

**AMENDMENTS TO THE
SUPREME COURT RULES FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE BAR OF OHIO**

The following amendments to the Supreme Court Rules for the Government of the Bar of Ohio (Gov.Bar R. I, Sections 1, 2, and 3) were adopted by the Supreme Court of Ohio. The history of these amendments is as follows:

December 23, 2013	Initial publication for comment
April 29, 2014	Final adoption by conference
July 1, 2014	Effective date of amendments

SUPREME COURT RULES FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE BAR OF OHIO

RULE I. ADMISSION TO THE PRACTICE OF LAW

Section 1. General Requirements.

To be admitted to the practice of law in Ohio, an applicant shall satisfy all of the following requirements:

- (A) Be at least twenty-one years of age;
- (B) Have earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university;
- (C) Have earned a J.D. or an L.L.B. degree from a law school that was approved by the American Bar Association at the time the degree was earned or, if not located in the United States, from a law school evaluated and approved in accordance with Section 2(C) or Section 9(C)(13) of this rule;
- (D) Prior to taking the Ohio bar examination or being admitted without examination pursuant to Section 9 of this rule, have demonstrated that the applicant possesses the requisite character, fitness, and moral qualifications for admission to the practice of law and have been approved as to character, fitness, and moral qualifications under procedures provided in this rule;
- (E) Have passed both the Ohio bar examination and the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination, or have been approved for admission without examination pursuant to Section 9 of this rule;
- (F) Have taken the oath of office pursuant to Section 8(A) of this rule.

Section 2. Preliminary Registration Requirements.

(A) Every applicant who intends to take the Ohio bar examination shall file with the Office of Bar Admissions of the Supreme Court an Application to Register as a Candidate for Admission to the Practice of Law. The applicant shall file the registration application by the fifteenth day of November in the applicant's second year of law school.

(B) The registration application shall be on forms furnished by the Office of Bar Admissions and shall include all of the following:

(1) A certificate from the dean of the law school the applicant is attending, certifying that the applicant has begun the study of law;

(2) A properly authenticated transcript of college credits showing the applicant has earned a bachelor's degree in compliance with Section 1(B) of this rule or a certificate from the dean of the law school the applicant is attending, certifying that the applicant is participating in a three-plus-three program;

(3) Fingerprint identification taken by a sheriff, deputy sheriff, municipal police officer, or state highway patrol officer;

(4) A registration fee of seventy-five dollars;

(5) A fee in the amount charged by the National Conference of Bar Examiners for its character investigation and report;

(6) A completed character questionnaire, in duplicate, in the form prescribed by the Board of Commissioners on Character and Fitness;

(7) Authorization and release forms in the number required by the Office of Bar Admissions.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

Section 3. Application for Ohio Bar Examination; Updating Character and Fitness Information after the Examination.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

(E) At least thirty days before the date fixed for the examination, the applicant shall submit all of the following:

(1) A certificate signed by the dean or associate dean of the applicant's law school certifying that the applicant has received a law degree, has sufficient knowledge and ability to discharge the duties of an attorney at law, and has successfully completed a course of not fewer than ten classroom hours of instruction in legal ethics;

(2) A certificate from a law school or a continuing legal education sponsor, certifying that the applicant has received at least one hour of instruction on substance abuse, including causes, prevention, detection, and treatment alternatives. Substance abuse instruction that is provided by a continuing legal education sponsor qualifies under this section only if it has been accredited by the Commission on Continuing Legal Education as an approved activity under Gov. Bar R. X.

(3) A properly authenticated transcript of college credits showing the applicant has earned a bachelor's degree in compliance with Section 1(B) of this rule if the applicant earned the bachelor's degree through a three-plus-three program.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

(H) As used in this rule:

(1) "Accredited college or university" means a college or university approved by one of the following accrediting associations or, if not located in the United States or Canada, a college or university evaluated and approved in accordance with Section 2(C) or Section 9(C)(13) of this rule: Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools/Commission on Higher Education; New England Association of Schools and Colleges--Commission on Institutions of Higher Education; North Central Association of Colleges and Schools; Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges; Southern Association of Colleges and Schools-- Commission on Colleges; Western Association of Schools and Colleges--Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges-- Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.

(2) "Three-plus-three program" means an education program requiring six years of full-time study through which an individual earns a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university while simultaneously earning a J.D. or an L.L.B. degree from a law school approved by the American Bar Association at the time the J.D. or L.L.B. degree is earned.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

[Effective: February 28, 1972; amended effective October 30, 1972; November 27, 1972; March 19, 1973; November 12, 1973; March 1, 1974; July 8, 1974; April 26, 1976; January 24, 1977; March 9, 1977; August 1, 1977; January 1, 1982; March 9, 1983; July 1, 1983; May 7, 1984; May 28, 1984; December 31, 1984; April 1, 1987; May 6, 1987; January 1, 1989; July 1, 1989; January 1, 1991; February 1, 1991; October 1, 1991; February 1, 1992; May 1, 1992; July 1, 1992; August 1, 1992; January 1, 1993; September 15, 1993; January 1, 1995; May 1, 1997; August 3, 1998; June 1, 2000; October 1, 2000; February 1, 2003; October 1, 2003; February 1, 2007; May 1, 2007; October 1, 2007; January 1, 2008; February 1, 2009; August 1, 2010; January 1, 2013; January 1, 2014; July 1, 2014.]

RULE XX. TITLE AND EFFECTIVE DATES

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

Section 2. Effective Dates.

[Existing language unaffected by the amendments is omitted to conserve space]

(SSSS) The amendments to Gov.Bar R. I, Sections 1, 2, and 3, adopted by the Supreme Court on April 29, 2014, shall take effect on July 1, 2014.