

How do I find an Accredited Specialist?

Choosing the right lawyer is one of the most important decisions you will ever make. You can use the LIV Find a Lawyer directory to find an Accredited Specialist who is a leader in their field at www.liv.asn.au/directory/specialists.

You can also use the LIV Legal Referral Service which provides free referrals to solicitors all over Victoria.

The Legal Referral Service can provide you with a list of Accredited Specialists and all lawyers included in the service agree to see clients for up to the first 30 minutes free of charge.

Contact the Legal Referral Service on (03) 9607 9355 or visit www.legalreferrals.liv.asn.au.

For further information about LIV Accredited Specialists contact:

Ph: 9607 9461/ 9607 9460

Email: special@liv.asn.au

Web: www.liv.asn.au/directory/specialists

470 Bourke Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000

What is an Accredited Specialist?

www.liv.asn.au/directory/specialists



This brochure gives a broad outline of the law as at January 2010. It is not intended to and does not encompass all aspects of the law on the subject matter. Further professional advice should be sought before action is taken based on the matters described in this brochure.



What is an Accredited Specialist?

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An Accredited Specialist is a lawyer recognised as having expertise in a particular area of law.

Law Institute of Victoria (LIV) Accredited Specialists:

- have at least five years full-time practice experience and at least three years practice experience in their area of specialisation;
- maintain a high degree of professional development in their area of specialisation, which involves the continual development of their skills;
- pass a comprehensive assessment process testing technical knowledge, writing and practical advocacy skills; and
- apply for re-accreditation every three years, ensuring the highest standards are maintained.

How can I tell if my lawyer is an Accredited Specialist?

Only practitioners who complete an LIV Accredited Specialist course of assessment can call themselves an Accredited Specialist. You can easily recognise any lawyer who displays the Accredited Specialist logo and certificate of accreditation.

You can also use the LIV Find a Lawyer directory at www.liv.asn.au/directory/specialists to search for an Accredited Specialist in a particular area of law.



Why use an Accredited Specialist?

When you choose a lawyer who is an Accredited Specialist you:

- can expect experience and expertise in a particular area of law;
- can expect a high standard of professionalism;
- are choosing a lawyer who is recognised as having an enhanced level of skill and a commitment to achieving higher levels of expertise through ongoing professional development.

Accredited Specialists raising the standard

Accredited Specialists are required to maintain a high level of education involvement in their areas of specialty by:

- ensuring that the speciality remains a substantial part of their practice;
- maintaining a higher level of continuing professional development than other lawyers; and
- continually striving to improve the standing of their firm.

LIV Accredited Specialists are currently available in the following areas of legal practice:

- Business law
- Commercial Litigation
- Commercial Tenancy law
- Costs law
- Criminal law
- Environment & Planning law
- Family law
- Immigration law
- Tax law
- Mediation
- Personal Injury law
- Property law
- Wills and Estates
- Workplace Relations