



**Circular No 068/2020
Dated 19 Mar 2020**

To Members of the Malaysian Bar and pupils in chambers

Update on COVID-19 | Issues Relating to Pupillage

The Bar Council has received queries from pupils in chambers and their masters in respect of various pupillage matters during the period when the Movement Control Order is in force.

(1) Section 12(2) of the Legal Profession Act 1976 stipulates that the prescribed period of pupillage shall be nine months

There is no reason why the duration of time when the Movement Control Order is in force should not be taken into account, when computing the prescribed period of pupillage of nine months. Pupils in chambers can actually continue to do pupillage work from home during this period, when the Movement Control Order is in force.

(2) Rules and Rulings of the Bar Council | 10.06. Compulsory attendance of pupil at a Legal Aid Centre

Ruling 10.06 of the Rules and Rulings of the Bar Council states that “Every pupil is required to attend at a Legal Aid Centre for at least 14 days during his/her period of pupillage.”

We wish to inform pupils in chambers that they are exempted from legal aid duty during the time when the Movement Control Order is in force.

The Bar Council urges pupils in chambers to use the period during which the Movement Control Order is in force, sensibly, by continuing their learning process even if they have to do it from home, by lending their hand to their masters in any way they can.

Thank you

**A G Kalidas
Secretary
Malaysian Bar**