



Procurement of Civil Legal Aid Services in England and Wales from 1 September 2024

Amendment Notice with effect from 9 April 2024

On 13 September 2023 the LAA published an Invitation to Tender for Civil Legal Aid services in England and Wales from 1 September 2024 on its eTendering system. In accordance with paragraph 6.19 of the SQ ITT, Applicants are notified that the LAA has amended the:

1. the Category-Specific Information documents, except Family Mediation and Housing Loss Prevention Advice Service (“HLPAS”), to reflect a change to the Quality Standard Verification Requirements; and
2. the links to the Category-Specific Information in the Award Criteria Invitation to Tender (“Award ITT”); and
3. the link to the Award ITT in the HLPAS Invitation to Tender (“HLPAS ITT”).

The change to the Verification Requirements for all Categories of Law, except Family Mediation and HLPAS, is as follows:

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| <p>By Contract Start Date the Applicant comply with the requirements set out in paragraph 2.22 of the Award ITT in relation to Quality Standards.</p> <p>See paragraph 2.17 – 2.26 of the Award ITT for further information on Quality Standards.</p> | <p>Lexcel Certificate or SQM Certificate, valid at 1 September 2024.</p> <p>Where the Applicant has passed the desktop SQM audit only, a copy of the relevant letter of confirmation must be provided.</p> <p>Where the Quality Standard is in place but due to expire prior to the Contract Start Date, the LAA will accept the current Quality Standard Certificate, along with confirmation in writing from the Quality Standard provider of the date of the scheduled re-audit and that the Certificate will remain in force until the re-audit is complete.</p> |
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The Category-Specific Information documents incorporate all the amendments of this notice in blue. Applicants are required to refer to these updated versions, which are available on the Gov.uk website.

Requirements upon Applicants

Applicants are required to refer to Version 4 of the Award and HLPAS ITTs and the latest version of the Category-Specific Information documents.

Applicants who have already been contacted regarding the verification of their Quality Standard will not need to take any action. The LAA will contact any Applicant affected by this amendment notice, where applicable.