



COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION NEWSLETTER



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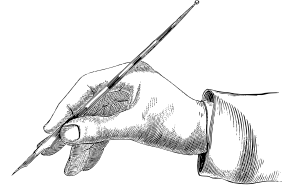
NOVEMBER ISSUE





COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION

NOVEMBER 2025 ISSUE



Welcome to the 15th Edition of our newsletter!

We are pleased to present this edition of the CLE Monthly Newsletter, highlighting the key activities undertaken in our ongoing effort to ensure that CLE continues to fulfil its mandate as set out in the Legal Education Act, CAP 16B.

This edition reflects on *“The Anxious Wait – Administration of the ATP Examination,”* highlighting the processes, expectations, and experiences surrounding one of the most defining moments for aspiring advocates. We also celebrate the November 2025 Admission to the Bar, honouring candidates whose dedication has brought them to the threshold of professional practice.

Our growing Collaboration with the Commission for University Education (CUE) is a prominent feature as we continue working together to strengthen the relationship between the two institutions.

Additionally, we spotlight preparations for the Inaugural CLE Conference, a bold step into new territory, and as has been the norm, Mr. Peter Chirchir carefully pens down a poem titled *“The Venture of the Unknown”*.

We thank all contributors and stakeholders for their continued commitment to excellence. May every edition offer insight, inspiration, and renewed purpose as we advance the standards of legal education and training in Kenya.

Enjoy the Read!



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THE ANXIOUS WAIT

By Peter Kipyegon

The Advocates' Training Programme Examination ended on Tuesday the 25 of November 2025. This came with a sigh of relief to many who for nine days braved the cold mornings and sat for three long hours, trying their best to convince the examiners that they are ready to sign the coveted roll and be admitted as advocates of the High Court of Kenya. Now that chapter is over. The wait for the results is now palpable. The anxiety is hardly new. Anyone who has gone through any form of examination will attest that sitting an exam is just as emotionally draining as waiting for the results.

As the festive season fast approaches, anxiety and anticipation are rising in equal measure. Many a candidate are particularly on edge with every ticking hour, for over the past year, Council has released examination results just a few days to Christmas and as fate would have it, this has always elicited mixed reactions from all quarters:

"kwani hawataki tukule Chrsi na amani?"
One of the candidates posted on X.

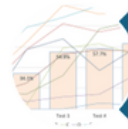
Facts about ATP Examination Results



Council issues a communique for general information upon release of results



Examination Results are made available in the Candidate's Online Portal



Candidates access the Examination Result Slip, Report on Performance per Question and the Provisional Transcript.

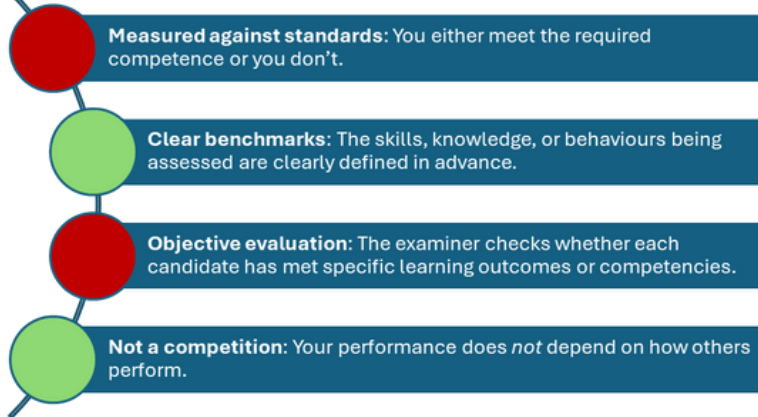
The ATP examination is a criterion referenced examination. A criterion-referenced examination is an assessment designed to measure a candidate's performance against a fixed set of predetermined standards or criteria, rather than comparing candidates against one another.



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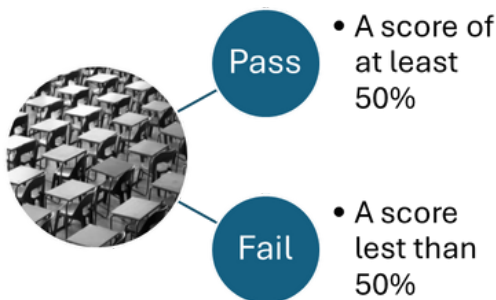
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Key Features of a Criterion-Referenced Examination



Possible Outcomes in the ATP Examination

As we await the much-anticipated results, it is important to remember that every examination leads to one of these two outcomes: Pass or Fail. For those who will earn the esteemed Nine Ps, the moment will feel like a second Christmas. For those who may not achieve their goal this time, take heart—these results do not define your future. The world will not end here. There will always be another chance to rise, improve and prove yourself.



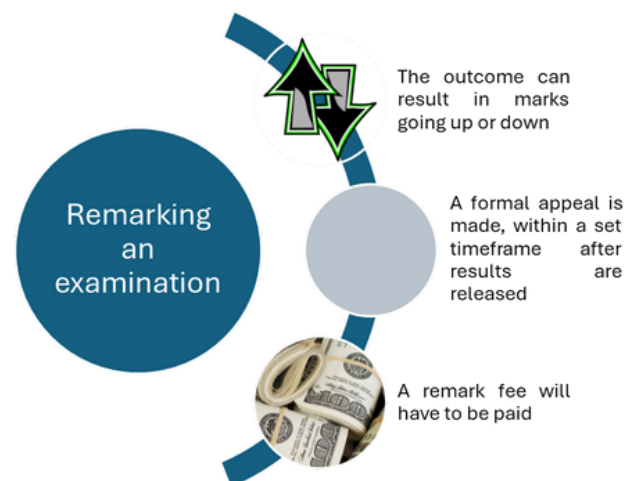
If you do not pass now, what next?

If you fail any unit, the Council will allow you to have your examination paper remarked and to resit the examination in the next cycle.

Remarking an Examination

It refers to a formal process for reviewing a graded examination paper for potential errors. This is typically conducted by a senior examiner, to check for mistakes in marking, tallying, or mark application of the marking scheme.

Did you know...

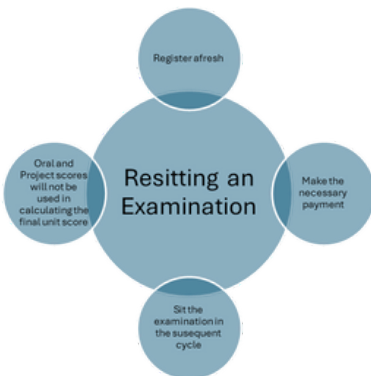


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Re-sitting an Examination, what You Need to Know

Resitting an examination means taking a test again, usually because you did not achieve a passing or desired grade on the first attempt.



When life happens, remember...



ADMISSION TO THE BAR



Prof. Jack Mwimali, the CEO of the Council of Legal Education, joined other dignitaries for the admission to the Bar ceremony presided over by the Hon. Chief Justice Martha Koome, EGH.

In his remarks, he encouraged the newly admitted advocates to strive for excellence in serving the public and upholding the rule of law as they embark on their professional journey.

Congratulations to all the newly admitted Advocates of the High Court of Kenya!!



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CANDIDATE'S ENGAGEMENT AS THE COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC LIFELINE

By Peter Kipyegon



Prof. Jack Mwimali, CEO CLE addressing the Advocates Training Programme Candidates during the Candidate engagement at the Kenya School of Law

Council of Legal Education is a corporate body whose mandate directly affects a diverse group of stakeholders. As with any institutional entity, an effective stakeholder management framework is essential. In line with this need, Council, through its 2023–2027 Strategic Plan, is determined to engage trainee advocates on a quarterly basis. These engagements form a key component of the broader strategy to understand, manage, and respond to the needs and expectations of its primary stakeholders—the ATP candidates.

Council's Key Stakeholders

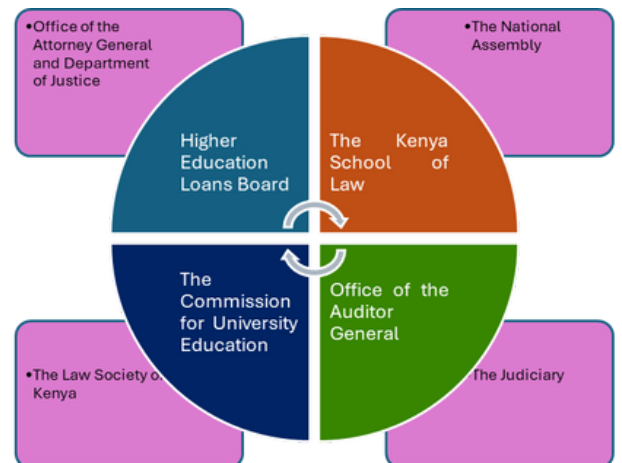
In the 2023–2027 Strategic Plan, some of the key stakeholders identified include the following entities:



Dr. Felix Odhiambo, Director Examination, addressing the ATP candidates at the Kenya School of Law



Ms. Florence Shako, making a presentation during the November 6th Candidate Engagement at Mutula Hall, the Kenya School of Law.





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The 2025 Candidate Engagements

Council held its second-quarter engagement for the 2025/2026 financial year with the 2025 cohort on 6 November 2025. The session took place at the Kenya School of Law, Mutula Hall. This engagement was a follow-up to the webinar conducted on 25 October 2025, which aimed to communicate the key timelines and procedures for registration for the November 2025 ATP examination.

Strategic Importance of the Engagements

Engagement of the Kenya School of Law ATP candidates is of great strategic importance to Council. Under the Strategic Plan, Key Result Area THREE on Image, Partnerships, and Collaborative Engagements, Council sets out to undertake activities including:

Develop a communication framework

Revamp the CLE brand

Increase CLE visibility

Enhance customer experience

Candidate engagement achieves a lot for both the Council and the Candidates. The engagement of 6th November 2025, was aimed at achieving specific objectives, including:



One of the consequential facilitators was Ms. Florence Shako, an advocate of the High Court of Kenya and a long-time ATP examination setter, marker, and moderator. She took the candidates through a raft of issues regarding answering the ATP examination. She was flanked by Dr. Felix Odhiambo, the Director Examinations, Council of Legal Education, and Staff from the Council. The engagement was attended by over TWO THOUSAND candidates.



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COLLABORATION WITH THE COMMISSION FOR UNIVERSITY EDUCATION



Prof. Jack Mwimali, CEO CLE, Prof. Jack Mwimali, CEO (second right), with Prof. Mike Kuria, CEO Commission for University Education

Prof. Jack Mwimali, CEO at CLE, led by a delegation from the Council of Legal Education, hosted the CEO of the Commission for University Education, Prof. Mike Kuria, CEO who had paid a courtesy call on Prof. Jack Mwimali, CEO at CLE.

The discussions of the meeting between CLE and CUE continue to collaborate in strengthening quality assurance in higher education and legal education by ensuring that universities and training institutions maintain the required standards in the delivery of legal training. We appreciate the continued collaboration and support of CUE.

PREPARATION FOR THE INAUGURAL CLE CONFERENCE

Call For Papers
INAUGURAL CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF LEGAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN KENYA

Theme
LEGAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR A GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE LAWYER:
REFLECTING ON THE PAST AND CHARTING THE FUTURE

Themes	Important Dates
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assessing the current state of legal education and training across Eastern Africa, identifying strengths, gaps, and best practices in regulation, accreditation, and professional standards.Promoting regional harmonisation of legal education standards under the East African Community (EAC), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), and African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) frameworks to facilitate cross-border legal practice.Building partnerships among regulators, academia, professional bodies, and development partners for sustainable capacity development in legal integrity education.The role of legal education and training in enhancing the capacity of County and National Governments: Interrogating ways to strengthen legal education for devolved governance by examining how legal education can build specialized competencies for county governments in legislative drafting, intergovernmental relations, public Technology and innovation in legal education and training: The role of Artificial	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Abstract Submission Deadline 5th November 2025Notification of Acceptance of abstracts 7th November 2025Submissions of Drafts for presentation at the conference 24th November 2025Feedback on the submitted Drafts 27th November 2025Conference Dates 2nd - 4th December 2025

Submission Link
www.cle.or.ke
ceo@cle.or.ke

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CLE is set to hold its inaugural conference from 2nd December 2025, to 4th of December 2025, in Nairobi. The conference aims to bring together diverse stakeholders in the legal sector and in legal education and training to discuss pertinent issues related to the Future of Legal Education and Training in Kenya and the Region.



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THE VENTURE OF THE UNKNOWN BY PETER KIPYEGON

Every phase of Life,
Is a new stratum,
Exemplifying a fusion of the familiar and the
unknown,
It is a cosmic battle,
That moulds fate, success or failure.

As we grow up,
We adventured,
And crossed many oceans and seas,
Some deep to recall,
Others, simple and shallow,
Yet over time,
We learnt the art of wading and sailing,
Even in high tide and strong winds,
Holding our oars and paddles,
With our heads held high up!

The cycle of life,
Must continue:
During strong winds and rough oceans,
Regardless of the height of the tides,
And the blur of the whitecaps,
In the oceans and seas of our lives!
For the water soaks the seed,
And the tide and whiteness of the sea,
Develops ones' insight and resilience,
Enabling the seed to germinate and blossom!

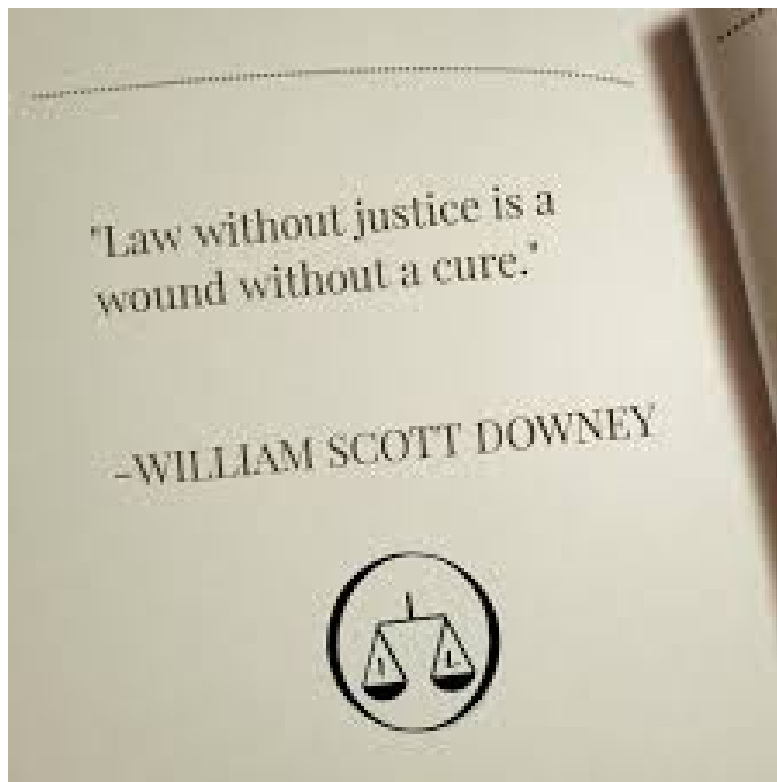
In the ocean of a candidate,
It appears as dark as the black sea!
Are tutorials,
Examinations,
Pupillage,
Pass and Fail,
Frightening and shaking our intellect, souls.
Yet the tides make us grow and strong,
And wise-like King Solomon,

Whose witty judgement,
Averted a conflict,
Of monumental proportions.
Both Metaphorically and Literary!



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