APPLICATIONS FOR PLACES ON LISTS AT THE VICTORIAN BAR GUIDELINES FOR MARCH 2027 READERS

These guidelines have been adopted by agreement between all the Lists at the Victorian Bar and the Victorian Bar.

1. Applications

(a) Applications by prospective readers for a List place may be made only once the prospective reader has received an offer of a place in the Readers' Course from the Victorian Bar (**Bar Offer**);

(b) An application made prior to the making of a Bar Offer will not be considered by the Lists;

(c) Applicants should apply directly to the List(s) by which they wish to be considered;

(d) There is no limit on the number of Lists to which a prospective reader may apply; and

(e) Applications for a List place close at 4.00pm on **Friday, 23 October 2026**.

2. Interviews

(a) Lists will not interview applicants for List places, or contact applicants to arrange an interview, any earlier than the date on which a Bar Offer is made; and

(b) Once a Bar Offer is made, Lists may conduct interviews at any time up until 8.00am on **Wednesday, 3 February 2027**. Lists may choose to indicate on their websites the period in which they propose to conduct interviews.

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3. List Offers

(a) Lists should only make offers or arrangements for readers to join the List (List Offer) **after 9.00am** on **Wednesday, 3 February 2027**.

(b) If a List makes a List Offer to an applicant the List may, at the discretion of the List, permit the applicant to defer their place for a one-year period, but only if the Victorian Bar also approves a deferment of the reader's reading period; and

(c) A List Offer will remain open for a period of not less than 2 business days from the time at which it is made. The List will inform the applicant of the time for which the List Offer remains open at the time the List Offer is made.

4. Exceptions

(a) Where an applicant cannot, for reasons of genuine necessity, participate in an interview in the period between the making of their application and the date and time in 2(b) above, they may make an application to the Victorian Bar, with any relevant supporting documentation, to be interviewed by Lists at a later date. Permission is granted at the sole discretion of the Victorian Bar.

(b) These guidelines do not apply to applications by, and List Offers to, indigenous applicants.