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WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BAR ASSOCIATION (Inc)

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## **Reduced Membership Fees for Barristers Practising Part-Time**

### **Guidelines**

1. The granting of reduced fee memberships of the Association to individual members will be at the absolute discretion of Bar Council. However, these Guidelines adopted by Bar Council with respect to reduced fee memberships provide a broad indication of the general circumstances in which a member may apply for, and expect to be granted, a reduced fee membership by Bar Council.
2. A reduced fee entitlement membership of the Association will only be granted to a member on application by him or her to Bar Council. All circumstances relied upon by the member to support his or her application for reduced fee membership should be set out in that application.
3. Generally, a reduced fee membership will only be granted to a member by Council where the member communicates an intention for the forthcoming year, to work not more than 24 hours as a barrister in a typical working week (ie not more than three full time days/weeks).
4. Reduced fee memberships will not be granted for a part of a financial year. Any reduction that is agreed by Bar Council for a member would be reviewed annually.
5. Bar Council's intention is that reduced fee membership will typically be granted to those members who work "part time" as barristers because of family responsibilities or due to ill health.
6. For the purpose of paragraph 5 of these Guidelines, relevant family responsibilities would include full or partial responsibility for the care of:

- a child or children of school age or younger of which the member is a parent or guardian;
  - an aged or infirm partner of the member;
  - an aged or infirm parent, parent-in-law or sibling of the member.
7. Generally, but in the unfettered discretion of Bar Council, a reduced fee payable when a reduced fee membership is granted will be approximately 50% of the then current full fee membership.
8. A member who does not meet the criteria referred to in paragraphs 3 and 5-6 of these guidelines may nevertheless apply for reduced fee membership, if he or she considers that there are particular circumstances that may justify Bar Council granting to him or her a reduced fee membership. Members are reminded, however, as set out in paragraph 1 of these Guidelines, that the granting of reduced fee memberships is in the absolute discretion of Bar Council.
9. Bar Council reserves a right to reinstate full fee membership to a member who has been granted reduced fee membership in any year, if the actual circumstances of the member's practice as a barrister differ relevantly from the circumstances foreshadowed in the member's application for reduced fee membership.