

QUALIFICATIONS OF APPLICANTS

3.05 Qualifications of Applicants

Prior to taking the examination the applicant must show that the applicant will be at least 18 years of age at the time of admission to the practice of law and meet the requirements of either section (1), (2) or (3):

- (1) The applicant is a graduate of a law school approved by the American Bar Association, earning a Juris Doctor degree or Bachelor of Law (LL.B.) degree.
- (2) The applicant is a graduate of a law school in the United States, earning a Juris Doctor degree or Bachelor of Law (LL.B.) degree, and
 - (a) Has been admitted to practice before the highest tribunal of another state, the District of Columbia, or federal territory, where the requirements for admission are substantially equivalent to those of this state; and
 - (b) Has been actively, substantially and continuously engaged in the practice of law for at least three of the five years immediately preceding the taking of the examination.
- (3) The applicant is a graduate of a law school in a foreign jurisdiction, as defined in ORS 9.242(2). In such case, the applicant shall have the burden of proving:
 - (a) That the requirements for admission to practice are substantially equivalent to those of this state;
 - (b) That the applicant is currently admitted to practice law in a foreign jurisdiction where the Common Law of England exists as a basis of its jurisprudence; and
 - (c) That the applicant is a graduate of a law school equivalent to a law school approved by the American Bar Association. The Board shall evaluate whether the applicant's law school meets this above requirement. To assist in this determination, the Board may require that the applicant's law school education be evaluated by a commercial evaluator of the Board's choosing at the applicant's expense.

- (4) An applicant may be allowed to sit for the examination prior to earning a Juris Doctor degree or Bachelor of Law (LL.B) degree if the applicant:
 - (a) is currently enrolled in a law school approved by the American Bar Association;
 - (b) is expected to earn a Juris Doctor degree or Bachelor of Law (LL.B) degree within 120 days of sitting for the examination;
 - (c) has satisfied all graduation requirements to earn a Juris Doctor degree or Bachelor of Law (LL.B.) degree except law school coursework that can be completed during the applicant's post examination final semester (or quarter);
 - (d) will not be actively engaged in more than two semester hours (or quarter hour equivalent) of law school course work other than bar examination preparation courses during the month prior to the examination and the month the examination is held; and
 - (e) has submitted timely a properly signed Affidavit for Examination on the form provided by the Oregon State Bar, certifying that the applicant is academically prepared to take the examination.
- (5) No applicant shall be recommended to practice law until an applicant has earned a Juris Doctor degree or Bachelor of Law (LL.B.) degree and submitted Certificate of Graduation. If an applicant qualifying under Rule 3.05(4) to take the examination does not complete degree requirements within 120 days of sitting for the examination and has not filed an Affidavit for Waiver of the 120 Days Requirement, all parts of the examination, including the applicant's scores, shall be void and the applicant's examination scores shall not be disclosed for any purpose.
- (6) Rule 3.05(4) shall be effective for examinations beginning February, 2016 and thereafter.
