



Attending an admission ceremony in Sydney

Strict limit of 3 guests per admittee

Each admittee is permitted to bring **only 3 guests into the Court Room**. This limit includes the admittee's mover, if the admittee has chosen to arrange their own mover. The limit will be strictly enforced, with no exceptions.

Admittees will be allocated specific seats, while movers will be directed to a designated area. Guests may choose their seats anywhere in the designated public areas.

Face masks are strongly encouraged

Consistent with the latest health advice, masks are no longer required to be worn in the Court Room or in the Law Courts Building, unless you are a household or close contact of someone who has tested positive to COVID-19.

However the Court continues to encourage mask wearing in crowded areas. This includes during admission ceremonies and when waiting to sign the Supreme Court Roll. Up to 250 people will be present in close proximity during those times.

There is no longer any requirement to provide proof of vaccination to enter the Law Courts Building.

Arriving at the venue

Admission ceremonies are held in the Banco Court on Level 13 of the Law Courts Building at Queens Square (located between Macquarie Street and Phillip Street, near King Street), Sydney 2000.

You and your guests should arrive at the Law Courts Building **45 minutes before your ceremony**. This allows time to clear security screening on the ground floor, and to queue for lift access to Level 13.

Please ensure you and your guests switch off your mobile phones before the ceremony starts.

Accessibility

If you or any of your guests will need accessibility assistance at the ceremony, please notify the Office of the LPAB in advance of the ceremony day (unless you gave the relevant details when you booked).

The Banco Court at the Law Courts Building has steep seating with many stairs. Wheelchair access into the Banco Court is available via a lift platform, but requires assistance from staff.

Entering the Court Room

The door to the Court Room will open approximately 30 minutes prior to the ceremony start time.

You and your guests should enter the Court Room together. Each admittee should also indicate to Court staff whether or not they have brought their own mover (see 'Moving your admission' below).

'Moving' your admission

During the ceremony, each admission must be 'moved' by a person who is:

- currently on the Supreme Court Roll in NSW (whether or not the person holds a current practising certificate), or
- an Australian legal practitioner, provided he or she holds a current practising certificate.

You may arrange your own mover (such as a relative or friend) provided they meet one of the above criteria. If you arrange your own mover, you are permitted to bring only 2 other guests.

However you are **not obliged to arrange** someone to move your admission. If you do not bring a mover, a Court registrar will move your admission.

Instructions for your mover, including the words they will be required to speak, will be provided at the ceremony.



Ceremony instructions for admittees

The admission ceremony is in 3 parts:

1) Moving of Admissions

The ceremony official will call the name of each admittee individually.

When you hear your name, stand up.

The mover will stand and 'move' that you be admitted. The Presiding Judicial Officer will respond from the bench to admit you to the Court.

After the Presiding Judicial Officer has finished speaking, you should then bow towards the bench and sit down.

2) Oath or Affirmation of Office

All admittees will be asked to stand up (and remain standing).

The ceremony official will read out the names of all admittees (in groups of seats).

The ceremony official will read the Oath/Affirmation of Office, and will then prompt all admittees to respond in unison. At that prompt, you respond together with other admittees, either:

- "So help me God" (if you choose to swear an Oath) or
- "I do" (if you choose to make an affirmation).

The ceremony official will then prompt you and the other admittees to sit down.

3) Speech by the Presiding Judicial Officer

The Presiding Judicial Officer will make a speech.

At the conclusion of the speech, the Court will rise. Admittees and their guests should stand until all judicial officers have left the Court Room.

A copy of the speech will be available on the Supreme Court website.

Holy texts

If you choose to swear an Oath of Office, you may bring your own holy text to hold while doing so. The Court does not supply copies. If holding a holy text is important to you, you must bring your own copy.

Signing the Roll of Lawyers

Following the ceremony, you must sign the Supreme Court Roll of Lawyers. Your admission will not have legal effect until you have signed the Roll. **Please bring your own pen to sign the Roll.**

Signing the Roll takes place in the ground floor foyer of the Law Courts Building (facing Macquarie Street). After you have signed, you will also receive your Certificate of Admission.

Photography and filming

Photography and filming is not permitted in the Court Room and in most areas of the Law Courts Building.

Your guests may photograph you while you sign the Roll. After signing, you must leave the Roll-signing area if there is a queue of admittees waiting to sign.

Photos in front of the Crest will not be permitted during the Roll-signing process. However you may return for photos in front of the Crest after the queue of admittees waiting to sign has gone. This usually occurs about an hour after the ceremony start time.

Security

Security screening is compulsory for all persons entering the Law Courts Building.

Appropriate attire

Admittees should wear business attire (for example, clothing suitable for a corporate meeting).

Duration of entire process

You should expect to be at the Court for around 90 minutes, including signing of the Roll.

Livestream of each ceremony

Each ceremony can be viewed live on the Supreme Court's [YouTube channel](#). Recordings (video on demand) are available in a [Playlist](#) on that channel.

More information and assistance

Legal Profession Admission Board of NSW

Web: www.lpab.justice.nsw.gov.au
www.supremecourt.justice.nsw.gov.au

Email: lpab@justice.nsw.gov.au

Phone: 02 9338 3500 (Australia)
+ 61 2 9338 3500 (International)