



Republic of the Philippines
LEGAL EDUCATION BOARD
G/F Red Cross Building, Carlos P. Garcia Avenue,
Diliman, Quezon City 1104

**Legal Education Board Memorandum Circular
No. 122, Series of 2022**

**SUBJECT: CLARIFICATION ON THE PREREQUISITES FOR ADMISSION TO THE
JURIS DOCTOR PROGRAM**

The LEB has been receiving a number of queries on whether applicants to their law program are still required to comply with the prescribed six (6) units of Mathematics, eighteen (18) units of English and eighteen (18) units of Social Sciences as a pre-requisite to admission, under Section 16 of LEBMO 1-2011, which was declared unconstitutional by the Honorable Supreme Court in its September 10, 2019 Decision in the case entitled, Oscar Pimentel, et. al. vs. the Legal Education Board, for “extending the jurisdiction of the LEB to the courses and units to be taken by the applicant in his or her pre-law course” and also because “such requirement is not to be found under Section 6, Rule 138 of the Rules of Court”.

The Honorable Court would later affirm its earlier declaration on Section 16 in its November 9, 2021 Resolution of the Motion for Reconsideration filed by petitioners, respondents and petitioners-in-intervention. Without an official copy of the Resolution, however, the LEB deemed it better to just “suspend” compliance with the afore-stated Section 16, via the issuance of LEBMO 113 on April 26, 2022.

Then, on June 7, 2022, the LEB received an official copy of the November 9, 2021 Resolution of the Honorable Court, the pertinent portion thereof provides, thus:

“Indeed, Rule 138 of the Rules of Court pertains only to the requirement of the Court anent the Bar examinations, thus, irrelevant to the determination of the validity of the questioned provision. Nevertheless, Section 16 is still void as it is couched in a language that effectively denies the academic institution’s fiscal autonomy to, at the very least, conditionally accept the student with deficiencies in Mathematics, English and Social Science subjects. Trite to the point, the LEB, in the exercise of the delegated police power of the State, may impose reasonable and minimum qualifications of prospective law students for as long as it does not suppress the autonomy of the academic institution to choose its students.”

It is in this light and with due deference to the Most Honorable Court that Section 16 of LEBMO 1-2011 is now formally revoked, with retroactive application.

Issued on June 17, 2022, in Quezon City.

ANNA MARIE MELANIE B. TRINIDAD
Chairperson