



Find Your Lawyer



Accredited Specialisation

FAST FACTS

WHAT IS AN ACCREDITED SPECIALIST?

An Accredited Specialist is a lawyer recognised as having expertise in a particular area of law. Law Institute of Victoria (LIV) Accredited Specialists:

- must have at least five years' full-time practice experience and at least three years' experience in their area of specialisation;
- must maintain a high degree of professional development in their area of specialisation, which involves the continual development of their skills;
- must pass a comprehensive assessment testing technical knowledge, writing and practical interview or advocacy skills. This assessment is developed and assessed by other senior Accredited Specialists, academics and members of the Victorian Bar; and
- need to apply for re-accreditation every three years, ensuring the highest standards are maintained.

WHY USE AN ACCREDITED SPECIALIST?

This specialisation scheme aims to benefit the public and other lawyers by:

- offering clients and other professions a reliable and easier way of finding a lawyer with special competence in particular areas of law;
- providing an incentive and an opportunity for lawyers to reach and maintain higher levels of expertise in their chosen area of specialist practice;

- encouraging improvement in the quality, speed and cost efficiency of legal service; and
- protecting consumer rights by helping you to easily recognise lawyers who are trained and competent in the work you have entrusted them to do.

HOW CAN I TELL IF MY LAWYER IS AN ACCREDITED SPECIALIST?

Only practitioners who successfully complete the LIV's Accredited Specialist assessment can call themselves an Accredited Specialist. You will be able to recognise any lawyer who displays the Accredited Specialist logo and certificate of accreditation as an Accredited Specialist. You can also use the LIV Accredited Specialist directory at www.liv.asn.au/Specialists to search for an Accredited Specialist in a particular area of law.

