

In the Matter of Emergency)	CHIEF JUSTICE ORDER
Modifications to Bar Admissions)	No. 20-013
System)	
)	ORDER AMENDING OREGON STATE BAR
)	RULES FOR ADMISSION DURING COVID-19
)	OUTBREAK

I HEREBY ORDER, for the reasons set out in Chief Justice Order No. 20-009 and pursuant to ORS 1.002, ORS 9.006, and ORS 9.529, that the following Rules for Admission (RFA) are amended, as ordered below, effective immediately until further order of the Court:

I. Notarization.

- A.** The oath of office required by the Rules of Admission does not need to be notarized.
- B.** All requirements in the Rules for Admission that petitions submitted to the Court be notarized are amended to allow applicants, as an alternative to notarization, to include the following declaration:

“I HEREBY DECLARE THAT THE ABOVE STATEMENTS ARE TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, AND UNDERSTAND THAT ANY FALSE STATEMENT IN THIS DOCUMENT MAY RESULT IN THE DENIAL OF MY ADMISSION, UNDER ORS 9.220(2)(a).”

II. Date of Admission. RFA 8.10(A)(3) is amended and superseded to provide:

“A qualified applicant who does not take and file the oath of office at the time of the admission ceremonies may submit a written oath in the form provided by the Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court. The date of admission cannot be prior to the admission ceremonies next following the date that notice is mailed advising that the applicant passed the bar examination, unless the Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court designates another date of admission.”

III. Reciprocal Admissions. RFA 15.05(3) is amended and superseded to provide:

- “(3) All applicants for admission under this rule shall:
 - (a) Present satisfactory proof of their:
 - (i) Possession of a (1) Juris Doctor (J.D.) or (2) Bachelor of Law (LL.B.) degree from an ABA approved law school; or satisfaction of the requirements of rule 3.05(3);
 - (ii) Passage of the bar examination in a United States jurisdiction;
 - (iii) Admission to the practice of law in a qualifying jurisdiction;
 - (iv) Active membership in good standing in a qualifying jurisdiction; and

- (v) Active, substantial and continuous practice of law for no less than five of the seven years immediately preceding their application for admission under this rule;
- (b) Possess the good moral character and fitness required of all other applicants for admission to practice law in Oregon;
- (c) Complete such applications and submit such other information as may be required by the Board and the Court within six months of the date of filing the application, unless the chair of the Board grants the applicant an extension of time; and
- (d) Pay such application fees and costs as may be established by the Board and the Court for applicants under this rule.”

This order takes effect immediately and shall remain in effect until it is amended or terminated by further order.

Dated this 10th day of April, 2020.



Martha L. Walters
Chief Justice