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REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION FOR A FIDELITY FUND CERTIFICATE IN TERMS OF THE LEGAL PRACTICE ACT, 2014

Legal practitioners are referred to Section 84(1) and (2) of the Legal Practice Act, 28 of 2014, which reads as follows:

- (1) *Every attorney or any advocate referred to in Section 34(2)(b), other than a legal practitioner in the full-time employ of the South African Human Rights Commission or the State as a state attorney or state advocate and who practises or is deemed to practise -
 - (a) *for his or her own account either alone or in partnership; or*
 - (b) *as a director of a practice which is a juristic entity, must be in possession of a Fidelity Fund certificate.**
- (2) *No legal practitioner referred to in subsection (1) or person employed or supervised by that legal practitioner may receive or hold funds or property belonging to any person unless the legal practitioner concerned is in possession of a Fidelity Fund certificate.*

The requirements for obtaining a Fidelity Fund certificate in terms of the Legal Practice Act, are: -

- the annual contribution of R345 (VAT included) payable by the applicant, for the issuing of the certificate, as set out in Rule 48 of the Legal Practice Act Rules;
- proof of completion of the Practice Management Training before applying for the first Fidelity Fund Certificate, subject to the provisions of Rule 27.1 of the Legal Practice Act Rules;
- timeous submission of the trust account audit report; approved by the Council, and
- the completed (online) application.

Legal practitioners who are required in terms of the Legal Practice Act to be in possession of a Fidelity Fund Certificate should access the secure online application and certificate issuing portal through the following link <https://ffc.fidfund.co.za> or from the Legal Practitioners Fidelity Fund's website (www.fidfund.co.za) to apply for a Fidelity Fund Certificate.

Practitioners are reminded that applications for 2019 Fidelity Fund Certificates will only be accepted through the online application process.