

INSTITUTE OF JUDICIAL STUDIES (IJS)

PROSPECTUS FOR JUDICIAL PACIFIC PARTICIPATION FUND 2019

The Institute of Judicial Studies (IJS) is the education arm of the New Zealand judiciary, delivering programmes and seminars to assist judges throughout their careers. The role of IJS is to inform and inspire the judiciary and to develop skills and good judge craft.

The curriculum

IJS has developed a curriculum of judicial education which guides its programme development. The programmes provide for judges at every stage of their career and address bench-specific and specialist court education needs.

The curriculum integrates four broad areas of education:

1. The role of the judge
2. The context of the judicial function
3. Skills and judge craft
4. Renewal and resilience.

The role of the judge involves broadly three categories: induction; the role of the judge generally; and special functions, courts and delivery. Courses include induction programmes which have skills and judge craft as part of their content; programmes covering judicial conduct and ethics; annual seminars for the different benches and jurisdictions; and mentoring programmes.

Context of the judicial function covers both social and legal context. Social context includes the core programmes Te Reo, Tikanga, Noho Marae, Open Justice and the Media, Family Violence and Managing Sexual Violence Trials. Legal context includes substantive law updates and common room sessions on new and/or complex areas of law.

Skills and judge craft includes management skills (such as courtroom management and communication, and case and time management), evaluative skills and delivery skills. Core evaluative skills programmes include Evidence and Procedure; Decision Making; and Bail and Risk Assessment. Core delivery skills include Oral Judgments and Judgment Writing.

Renewal and resilience supports judges to judge “well.” It encompasses leadership, mentoring, managing workload and mental and physical wellbeing. It is also aimed at reinvigorating and harnessing the previous experience of longer-serving judges.

Programme development

IJS programmes are developed and delivered with input from both subject-area experts and judges. Judges participate as seminar leaders, facilitators, learners and experienced contributors. Programmes are interactive. They include discussion, practice sessions, scenarios and analytical frameworks. Resources are made available through the IJS’s intranet site.

PROGRAMME CHOICES FOR 2019

Managing sexual violence trials → 27 February – 1 March

This seminar addresses the barriers conventional practice presents to courts receiving 'best evidence' in sex trials. The aim is to overcome those barriers and produce a better quality of evidence to maximise fair and accurate outcomes for all participants in sexual violence trials. Expert academics and judicial presenters will work with you to identify and consider issues with current practice, using a range of scenarios. You will consider options for best practice within the current legislative and common law boundaries.

Family violence → 21-22 March

The aim of this seminar is to consider best practice given the current understanding of what assists victim safety and prevents recurrence of family violence. Experts from a range of disciplines and backgrounds will present current research on family violence, with a focus on how family violence dynamics can play out in the courtroom. You will have the opportunity to apply this knowledge to various scenarios and discuss the issues that arise.

Open justice and the media → 10 May

Dealing with the media often poses difficult issues for judges. This one-day seminar covers a range of issues judges must negotiate in what has been described as the "media minefield", including:

- Managing suppression
- Access to court records
- Social media
- Processing applications for coverage under the In-Court Media Guidelines
- Establishing systems and procedures before the start of a trial attracting media interest
- Procedures to increase the likelihood of accurate reporting
- Media issues arising before and after trial
- Options when the media transgress.

The goal is to improve the relationship between judges and the media as well as the quality of court reporting.

Oral judgments → 16-17 May

Over two days you will focus on the structure and delivery of oral judgments. The programme will cover preparation, note taking, reasoning, delivery and credibility findings. You will be recorded delivering oral judgments and receive feedback and coaching.

Transformative justice: Prison realities and alternatives → 30-31 May

This seminar provides judges with the opportunity to explore the many issues that arise in sentencing from both legal and practical perspectives. You will examine in detail the sentence of imprisonment, its characteristics in jails, the parole system, opportunities for therapeutic interventions, and reintegration.

Evidence and procedure → 17-18 June 2019 & 20-21 June

This two-day workshop is an opportunity for you to identify and deal with evidential issues that routinely arise during trials. The seminar strengthens judicial skills in analysing evidential issues, applying the law to those issues and giving reasoned decisions. The material covered is at the core of a judge's work. The seminar is highly interactive and you will work through examples to apply the law and grapple with the difficult issues posed by them. You will determine relevance and appropriate responses to a range of courtroom situations.

FUNDING SUPPORT FROM THE JUDICIAL PACIFIC PARTICIPATION FUND

The Judicial Pacific Participation Fund (JPPF), which ends June 2019, will consider applications from Pacific judicial officers for funding support to attend IJS programmes.

There are very limited spaces available and applicants must be able to engage with and contribute to the programmes. The programmes are suitable for those who have a good grasp of English, and experience in the judicial role and/or legal training.

JPPF will cover:

- All travel for the event, including international economy fares and any New Zealand domestic fares
- Accommodation
- Taxis to and from airports, and between hotel and venues only
- Visitor visa costs (business category visitor) and
- Meals (by way of a set meal allowance).

Applications must be received no later than 8 weeks before the programme and on the official JPPF application form, found on <https://www.jppf.org.nz>. Applications must be accompanied by a letter of support from the Chief Justice, a scanned copy of the applicant's passport and a short bio. Incomplete applications will not be considered.