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(1-3), (10); Gov.Bar R. II(2), (4); Gov.Bar R. IX(1); Gov.Bar R X(5); and Appendix I) were adopted by the Supreme Court of Ohio. The history of these amendments is as follows:

May 28, 2026	Initial publication for public comment
August 6, 2026	Final adoption by conference
August 6, 2026	Effective date of amendments

Key to Proposed Amendments:

1. Unaltered language appears in regular type. Example: text

2. Language that has been deleted appears in strikethrough. Example: ~~text~~

3. New language that has been added appears in underline. Example: <u>text</u>

SUPREME COURT RULES FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE BAR OF OHIO

RULE I. ADMISSION TO THE PRACTICE OF LAW

Definitions.

As used in the Supreme Court Rules for the Government of the Bar of Ohio:

"Accrediting Agency" means an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education.

Section 1. General Requirements.

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

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

(B) Have earned a bachelor's degree or doctoral-level degree from ~~an accredited~~ a college or university accredited by an accrediting agency;

(C) Have earned a J.D. or an L.L.B. degree from a law school that was approved by ~~the American Bar Association~~ an accrediting agency 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 Sections 2(C), 10(C)(~~12~~11), or 11(B)(~~7~~6) of this rule;

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

Section 2. Preliminary Registration Requirements.

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

(2) If an applicant's legal education was not received in the United States, the applicant must submit an education evaluation completed by an education evaluation service approved by the Court and a properly authenticated transcript showing successful completion of thirty credit hours of courses taken at a law school approved by ~~the American Bar Association~~ an accrediting agency. Twenty of the thirty hours of coursework must be chosen from a list of courses specified by the Court; the remaining ten hours of coursework do not have to be chosen from the list of courses. The thirty hours of coursework must be completed within a period not greater than forty-eight calendar months. The applicant's education evaluation from an education evaluation service must show that the applicant has completed at least three years of fulltime post-secondary formal legal education and received a law degree in order for the Court to find legal educational equivalence. The registration application shall not be processed until the applicant's legal education is approved by the Court.

[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]

~~(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 Sections 2(C), 10(C)(12), or 11(B)(7) 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; Higher Learning Commission; 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; and Universities 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]

Section 10. Admission Without Examination.

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

(f) Fulltime employment as a teacher of law at a law school approved by ~~the American Bar Association~~ an accrediting agency.

[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; January 1, 2015; January 1, 2017; July 1, 2017; September 2, 2019; June 1, 2020; March 2, 2021; September 1, 2021; January 17, 2023; April 1, 2024; October 15, 2024; January 31, 2025; September 1, 2026; August 6, 2026.]

RULE II. LIMITED PRACTICE OF LAW BY A LEGAL INTERN

Section 2. Eligibility.

To be eligible for a legal intern certificate, either of the following shall apply:

(A) The applicant shall be enrolled in a law school approved by ~~the American Bar Association~~ an accrediting agency and meet all of the following requirements:

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

(B) The applicant shall be a graduate of a law school approved by ~~the American Bar Association~~ an accrediting agency and meet both of the following requirements:

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

Section 4. Issuance and Duration of Certificate.

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

(1) On the date, prior to graduation, the legal intern is no longer enrolled in a law school approved by ~~the American Bar Association~~ an accrediting agency;

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

[Effective: February 28, 1972; amended effective February 12, 1973; January 1, 1979; July 1, 1983; January 1, 1992; October 1, 2000; February 1, 2007; May 1, 2007; August 1, 2009; April 1, 2024; August 6, 2026.]

RULE IX. TEMPORARY CERTIFICATION FOR PRACTICE IN LEGAL SERVICES, PUBLIC DEFENDER, AND LAW SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Section 1. Eligibility.

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

(A) The person has earned a degree from a law school that is accredited by ~~the American Bar Association~~ an accrediting agency recognized;

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

(E) The person is employed by or associated with a legal services or public defender program that provides legal services solely to indigent clients, or is employed as a supervising attorney in a criminal or poverty law and litigation program administered by an Ohio law school that is accredited by ~~the American Bar Association~~ an accrediting agency. For purposes of this

rule, legal services program shall mean any organization that receives financial assistance from the state public defender pursuant to section 120.53 of the Revised Code.

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

[Not analogous to former Rule IX, effective January 1, 1981; amended effective July 2, 1990; July 2, 1991; October 1, 2000; October 1, 2003; February 1, 2007; May 1, 2007; January 1, 2008; June 1, 2020; April 1, 2024; August 6, 2026.]

RULE X. CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION

Section 5. Allowance of Credit Hours.

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

(C) *Law school teaching credit.*

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

(2) The Commission may allow three credit hours for each semester credit hour taught by an adjunct or part-time professor for a course that is part of the curriculum of a J.D., LL.M., or Ph.D. program at a law school accredited by ~~the American Bar Association~~ an accrediting agency the first time the course is taught by that professor and one-half credit hour for each semester credit hour the course is subsequently taught by that professor.

(3) The Commission may allow one-half credit hour for each semester credit hour taught by a full-time professor at a law school accredited by ~~the American Bar Association~~ an accrediting agency for a course that is part of the curriculum of a J.D., LL.M., or Ph.D. program.

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

(E) *Law school course credit*. The Commission may allow three credit hours for each semester credit hour of a course taken as part of the curriculum of a J.D., LL.M., or Ph.D. program at a law school accredited by ~~the American Bar Association~~ an accrediting agency. Prorated credit may be granted for quarter or trimester hours.

[Effective: July 1, 1988 and January 1, 1989; amended effective January 1, 1989; July 1, 1989; December 15, 1989; May 28, 1990; September 1, 1990; January 1, 1991; February 18, 1991; September 1, 1991; January 1, 1992; July 1, 1992; January 1, 1994; January 1, 1995; January 1, 1996; January 1, 1998; November 1, 1998; January 1, 2000; May 8, 2000; July 1, 2001; January 21, 2002; July 1, 2002, September 1, 2004, November 7, 2005; November 1, 2007; November 1, 2008; December 1, 2011; January 1, 2014; January 1, 2015; July 1, 2017; November 1, 2017; January 1, 2019; July 1, 2019; February 1, 2020; June 1, 2020; August 1, 2022; September 1, 2022; January 1, 2023; March 13, 2024; October 15, 2024; January 1, 2025; August 6, 2026.]

RULE XX. TITLE AND EFFECTIVE DATES

Section 2. Effective Dates.

(BBBBBBB) The amendments to Gov.Bar R. I, Sections 1 through 3, 10; Gov.Bar R. II, Sections 2 and 4; Gov.Bar. R. IX(1) and Gov.Bar. R. X(5) adopted by the Supreme Court on August 6, 2026, shall take effect on August 6, 2026.

APPENDIX I: ATTORNEY CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION REGULATIONS

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

Regulation 400: Hours and Accreditation

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

401.2 Law School Teaching Credit

(A) An Attorney, Magistrate, or Judge who is an adjunct or part-time professor may receive three credit hours of CLE Credit for each Semester Credit Hour of a course that is part of the curriculum of a J.D., LL.M., or Ph.D. program taught at ~~an ABA-accredited~~ a law school accredited by an accrediting agency the first time the course is taught by that Attorney, Magistrate, or Judge and one-half credit hour for each Semester Credit Hour the course is subsequently taught by that Attorney, Magistrate, or Judge. Prorated credit will be granted for quarter or trimester hours.

(B) An Attorney, Magistrate, or Judge who is a full-time professor may receive one-half credit hour of CLE Credit for each Semester Credit Hour of a course that is part of the curriculum of a J.D., LL.M., or Ph.D. program taught at ~~an ABA-accredited~~ a law school accredited by an accrediting agency. Prorated credit will be granted for quarter or trimester hours

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

Regulation 402: Law School Course Credit

(A) An Attorney, Magistrate, or Judge may receive three hours of CLE Credit for each Semester Credit Hour of a course that is part of the curriculum of a J.D., LL.M., or Ph.D. program completed at ~~an ABA-accredited~~ a law school accredited by an accrediting agency. Prorated credit will be granted for quarter or trimester hours.

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

Regulation 404: Accreditation of Established Sponsors

404.2 ~~An ABA-accredited~~ A law school accredited by an accrediting agency acting as a Sponsor of CLE Activities shall be considered an Established Sponsor under this Regulation. The announcement required by Regulation 404.1(F) shall be accompanied by the applicable fee

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

Regulation 409: Self-Study

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

409.2

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

(3) Faculty service at ~~an American Bar Association accredited~~ a law school accredited by an accrediting agency for one or more courses that covers the skill involved in that exercise;

REGULATION 1000: EFFECTIVE DATE

Regulation 1001: Effective Date of Regulations

1001.1

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

(V) Amendments to Regulations 401.2, 402, 404.2, and 409.2 were adopted by the Supreme Court on August 6, 2026 and shall take effect on August 6, 2026.

[Effective: January 1, 1989; amended effective December 15, 1989, May 29, 2000, August 7, 2000; July 1, 2001, July 1, 2002, September 1, 2004, November 7, 2005; December 26, 2005; November 1, 2007; November 2008; January 1, 2013; January 1, 2014; November 1, 2017; September 1, 2018; July 1, 2019; February 1, 2020; August 1, 2022; January 1, 2023; January 1, 2025; August 6, 2026.]