About the Institute

The Institute of Legal Accountants of Ireland was founded in 1986 by a group of people who recognised the need to establish and maintain standards for Legal Accounting in Ireland.

The Institute’s membership currently includes accountants, solicitors, bookkeepers, computer operators and legal software suppliers. The Institute has close links to the Law Society of Ireland.

The Institute holds an annual conference in September or October each year. These conferences offer a comprehensive programme of topical presentations and events relevant to those working in legal accounting and practice administration. The conference also provides a useful forum for exchange of views between members. Links to recent Conferences can be found at the bottom of any page on our website.

The Institute operates a members’ only mailing list which provides updates and takes questions from members. Other members contribute with solutions and advice.

There has emerged over the years a practice of members being able to contact other members for advice and guidance.

The Institute is run by a Committee which is elected each year at the Annual General Meeting which is held in the Law Society usually in January. The Institute also holds a members meeting in Apr-May each year. Members meetings normally include a presentation on a current topic of interest.

All Institute Presentations and Conferences are acceptable for CPD for Solicitors and Accountants.

The Institute can provide CPD presentations or seminars at extremely competitive rates to local Bar Associations or other groups.

The Institutes’ Objectives

To provide an independent and professional body for persons associated with accounts, book-keeping and administration in law firms.

To promote the exchange of ideas in modern methods of accounting, book-keeping and management in law firms.

To foster, protect and promote the interest and status of our members; to promote honest ethical practices and to settle disputed points of practice.

To encourage the improvement of accounting methods in both manual and computerised systems.

To organise by itself, or by association with approved organisations; seminars and conferences to further the knowledge and expertise of those in Legal Accounting.

To provide recognised qualifications for our members and to maintain standards by a system of examination and research work.

To encourage young people to take up Legal Accounting as a profession.

To provide advisory assistance to members and to solicitors on accounting methods and systems.

To provide an independent and professional organisation for persons associated with the accounts, book-keeping and administration in solicitors’ practices.

Who Can Join?

Membership of the Institute of Legal Accountants is open to those who have an interest in law firm accounting and administration, including:

- Book-keepers working in the accounts and finance departments of law firms.
- Law firm managers, administrators, partnership secretaries, financial controllers and practice managers.
- Solicitors, especially managing partners and sole practitioners.
- Legal software suppliers and computer consultants.
- Members of the accountancy professions, including staff who audit law firms.

Why You Should Join?

The traditional importance of accurate financial information, computer technology, sophisticated management accounting and modern methods of practice administration mean that all personnel must remain up-to-date with all the latest developments. At the same time the highest professional standards must continue to be maintained.

The Institute of Legal Accountants is the only organisation dedicated to helping achieve these aims whilst at the same time encouraging the development of its members’ skills through education, publications, annual conferences, mailing lists, exhibitions and other membership facilities. The Institute also has close links with other sections of the legal community.

With successful legal firms being run along the lines of commercial business and the personnel market becoming increasingly competitive - can you or your staff really afford not to be members?
How do you join?
You can join the Institute by filling out the short application below.

Application Form

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When the form is complete you should send it with payment to Mary Hawkins, The Institute of Legal Accountants in Ireland, Rinn, Oranmore, Co. Galway or email it to treasurer@ilai.ie and make your payment to the Institute’s bank account:

IBAN IE69BOFI90123947853086
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What Does It Cost?
The present rates for membership are:
Fellow €85 | Associate €75 | Student €55

The Institute of Legal Accountants of Ireland is the only professional organisation dedicated to the support and promotion of excellence for specialist financial and administrative personnel working in the legal profession in Ireland.