



Frequently Asked Questions

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SUBMITTING

- **Q: Do we need to submit different forms per practice area?**
A: No. We require one submission form, per firm, per country. We invite you to share a balanced variety of casework from different practice areas on the same submission form.
- **Q: Is there a limit to the number of cases we can provide? Is there a limit to the number of lawyers we can nominate?**
A: We allow up to 20 case highlights per submission form. There is no limit to the number of lawyers you can nominate.
- **Q: Do you *only* rate those of 'Partner' level?**
A: Yes. Benchmark Litigation Europe does not rank associates or senior statesmen.
- **Q: Since the nature of litigation cases takes a long period of time, will it hurt our submission if most of the case highlights are ongoing?**
A: We encourage firms to provide a majority of case highlights that are resolved within the past 12 months so that we can assess the case in its completion and consider its success. We also welcome some ongoing case work as well, especially if it is novel or innovative in nature.
- **Q: Should we list confidential cases/clients? How do we ensure these remain confidential?**
A: Yes. We encourage firms to provide as much detail as possible including on confidential cases/clients. We ask that you **mark any confidential information** on the submission form in **RED**. We will not publish any confidential information and will only use this information for internal understanding and analysis purposes.
- **Q: Can I send information in another format?**
A: No. All firms must use the submission form and client referee templates provided.

- **Q: Would a firm get disqualified if no client referee list is submitted?**

A: No. A client referee submission is not mandatory. However, the client feedback collected is used to support the firm submission, round out our understanding and determine the quality of the legal services provided.

- **Q: Do we need to submit different referee forms for different practice areas?**

A: No, we only need ONE referee document per firm per country.

INTERVIEWS

- **Q: How many interviews can a firm schedule? Is it one interview per firm or multiple interviews for respective practice areas?**

A: Firms are allotted one interview per firm per country. This interview will cover multiple practice areas, so all participating partners must be on this one call (or at least during the portion they cover their respective areas).

- **Q: Does the firm need to contact you for an interview? Or will you contact the firm?**

A: The research team will send out invitations to firms to coordinate interviews. Equally, firms are welcome to contact us to be proactive about requesting an interview. If you contact us early, there is a high possibility that we can accommodate you sooner.

- **Q: Should we wait until the submission documents are submitted to schedule an interview?**

A: Interviews are coordinated on a first-come, first-served basis. We encourage firms to respond to email inquiries and marketing campaigns to timely schedule their interviews and, on occasion, that can be before submissions have been provided.

- **Q: Do interviews with the research analysts give you a higher chance of being ranked?**

A: Yes. Interviews allow our research team to hear directly from leading practitioners on the complexity, sophistication, innovation, and novelty of cases and trends. Additionally, interviews are meant to also gather market feedback and discuss market trends.

SURVEYS

- **Q: We would like additional lawyers to be considered for designation. How can we nominate them?**

A: There are two ways to nominate lawyers: a) the submission form and b) the practitioner survey. The Practitioner Survey serves as a way for lawyers – both already ranked and seeking-to-be-ranked to showcase additional work highlights that support their nomination. We encourage firms to share the survey link with lawyers who wish to be considered. Dates specific to the practitioner survey will be shared on our website in due course.

- **Q: Is there a way to alert our clients ahead of the Client Survey so that can be alert for its arrival?**

A: Yes. We notify law firms in advance of the survey launch so you can notify your clients. We do urge you to remind your clients to check all spam folders.

- **Q: Are the client and practitioner surveys compulsory?**

A: Our research is made up of a three-pronged system: a) case highlights b) peer review and c) client feedback. While surveys are not compulsory, we encourage clients and firms to complete them to make their views known and to underscore the case highlights within the submission form.

- **Q: My clients say they have not received the Client Survey email. What should we do?**

A: Please email us if clients have not received our survey emails. We will arrange for a re-send if time allows.

- **Q: Our firm clients did not respond to the Client Survey by the deadline. What happens next?**

A: While we send reminders about the client survey, we do not follow up after the deadline. We respect that clients may not want to participate and will not proceed any further. Their details are kept confidential, and we do not use them outside of this client survey request.

AWARDS:

- **Q: How do we nominate cases for awards? Is there a separate submission process for that?**

A: There is NOT a separate submission process for awards. If you wish to nominate casework for consideration into our awards program, we invite you to include the information in the 'awards nominations work highlights' section of this submission form. If you do not put your cases down in this section, they will not be considered for the awards.

- **Q: Who determines the nominees and winners for the awards?**

A: The Benchmark research team, including its Head of Research, will assess all submissions to determine the nominees and to collectively determine the winners for each category.

- **Q: Is there a list of award categories?**

A: No. Categories are determined based off what the research data reflects. We reserve the right to amend the categories each year.

- **Q: Will the same cases be used to evaluate firm and individual award categories?**

A: Yes. Casework provided in the 'awards nominations work highlights' section of the form will be for the firm, individual, and impact case categories.

- **Q: If we have nominated three cases in the Awards section, do we have to include them again in the work highlights section as well?**

A: No. We treat your most important cases as those in the awards nomination section and will review those first. There is no need to repeat the awards case information in the 20 work highlights afterwards.

RESULTS

- **Q: Does every firm that submits receive a ranking placement/lawyer recognition?**

A: No. We do not guarantee a ranking placement or lawyer recognition. Through notable casework, we require firms to prove they are doing notable litigious work in the relevant practice areas to be included on any firm or lawyer rankings.

- **Q: What is the readership of Benchmark Litigation?**

A: The readers of Benchmark Litigation include – but is not limited to - law firms, in-house counsel and buyers of legal services.

- **Q: How does Benchmark Litigation differ from Chambers & Partners, Legal 500 or other competitors?**

A: Benchmark Litigation focuses exclusively on dispute resolution and litigation. This allows us to provide a much more in-depth analysis of the market. Benchmark Litigation strives to avoid being over-inclusive.

- **Q: We would love to profile our firm and/or lawyers on your website. How do we do that?**

A: Please contact us and we will connect you with our Publishers who can detail the ways you can add value to your research results and get involved.

- **Q: If I don't commercially support the publication, do I still get rated?**

A: Any firm or practitioner can appear in the publication so long as there is substantiating case work and market feedback to warrant the inclusion. Firms cannot pay to appear in the guide as Benchmark Litigation is not “pay-to-play”.