RankMath Complete Compatibility Checklist (2025)

(Everything required to hit 100/100 — merged from your screenshots + RankMath documentation + your extracted table)

🟩 SECTION 1 — BASIC SEO CHECKLIST

1. Focus Keyword Placement

- ☐ Focus Keyword used in SEO Title

- ☐ Focus Keyword used **at the beginning** of SEO Title (first 50%)

- ☐ Focus Keyword used in SEO Meta Description

- ☐ Focus Keyword used in URL

- ☐ Focus Keyword appears in the **first 10%** of the article

- ☐ Focus Keyword found throughout the content

- ☐ Keyword Density between **1% – 1.5%**

- ☐ Focus Keyword in at least one Subheading (H2/H3)

- ☐ Focus Keyword used in Image ALT attribute(s)

- ☐ Focus Keyword has not been used on another page (uniqueness)

2. URL Optimization

- ☐ URL length is **≤75 characters**

- ☐ URL includes the focus keyword

- ☐ URL is clean — no stop words, no numbers unless intentional

3. Content Requirements

- ☐ Minimum 600 words (for RankMath score; your articles exceed 2000 so perfect)

- ☐ Focus keyword distributed naturally (not stuffed)

🟩 SECTION 2 — ADDITIONAL SEO CHECKLIST

4. Internal & External Linking

- ☐ At least **1 internal link** to a relevant page

- ☐ At least **1 external link**

- ☐ At least **1 DoFollow external resource**

- ☐ Linking structure follows logical flow

5. Image Optimization

- ☐ ALT text contains focus keyword

- ☐ File size optimized

- ☐ File names SEO-friendly

6. Metadata & Technical SEO

- ☐ Meta Title ≤60 characters

- ☐ Meta Description ≤155 characters

- ☐ Canonical tag included

- ☐ Schema applied (Article, BlogPosting, FAQ, Organization, LocalBusiness, LegalService depending on article type)

- ☐ Page passes mobile-friendly test (Gutenberg is fine)

🟩 SECTION 3 — TITLE READABILITY CHECKLIST

RankMath runs **4 title tests** — all must be green.

7. Focus Keyword at Start

- ☐ Focus Keyword within first 50% of Title

8. Sentiment in Title (Emotional Trigger)

- ☐ Positive or negative sentiment

- Examples: "danger", "warning", "mistakes", "essential", "powerful", "simple", "dangerous"

9. Power Word in Title

- ☐ At least one power word

- Examples: proven, ultimate, essential, hidden, secret, shocking

10. Number in Title

- ☐ At least one number (if relevant)

- Not mandatory for legal articles, but RankMath rewards it.

11. Clickability

- ☐ Title triggers curiosity or urgency

- ☐ No exaggeration or clickbait

- ☐ Realistic human tone

🟩 SECTION 4 — CONTENT READABILITY CHECKLIST

12. Structure & Formatting

- ☐ A **Table of Contents** is included

- ☐ Short paragraphs (1–3 lines)

- ☐ Clear headings (H2/H3)

- ☐ Bullet points & numbered lists used

- ☐ Bold highlights on key lines

- ☐ Pull quotes or content boxes where needed

- ☐ Embedded media where appropriate (image/video)

13. User Experience

- ☐ Easy to skim

- ☐ Uses simple language (especially for legal content)

- ☐ No walls of text

- ☐ Logical flow from intro → body → CTA

🟩 SECTION 5 — AEO (AI Overviews) COMPATIBILITY CHECKLIST

14. Direct-Answer Optimization

- ☐ Article begins with a **1–3 sentence direct answer** to the search question
- ☐ Clear definitions for legal concepts
- ☐ Short question-based headings
- ☐ FAQ section included
- ☐ FAQ Schema applied

🟩 SECTION 6 — CONTENT AI OPTIMIZATION

15. Content AI Checks

- ☐ Focus keyword score passed
- ☐ Suggested secondary keywords included
- ☐ Suggested headings included
- ☐ Recommended word count satisfied
- ☐ No over-optimization warnings

🟩 SECTION 7 — PAGE QUALITY & EEAT CHECKLIST

16. Trust & Authority

- ☐ Author bio present

- ☐ Law firm details included (address, phone, email, links)

- ☐ Disclaimer where required (legal topics)

- ☐ Sources cited

- ☐ No medical or legal advice disclaimers missing

🟩 SECTION 8 — FINAL REVIEW CHECKLIST

17. Before Publishing

- ☐ Title: optimized with sentiment + power word + keyword

- ☐ Meta description: includes focus keyword + benefit

- ☐ Slug: clean, short, contains primary keyword

- ☐ TOC added

- ☐ Schema added

- ☐ Internal links added

- ☐ External links added

- ☐ Images optimized

- ☐ FAQ added

- ☐ CTA added

- ☐ Grammarly check (clarity, correctness, tone)

- ☐ Mobile preview tested