

Criteria for PLA Members to be considered by the PLA for sponsorship to attend the IPEBLA conference

The main objects of the Pension Lawyers Association (PLA) are:

- (a) to promote the common interests of Pension Lawyers, being the Members of the Association;
- (b) to promote awareness of the importance of the role of law and Lawyers in the provision of retirement and other employee / group benefits and in regulating and defining the relationships between such benefit schemes, trustees, employers, beneficiaries, service providers, the regulatory authorities and any other relevant parties;
- (c) to afford opportunities for the discussion, sharing of information and consideration of matters of interest to Members of the Association;
- (d) to promote education of and provide information to Members of the Association and others similarly interested;
- (e) to make representations to organisations or governments or individuals on matters of interest to Members of the Association;
- (f) to develop and enhance the image and profile of Pension Lawyers within the retirement industry as well as with the broader public;
- (g) to do all such lawful things as are incidental to or conducive to the attainment of the above objects.

In line with these objectives, the Association supports the attendance of Members at the International Pension and Employee Benefits Lawyers Association (IPEBLA) conferences in order for the PLA Members to engage with other international pension lawyers and for the learnings from these engagements to be filtered back to South African pension's law and to the PLA Membership.

The cost of attending the IPEBA conference is often a considerable deterrent for Members to attend and the PLA would like to sponsor and/or partially sponsor Members' attendance from time to time. Sponsorship is a manner in which the PLA can reward a Member for his/her involvement and commitment on PLA matters. The following is the outline of the process to be adopted for sponsoring a PLA Member to attend the IPEBLA conference in order to make the process transparent and open to all Members.

1. A candidate for sponsorship must be a full, current Member of the PLA and have been such for a minimum and uninterrupted period of 3 years, and must, at any time, have served on the National Steering Committee for a minimum of 2 years.
2. A candidate for sponsorship must be a registered and existing member of IPEBLA in order to be considered for sponsorship by the PLA to attend the IPEBLA conference.
3. Candidates must be nominated and seconded by two full and current Members of the PLA and the nomination must include a motivation. The nomination must be accepted by the candidate. The motivation must outline the contribution the candidate has made in the Pensions arena in South Africa and to the PLA.
4. The opportunity to nominate candidates will be posted and advertised on the PLA website and, after the advertised cut-off date, the names of the nominees will be posted on the website.
5. The nominations will be discussed by the National Steering Committee (NSC) which shall have complete discretion in deciding who should be sponsored. The NSC will also have complete discretion in deciding on the sponsorship amount and whether to fully or partially sponsor the nominees. The nominees will be advised in writing of the NSC's decision, and the reasons for the decision and the details of the sponsorship will be posted on the PLA website.

The expectations that the PLA has of the sponsored Member will be outlined on the PLA website and will include the following:

1. The sponsored Member will be required to facilitate and present a report-back on the IPEBLA conference at seminars of the PLA in Durban, Johannesburg and Cape Town.
2. The sponsored Member will be required to write an article on any topic covered at the IPEBLA conference that he/she thought was of particular interest or relevance to PLA Members, which article must be published in one of the industry publications such as Pensions World within 6 months of the Member attending the IPEBLA conference.
3. The sponsored Member must make available, to the NSC, copies of all papers presented at the IPEBLA conference. All IPEBLA conference papers will be posted on the PLA website, to the extent possible and as authorised by IPEBLA and subject to any copyright issues.