S.O.T. SYSTEMS OF TIMOR

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+67077192122

Rua de Ai Meti Laran, Comoro, Dom Aleixo, Dili

JOB PROFILE

Lawyer

Advogadu/a

Office, finance & administration · ISCO-08 2611

Lawyers give people and organisations legal advice, draw up legal documents such as contracts and wills, and represent their clients in court. Some work as prosecutors for the State. The government says strengthening the justice sector is key to peace and to attracting investment.

TRAIN IN TIMOR	**University (UNTL)** Faculty of Law
COURSE LENGTH	**To confirm** No published source yet
IN TIMOR	**To confirm** No demand data for Timor-Leste yet
ABROAD	**No official programme yet** Australia PEV: any job, with a job offer
PAY IN TIMOR	**US$292 / month** Average for all professionals in Timor-Leste, not this job alone (Labour Force Survey 2021)

WHAT YOU DO

Advise: Listen to clients and explain their rights and choices; Interview clients and witnesses to find the facts; Negotiate settlements so a dispute can end without a trial.

Research: Read laws and decrees that apply to the case; Study earlier court decisions; Plan the arguments for the case.

Write: Draw up contracts, land and property papers and wills; Write legal opinions; Help draft laws and government regulations.

Go to court: Represent clients in court and before tribunals and boards; Defend people accused of crimes; Prosecute cases for the government.

Based on the ILO description of ISCO-08 unit group 2611, Lawyers.

WHERE YOU WORK

Private practice (Law firms and lawyers working on their own); Public Defender's Office (The government plans to finish its office buildings in the municipalities); Public Prosecutor's Office (Prosecutors work for the State); Government, companies & NGOs (Legal advisers and drafting laws).

Much of the work is reading, writing and meetings. Court days are long and stressful, and cases can take months or years.

The government wants to extend legal aid to the most vulnerable people, to strengthen the Public Defenders and to create conditions for competent private lawyers.

The 2011 development plan set out an independent Bar Association to regulate, train and discipline lawyers. Whether you must register with it today, and how: to confirm.

IS IT FOR ME?

You are good at: Reading long texts closely, Writing and arguing clearly, Speaking in public, Being honest and fair, Languages, especially Portuguese.

You like: Justice and rights, Solving hard problems, Helping people in trouble, Study.

Timor-Leste's legal system is inspired by the Portuguese model, and legal texts use Portuguese. The government says mastering Portuguese is essential to interpret and apply the laws well.

TRAIN FOR IT IN TIMOR-LESTE

- **Faculdade de Direito, UNTL** · Prepares jurists in theory and practice. Degree title and length: to confirm.
- **Centro de Formação Jurídica e Judiciária (CFJJ)** · Trains magistrates, public defenders and private lawyers

Degree length, entry rules, fees and what you need after your degree to practise as a lawyer: to confirm with UNTL and the CFJJ. The directory never shows a number without a source.

WHERE IT LEADS

- **Law student** · Faculty of Law, UNTL
- **Lawyer** · Further training at the CFJJ
- **Public defender or prosecutor** · The CFJJ trains public defenders and magistrates
- **Judge** · Decides cases in court (ISCO 2612). Recruitment rules to confirm.

WORK ABROAD, SAFELY

- **Australia: Pacific Engagement Visa** · No official programme recruits Timorese lawyers for work abroad yet. Law differs from country to country. Australia's Pacific Engagement Visa allows any occupation, but you need a job offer from an Australian employer first.

Never pay a fixer. Join only through SEFOPE, the Timor-Leste government office for work abroad. No one can sell you a place, and a real overseas job never asks you for a recruitment fee.

SOURCES

1. ILO, ISCO-08 unit group 2611 Lawyers https://www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/stat/isco/isco08/
2. UNTL faculties: Faculdade de Direito https://www.untl.edu.tl/estudo/faculdades/
3. Programme of the IX Constitutional Government 2023–2028 (18 Jul 2023), §6.8 Justice https://timor-leste.gov.tl/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/EN-Programa-IX-Governo.pdf
4. Government of Timor-Leste, Strategic Development Plan 2011–2030 (2011), justice: Bar Association https://timor-leste.gov.tl/wp-content/uploads/2011/07/Timor-Leste-Strategic-Plan-2011-20301.pdf
5. Pacific Engagement Visa: any occupation, job offer needed (employer fact sheet 2025) https://pev.gov.au/sites/default/files/2025-02/PEV%20for%20Employers%20Fact%20Sheet_2025.pdf
6. Labour Force Survey 2021, Table 29: average monthly wage of employees by occupation group https://www.ilo.org/sites/default/files/wcmsp5/groups/public/%40asia/%40ro-bangkok/%40ilo-jakarta/documents/publication/wcms_863064.pdf

From the Servisu jobs directory. Every figure has a source; "to confirm" means none yet. http://servisu.oftimor.com/jobs-directory/lawyer/?lang=en