



***Please note that this circular supersedes Circular 164/2021 dated 11 May 2021 in its entirety.  
Cheques must be made payable to “Malaysian Bar”.***

**Circular No 236/2021  
Dated 15 June 2021**

To Members of the Malaysian Bar

**Waiver of LawCare Fund Levy and Sports Fund Levy for  
2021 Malaysian Bar Payments Required under the Legal Profession Act 1976**

We refer to [Circular No 164/2021](#) entitled “2021 Malaysian Bar Payments Required under the Legal Profession Act 1976” dated 11 May 2021.

We understand the difficulties that Members are experiencing as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Government’s various Movement Control Orders that have been in effect since 18 Mar 2020. Therefore, at its meeting on 12 June 2021, the Bar Council decided to waive the LawCare Fund levy of RM100 and the Sports Fund levy of RM20 for 2021.

The revised annual subscription, contribution, prescribed fee and levies for 2021 thus total RM960 (instead of RM1,080), as shown below. This represents a saving of RM120 for you.

No	Payments Required under the Legal Profession Act 1976 (“LPA”)	Amount (RM)	Mode of Payment
(1)	Annual Subscription — Section 46(1) of the LPA	450	(a) By direct deposit or Internet banking (such as Instant Transfer) to <b>RHB Bank Berhad</b> . Please refer to the payment guide in Appendix 1 for details;  or  (b) By cheque: Items (1) to (7) may be remitted in <b>ONE</b> single cheque for <b>RM960</b> made payable to “ <b>Malaysian Bar</b> ”.
(2)	Building Fund (Levy) — Section 46(3) of the LPA	250	
(3)	Legal Aid Fund (Levy) — Section 46(3) of the LPA	100	
(4)	LawCare Fund (Levy) — Section 46(3) of the LPA	0	
(5)	Sports Fund (Levy) — Section 46(3) of the LPA	0	
(6)	Compensation Fund (Contribution) — Section 80(2) of the LPA	100	
(7)	Discipline Fund (Prescribed Fee) — Section 29(1)(c) of the LPA	60	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>960</b>	

The reduction given by the Bar Council in respect of the required payments in 2020 resulted in the Bar forgoing approximately RM7 million in subscription and levies to the various Funds. With the waiver now of the two levies for 2021, the Bar will forgo an additional sum of approximately RM2.5 million.

The Bar Council is not able to further reduce the amount of the payments required under the LPA for 2021, as this would severely affect the financial standing of the Bar.

We draw your attention to sections 44, 46(5) and 46(6) of the LPA, which read as follows (emphases added):

- Section 44 All members who are not in arrears with their subscription under section 46 shall be eligible—  
(a) to attend and vote at any general meeting;  
(b) subject to section 46A, to be elected to the Bar Council; and  
(c) to vote on the election of members to the Bar Council.
- Section 46(5) Liability to pay any annual subscription to the Malaysian Bar shall arise when the subscription has been fixed by the Bar Council. All annual subscriptions to the Malaysian Bar shall be paid by the **30th day of June of each year**.
- Section 46(6) An advocate and solicitor shall, if he pays his annual subscription after the date mentioned in subsection (5), pay to the Bar Council, in addition to the subscription due, **an amount equivalent** to the subscription so due.

In accordance with section 46(5), the only payment that is due by **30 June 2021 (Wednesday)** is the annual subscription amounting to RM450. Payment of the balance, amounting to RM510, is only required when you apply for your Sijil Annual and Practising Certificate (“SAPC”) 2022.

If you have already made the payment(s) for the LawCare Fund levy (RM100) and/or the Sports Fund levy (RM20), the amount(s) will be refunded to you in due course.

No SAPC will be issued to an advocate and solicitor in the event of failure to remit the required payments.

We also draw your attention to section 36(1) of the LPA, which reads as follows:

Subject to this section, no person shall practise as an advocate and solicitor or do any act as an advocate and solicitor unless his name is on the Roll and he has a valid practicing [*sic*] certificate authorizing him to do the act; a person who is not so qualified is in this Act referred to as an “unauthorized person”.

Kindly ensure that your name and Bar Council membership number are clearly written on the reverse side of your cheque(s).

Please click [here](#) to view the following documents:

- (1) Appendix 1, containing a payment guide (see page 5); and
- (2) Appendix 2, containing a set of Frequently-Asked-Questions (see pages 6 to 9).

An online feature is available in the “Subscription” section of the Bar Council’s Member Online Portal on the Malaysian Bar website ([www.malaysianbar.org.my](http://www.malaysianbar.org.my)), whereby you can view and download the details of your own payment records, and print receipts of payments made.

To access the Member Online Portal, go to the Malaysian Bar website at [www.malaysianbar.org.my](http://www.malaysianbar.org.my), and click on “Login” at the top right-hand side of the website. Key in your National Registration Identity Card number (“NRIC No”) where indicated, and then:

- (1) If you are a first-time user, key in your NRIC No as your first-time temporary password (which you will have to change) and follow the instructions on the screen;
- (2) If you had already changed to a new password (eg when you submitted your SAPC 2021 online application), please use that password; or
- (3) If you have forgotten your password, please click on “Lost Your Password?” and follow the instructions on the screen.

Should you have any enquiries regarding the login process, please contact the Membership Department by email at [membership@malaysianbar.org.my](mailto:membership@malaysianbar.org.my) or by telephone at 03-2050 2191.

Should you have any enquiries regarding the payments required under the LPA, please contact the Finance Department by email at [finance@malaysianbar.org.my](mailto:finance@malaysianbar.org.my) or by telephone at 03-2050 2128.

Please note that this circular supersedes [Circular No 164/2021](#) entitled “2021 Malaysian Bar Payments Required under the Legal Profession Act 1976” dated 11 May 2021, in its entirety.

Thank you.

**Shahareen Begum**  
**Secretary**  
**Malaysian Bar**

Attention: Director  
Finance Department  
Bar Council  
Wisma Badan Peguam Malaysia  
2 Leboh Pasar Besar  
50050 Kuala Lumpur

Tel: 03-2050 2128  
Fax: 03-2050 2133  
Email: [finance@malaysianbar.org.my](mailto:finance@malaysianbar.org.my)

Name of Member \_\_\_\_\_

Bar Council Membership No \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Law Firm \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Tel \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**2021 MALAYSIAN BAR PAYMENTS REQUIRED UNDER THE LEGAL PROFESSION ACT 1976**

Enclosed please find my cheque made out as follows:

One cheque made payable to “**Malaysian Bar**” **RM450**

OR

One cheque made payable to “**Malaysian Bar**” **RM960**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## Guide for 2021 Malaysian Bar Payments Required under the Legal Profession Act 1976 (Revised)


Bar Council accepts payment via:

- (1) Direct deposit or Internet banking (such as Instant Transfer) to:

Bank Name: RHB Bank Berhad  
 Account Name: Malaysian Bar  
 Account No: 2-64188-0000521-9  
 Bank Address: No.75, Jalan Tun H. S. Lee, 50000 Kuala Lumpur  
 Swift Code: RHBBMYKL  
 Bank ID: KUP00980031

Please submit the transaction slip as proof of payment, by email to [finance@malaysianbar.org.my](mailto:finance@malaysianbar.org.my) or by fax to 03-2050 2133; or

- (2) Issue a cheque in accordance with the sample below. Kindly ensure that the name and Bar Council membership number of the Member of the Bar are clearly written on the reverse side of the cheque.

 <b>ABC Bank Malaysia Berhad</b>		Date : <u>23/04/2021</u>
PAY BAYAR  RINGGIT MALAYSIA	MALAYSIAN BAR	<b>RM450.00</b>
	FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY ONLY	
		<i>SIGNATURE</i>
		<small>DO SIGNATURE BELOW THIS LINE</small>
<small> :00    168168   22 128128 :1681288688  23</small>		

The payments required under the Legal Profession Act 1976 (“LPA”) for the year 2021 are as follows:

(1) Annual Subscription — Section 46(1) of the LPA	RM450
(2) Building Fund (Levy) — Section 46(3) of the LPA	RM250
(3) Legal Aid Fund (Levy) — Section 46(3) of the LPA	RM100
(4) LawCare Fund (Levy) — Section 46(3) of the LPA	RM0
(5) Sports Fund (Levy) — Section 46(3) of the LPA	RM0
(6) Compensation Fund (Contribution) — Section 80(2) of the LPA	RM100
(7) Discipline Fund (Prescribed Fee) — Section 29(1)(c) of the LPA	RM60
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>RM960</u></b>

In accordance with section 46(5), the only payment that is due by **30 June 2021 (Wednesday)** is the annual subscription amounting to RM450. Payment of the balance, amounting to RM510, is only required when you apply for your Sijil Annual and Practising Certificate (“SAPC”) 2022.

If you have already made the payment(s) for the LawCare Fund levy (RM100) and/or the Sports Fund levy (RM20), the amount(s) will be refunded to you in due course.

**Frequently-Asked-Questions (Revised)**  
**2021 Malaysian Bar Payments Required under the Legal Profession Act 1976**

The issuance of a Sijil Annual and Practising Certificate (“SAPC”) is subject to full payment of all required amounts. Practising Certificates are generally valid from 1 January (or the date of issue) to 31 December of each respective year.

**(1) What are the payments that I am required to make?**

The annual subscription is RM450 for the year 2021.

In addition, Members are also required to make the following payments under the Legal Profession Act 1976 (“LPA”):

No	Payments Required under the LPA	Amount (RM)
(i)	Building Fund (Levy): Section 46(3) of the LPA	250
(ii)	Legal Aid Fund (Levy): Section 46(3) of the LPA	100
(iii)	LawCare Fund (Levy): Section 46(3) of the LPA	0
(iv)	Sports Fund (Levy): Section 46(3) of the LPA	0
(v)	Compensation Fund (Contribution): Section 80(2) of the LPA	100
(vi)	Discipline Fund (Prescribed Fee): Section 29(1)(c) of the LPA	60
	<b>Total</b>	<b>510</b>

The annual subscription, contribution, prescribed fee and levies for 2021 thus total RM960 (instead of RM1,080).

**(2) When do I have to make the payments?**

We draw your attention to sections 44, 46(5) and 46(6) of the LPA, which read as follows (emphases added):

Section 44 All members who are not in arrears with their subscription under section 46 shall be eligible—  
 (a) to attend and vote at any general meeting;  
 (b) subject to section 46A, to be elected to the Bar Council; and  
 (c) to vote on the election of members to the Bar Council.

Section 46(5) Liability to pay any annual subscription to the Malaysian Bar shall arise when the subscription has been fixed by the Bar Council. All annual subscriptions to the Malaysian Bar shall be paid by the **30th day of June of each year.**

Section 46(6) An advocate and solicitor shall, if he pays his annual subscription after the date mentioned in subsection (5), pay to the Bar Council, in addition to the subscription due, **an amount equivalent** to the subscription so due.

In accordance with section 46(5) of the LPA, the only payment that is due by **30 June 2021 (Wednesday)** is the annual subscription amounting to RM450. Payment of the balance, amounting to RM510, is only required when you apply for your SAPC 2022.

If you have already made the payment(s) for the LawCare Fund levy (RM100) and/or the Sports Fund levy (RM20), the amount(s) will be refunded to you in due course.

**(3) Can I pay the annual subscription of RM450 by 30 June 2021, and then pay the balance of RM510 when I apply for my SAPC 2022?**

Yes.

**(4) Can the penalty incurred due to late payment be waived?**

No.

**(5) What are my choices for the mode of payment?**

Please refer to the payment guide contained in Appendix 1.

Bar Council accepts payment via:

(a) Direct deposit or Internet banking (such as Instant Transfer) to:

Bank Name: RHB Bank Berhad  
Account Name: Malaysian Bar  
Account No: 2-64188-0000521-9  
Bank Address: No.75, Jalan Tun H. S. Lee, 50000 Kuala Lumpur  
Swift Code: RHBBMYKL  
Bank ID: KUP00980031

or

(b) Cheque

The cheque must be made payable to “**Malaysian Bar**”. Kindly ensure that the name and membership number of the Member of the Bar are clearly written on the reverse side of the cheque.

**(6) If an advocate and solicitor resumes practice at any part of a year, what are the payments required to be made?**

(a) An advocate and solicitor who resumes practice at any time from 1 Jan to 30 June 2021 (inclusive) is required to pay the sum of **RM960**, being payment for:

No	Payments Required under the LPA	Amount (RM)
(i)	Annual Subscription: Section 46(1) of the LPA	450
(ii)	Building Fund (Levy): Section 46(3) of the LPA	250
(iii)	Legal Aid Fund (Levy): Section 46(3) of the LPA	100
(iv)	Compensation Fund (Contribution): Section 80(2) of the LPA	100
(v)	Discipline Fund (Prescribed Fee): Section 29(1)(c) of the LPA	60
	<b>Total</b>	<b>960</b>

The payments of RM250 for the Building Fund and RM100 for the Legal Aid Fund (totalling RM350) are only required to be made before the SAPC 2022 application is submitted to the Bar Council.

- (b) An advocate and solicitor who resumes practice at any time from 1 July to 31 Dec 2021 (inclusive) is required to pay the sum of **RM910**, being payment for:

No	Payments Required under the LPA	Amount (RM)
(i)	Annual Subscription: Section 46(1) of the LPA	450
(ii)	Building Fund (Levy): Section 46(3) of the LPA	250
(iii)	Legal Aid Fund (Levy): Section 46(3) of the LPA	100
(iv)	Compensation Fund (Contribution): Section 80(2) of the LPA	50
(v)	Discipline Fund (Prescribed Fee): Section 29(1)(c) of the LPA	60
	<b>Total</b>	<b>910</b>

The payments of RM250 for the Building Fund and RM100 for the Legal Aid Fund (totalling RM350) are only required to be made before the SAPC 2022 application is submitted to the Bar Council.

The only difference between sections (6)(a) and (6)(b) above is that the amount paid towards the Compensation Fund is reduced from RM100 to RM50 in section (6)(b).

**(7) What are the payments required to be made by newly-admitted advocates and solicitors, admitted at different parts of the year?**

- (a) An advocate and solicitor who is admitted at any time from 1 Jan to 30 June 2021 (inclusive) is required to pay the sum of **RM960**, being payment for:

No	Payments Required under the LPA	Amount (RM)
(i)	Annual Subscription: Section 46(1) of the LPA	450
(ii)	Building Fund (Levy): Section 46(3) of the LPA	250
(iii)	Legal Aid Fund (Levy): Section 46(3) of the LPA	100
(iv)	Compensation Fund (Contribution): Section 80(2) of the LPA	100
(v)	Discipline Fund (Prescribed Fee): Section 29(1)(c) of the LPA	60
	<b>Total</b>	<b>960</b>

The payments of RM250 for the Building Fund and RM100 for the Legal Aid Fund (totalling RM350) are only required to be made before the SAPC 2022 application is submitted to the Bar Council.

- (b) An advocate and solicitor who is admitted at any time from 1 July to 30 Sept 2021 (inclusive) is required to pay the sum of **RM685**, being payment for:

No	Payments Required under the LPA	Amount (RM)
(i)	Annual Subscription: Section 46(1) of the LPA	225
(ii)	Building Fund (Levy): Section 46(3) of the LPA	250
(iii)	Legal Aid Fund (Levy): Section 46(3) of the LPA	100
(iv)	Compensation Fund (Contribution): Section 80(2) of the LPA	50
(v)	Discipline Fund (Prescribed Fee): Section 29(1)(c) of the LPA	60
	<b>Total</b>	<b>685</b>

The payments of RM250 for the Building Fund and RM100 for the Legal Aid Fund (totalling RM350) are only required to be made before the SAPC 2022 application is submitted to the Bar Council.



- (c) An advocate and solicitor who is admitted at any time from 1 Oct to 31 Dec 2021 (inclusive) is required to pay the sum of **RM460**, being payment for:

No	Payments Required under the LPA	Amount (RM)
(i)	Building Fund (Levy): Section 46(3) of the LPA	250
(ii)	Legal Aid Fund (Levy): Section 46(3) of the LPA	100
(iii)	Compensation Fund (Contribution): Section 80(2) of the LPA	50
(iv)	Discipline Fund (Prescribed Fee): Section 29(1)(c) of the LPA	60
	<b>Total</b>	<b>460</b>

The payments of RM250 for the Building Fund and RM100 for the Legal Aid Fund (totalling RM350) are only required to be made before the SAPC 2022 application is submitted to the Bar Council.

**(8) What are the consequences of failure to remit the required payments?**

No SAPC will be issued to an advocate and solicitor in the event of failure to remit the required payments.

We draw your attention to section 36(1) of the LPA, which reads as follows:

Subject to this section, no person shall practise as an advocate and solicitor or do any act as an advocate and solicitor unless his name is on the Roll and he has a valid practicing [*sic*] certificate authorizing him to do the act; a person who is not so qualified is in this Act referred to as an “unauthorized person”.

**(9) If I resume practice and only require a Practising Certificate for a certain period in the year, can a discount or refund be obtained?**

An advocate and solicitor who resumes practice at any time from 1 Jan to 30 June 2021 (inclusive) must pay the full amounts totalling RM960, as there is no provision for a discount or a refund. An advocate and solicitor who resumes practice at any time from 1 July to 31 Dec 2021 (inclusive) is required to pay RM50 (instead of RM100) towards the Compensation Fund. All other required amounts must be paid in full. Please refer to item (6) above for more details.

**(10) I was issued with Sijil Annual 2021, and I then ceased practice on 15 Jan 2021. What payments am I required to make for the year 2021?**

As long as you practised as an advocate and solicitor (even for one day) during the year 2021, you are required to pay the 2021 annual subscription and levies shown below, totalling RM800. The annual subscription of RM450 is due by 30 June 2021, and payment of the remaining RM350 will be required when you apply for your next SAPC.

No	Payments Required under the LPA	Amount (RM)
(i)	Annual Subscription: Section 46(1) of the LPA	450
(ii)	Building Fund (Levy): Section 46(3) of the LPA	250
(iii)	Legal Aid Fund (Levy): Section 46(3) of the LPA	100
	<b>Total</b>	<b>800</b>

**(11) I was issued with Sijil Annual 2021, but I ceased practice on 15 Dec 2020. Am I entitled to a refund of the Compensation Fund and Discipline Fund payments for 2021, or can these be transferred to the following year when I resume practice?**

Once Sijil Annual 2021 has been issued, there will be no refund of the 2021 Compensation Fund and Discipline Fund payments, and the amounts cannot be transferred to the following year.

*(Updated on 15 June 2021)*