Proprietor, ensure compliance with all requirements of the Law Society of Namibia regarding resignation or firm closure.
- Upon receiving confirmation of acceptance, successful applicants must, within 7 days and before 31 July 2026, confirm their resignation or indicate the arrangements in place for any other positions held.
- The resignation letter must be emailed to the Secretary General, with a copy to the Manager.

August 2026

- The Bar Council, on recommendation of the Pupillage Committee, will allocate Pupil Masters to successful applicants.
- Successful applicants must submit their resignation letter (if applicable) to the Bar Council by Monday, 3 August 2026, if not done already.

September 2026

- The Pupillage Programme commences on Tuesday, 1 September 2026.



BAR COUNCIL:

www.namibianbar.org

President *N Bassingthwaighe, SC* | Vice President *U Hengari* | Secretary-General *E Shifotoka*
Treasurer *L Ihalwa* | Additional Members: *A Strydom* | *JP Ravenscroft-Jones* |
C van Zyl | *T Muhongo* | *D Quickfall*



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March – April 2027

- Pupils will be assigned or deployed to the High Court of Namibia.

June 2027

- Pupillage examinations, including marking and moderation, will take place.

July 2027

- The Pupillage Committee will consider the examination results, and, once approved by the Bar Council, pupils will be notified in writing whether they are eligible to apply to the LSN for exemption from holding fidelity fund certificates or are required to rewrite any subjects.
- Supplementary examinations (including marking and moderation) will be scheduled for the second half of July 2027.

August 2027

- The Pupillage Committee will consider the supplementary examination results, after which they will be submitted to the Bar Council for approval.
- Pupils will be notified in writing whether they are eligible to apply to the LSN for an exemption certificate.

July – September 2027

- Once pupils receive the exemption certificate from the LSN, they will be invited to sign the SOA Roll, after which they may commence practice under the auspices of the Society of Advocates.

PLEASE NOTE:

Application Fee: N\$750.00 (non-refundable).

Only admitted legal practitioners are eligible to apply for the Pupillage Programme.

Only duly completed application forms, including all relevant annexures, will be considered.

Yours faithfully,

E Shifotoka
Secretary General



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