

What is the timetable for the next edition?

The deadline for submissions for the 2022 edition is 24 September 2021.

Does a practice have to be a certain size before it is eligible to be editorially recommended?

No, although the size of the team, and its strength in depth, are among the factors which the researcher will take into account when assessing a practice against its competitors. Others include the quality of work handled, the calibre of clients, referee feedback, and the reputation of individual practitioners.

If we provide firm and partner profiles, do we also need to send an editorial submission?

Yes. Editorial researchers do not see the profiles provided by firms. The editorial research is independent of the sales process.

We are not going to be able to meet the editorial submission deadline. Do you accept late submissions?

The Legal 500 series receives thousands of submissions every year, and researchers are under tight deadlines to research practice areas. It is in firms' own interests for their submissions to have been fully reviewed by the researchers as part of their preparation. Our overriding aim is to produce editorial which is as accurate as possible, but firms should be aware that submissions delivered late may not be given as full consideration as submissions received on time.

What form does your research with referees take?

In the first instance we send a standard email to referees. This identifies the firm which has provided the contact as a referee, and the relevant practice area, and requests feedback on the referee's experience of that practice. The referee is also invited to provide feedback on other law firms. The email may be followed by a telephone discussion. All feedback is given on a confidential, non-attributable basis. A referee may be a client, an introducer or referrer of work, or counsel. Firms are also asked to specify the category into which each of their referees falls, to enable us to tailor our reference requests appropriately.

What questions do you ask referees?

- 1) How long have you used the firm in this area, and on what type/value of work do you instruct it?
- 2) How would you assess the overall level of service? (Factors may include response times, business acumen/ industry knowledge, appropriateness of advice, strength-in-depth of team, and value for money).
- 3) Which individual lawyers would you single out as being particularly good? What do you see as their strengths and qualities?
- 4) How does the firm compare to any others of which you have experience in this area? Would you recommend any other firms/lawyers?
- 5) Do you have any other comments?

Who should I contact for more information?

Please email editorial@legal500.com