NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED LEGAL STUDIES

IN COLLABORATION WITH

OBAFEMI AWOLOWO UNIVERSITY, ILE-IFE, NIGERIA

https://www.apply.nials.edu.ng

APPLICATION FOR HARMATTAN SEMESTER, 2025/2026 ACADEMIC SESSION ADMISSION INTO POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

Applications are hereby invited from suitably qualified candidates for admission into the Online and In-person Full-time Postgraduate Diploma in Legislative Drafting (PGDLD), Master of Laws in Legislative Drafting (LL.M) and Master of Philosophy (MPhil)/Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Legislative Drafting, for the 2025/2026 Academic Session.

The postgraduate courses in legislative drafting are approved by the Senate of the Obafemi Awolowo University (OAU) and run in collaboration with the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, which is Nigeria's apex institution for research and advanced studies in law, mandated by its enabling Act to run postgraduate courses in legislative drafting. The courses are designed to assist Nigeria and other African countries in producing persons with expertise in legislative drafting; help in meeting the deficit in the demand for and supply of trainers of legislative drafters; and produce highly skilled personnel in legislative drafting for universities within and outside Nigeria desirous of developing courses in the field of legislative drafting in their law faculties. All the courses incorporate socio-legal research, communication skills, student supervision, report and proposal writing, grantsmanship; and emphasise critical, analytical, and reflective thinking as well as generic skills development. In addition, the repositioned OAU Postgraduate College and Institute Postgraduate School promise a timely completion of all programmes.

THE VISION OF THE POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL
To bring the postgraduate legal education and training in legislative drafting nearer to suitable and needing learners, and be the first choice among legal institutions in Nigeria.

THE MISSION OF THE POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL
To produce students through the deployment of best practices in teaching, research, supervision, and student assistance services. To produce graduates in legislative drafting who are professionals and capable of making a difference in the legal profession, and contribute to national development.

1. PROGRAMMES, ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND DURATION

A. POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN LEGISLATIVE DRAFTING (PGDLD)

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
A prospective applicant must hold a Bachelor of Law (LL.B) degree from a recognised University with a minimum of Third Class Grade; have been called to the Bar, and be of good character.

DURATION
Candidates admitted for the Postgraduate Diploma in Legislative Drafting (PGDLD) programme will be required to spend not less than two semesters, including being on coursework for one (1) semester and subsequently undertake a research project (draft bill/regulation) in the second semester. The total duration of the programme is nine (9) months.

B. MASTER OF LAWS IN LEGISLATIVE DRAFTING (LL.M)

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
A prospective applicant must hold a Bachelor of Law (LL.B) degree with a minimum of Second Class Lower Grade from a recognised university; have been called to the Bar, and be of good character.

DURATION
Candidates admitted for the Master of Laws in Legislative Drafting (LL.M) programme will be required to spend not less than two semesters, including being on coursework for two (2) semesters and will undertake a research (long essay) project for six (6) months. The total duration of the programme is eighteen (18) months.

C. MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY (MPHIL)/DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PHD) IN LEGISLATIVE DRAFTING

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
(i) An applicant for M.Phil, in addition to the requirement for LL.M admission, must possess the following:
LL.M in Legislative Drafting of the Institute, LL.M in Legislative Drafting from any other recognised University or LL.M from any other recognised University.
(ii) An applicant for PhD in addition to the requirement for LL.M admission must possess a research LL.M or M.Phil degree from the Institute or any recognised University.
(iii) An M.Phil/Ph.D candidate who does not possess LL.M in Legislative Drafting will be required to take foundational courses as may be necessary.

DURATION
A candidate admitted into the M.Phil programme is expected to complete the programme within a minimum of four (4) semesters and maximum of six (6) semesters, A candidate for PhD programme is expected to complete the programme within a minimum of six (6) semesters and maximum of eight (8) semesters.

Such a candidate will be on coursework and is required to submit two seminar papers in the first two (2) semesters of the programme.

VERY IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR CANDIDATES

- In addition to the admission requirements as published, ALL candidates should please note that they must satisfy the O' Level requirements for Matriculation into Bachelor of Law (LL.B) programme, i.e. Five Credit passes in relevant subjects at not more than two sittings, including English Language, Literature in English and Mathematics (only where required by the University of first degree).
- All Applicants are required to prepare for a screening examination exercise.

2. METHOD OF APPLICATION: PURCHASE OF APPLICATION FORM SHALL BE ONLINE ONLY
Candidates can complete the application form and pay by taking the listed steps on the Institute's website (see particularly the Institute's Admissions Portal).

APPLICATION FORM FEE
PGDLD N15,000
LL.M N20,000
M.PHIL N25,000
PHD N30,000

3. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
a) The progress of completed application forms can be monitored on the Institute's Admissions Portal while notification will be sent to applicants once decisions are taken on the applications.
b) Applicants will be notified of the status of their applications by e-mail.
c) All Applicants who apply for the M.Phil/Ph.D programme should submit a research proposal of not more than 1750 words using a line spacing of 1.5 and Times New Roman font along with their supporting documents.
d) After completing M.Phil programme, student seeking to convert to PhD programme are required to submit a research proposal of not more than 1500 words for consideration for the purpose of the conversion.
e) All successful Applicants should note that they will be bound by all the Postgraduate School Regulations of OAU and NIALS.

4. OTHER INFORMATION
(a) Sponsors such as Employment Agencies, Ministries, Corporations, Parastatals and Foreign Missions should advise their candidates to apply personally for admission. Multiple applications will lead to cancellation of all applications forwarded.
(b) Any candidate currently registered for a postgraduate programme of the Institute or OAU, Ile-Ife, who applies for admission into any of the above postgraduate programmes without disclosure on the application form or without formal withdrawal from the initial programme will automatically forfeit his/her studentship.
(c) Applications without original copies of transcripts and other supporting documents will not be considered.
(d) Successful candidates will receive their Letters of Admission through the e-mail addresses supplied.
(e) Please always check the Institute's website for further information and notices.

CLOSING DATE FOR ADMISSION:
15th December, 2025

For further enquiries, please contact
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