1983 No. 57

LEGAL AID AND ADVICE

Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1983

Made	*22nd March 1983*
Coming into operation	*3rd May 1983*
To be laid before Parliament	

The Lord Chancellor, in exercise of the powers conferred by Articles 9(2), 12(2) and 22(1) of the Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance (Northern Ireland) Order 1981(**a**) and now vested in him(**b**), hereby makes the following Regulations—

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Legal Aid (Financial Conditions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1983 and shall come into operation on 3rd May 1983.

(2) In these Regulations "the Order" means the Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance (Northern Ireland) Order 1981.

Disposable income and disposable capital for the purposes of Article 9 of the Order

2.—(1) For the yearly sum of £4,440 specified in Article 9(1) of the Order, there shall be substituted the yearly sum of £4,720.

(2) For the capital sum of £2,725 specified in Article 9(1)(*a*) of the Order, there shall be substituted the sum of £4,000.

Contributions to the Legal Aid Fund

3.—(1) For the yearly sum of £1,850 specified in Article 12(1)(*a*) of the Order, there shall be substituted the yearly sum of £1,965.

(2) For the capital sum of £1,310 specified in Article 12(1)(*b*) of the Order, there shall be substituted the sum of £2,500.

Dated 22nd March 1983. *Hailsham of St. Marylebone, C.*

(**a**) S.I. 1981/228 (N.I. 8) as amended by S.R. 1982 No. 56
(**b**) S.I. 1982/159

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations.)

These Regulations increase the financial limits of eligibility for legal aid under Part II of the Legal Aid, Advice and Assistance (Northern Ireland) Order 1981.

The income limits are increased to make legal aid available to those with disposable incomes of not more than £4,720 a year (instead of £4,440) and available without payment of a contribution to those with disposable incomes of £1,965 a year or less (instead of £1,850).

The capital limits are increased to make the upper limit of disposable capital, above which legal aid may be refused if it appears that the applicant could afford to proceed without legal aid, £4,000 (instead of £2,725) and the lower limit of disposable capital, below which no contribution in respect of capital may be required, £2,500 (instead of £1,310).