

From: [OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK](#)
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Subject: FW: Update to the MCLE Board's Suggested Amendment to APR 11
Date: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 11:19:44 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

From: Beth Bersson [mailto:beth.bersson@lawline.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 10:59 AM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Cc: Meredith Cohen <meredith.cohen@furthered.com>; MCLE <MCLE@wsba.org>
Subject: Fwd: Update to the MCLE Board's Suggested Amendment to APR 11

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I hope all is well! I wanted to submit my feedback on the proposed rule change, which will add an equity, inclusion, and mitigation of bias requirement.

We at Lawline think it is a wonderful idea for Washington to start requiring this specialty credit! Many CLE states are moving towards requiring attorneys to complete courses on this important topic. Just this January, Iowa and New Jersey became the ninth and tenth states to implement a Diversity & Inclusion CLE requirement. By requiring attorneys to study this area on a continuous basis, Washington will ensure that attorneys are turning their attention to, and finding ways to combat, some pervasive problems within the legal industry and beyond.

Lawline already offers many courses in this area for other states. If it is helpful, I would be happy to provide you or anyone at the WA courts with access to some sample courses.

Some comments we have received from our current Diversity & Inclusion and Elimination of Bias courses:

- “Amazing. We ended up with my family gathered around my iPad, listening and pausing to discuss points she made. Excellent. A fabulous presentation on a complex topic.”
- “I really enjoyed this program. It was eye opening to some of my own biases.”
- “Good discussion with honest admission that we all have biases to overcome and that the process is ongoing at all times.”
- “Very well done. Raised important and interesting dynamics of all our biases and how to deal with them.”

This is a critically important topic area for everyone to be focusing on, but it's

particularly important for attorneys. We believe that adding this to the CLE requirements will help drive change within the legal industry and elevate the profession as a whole.

Thank you in advance, and I look forward to seeing this change roll out in the future!

Best,

Beth Bersson

Accreditation Manager

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: MCLE <MCLE@wsba.org>

Date: Mon, Feb 22, 2021 at 6:54 PM

Subject: Update to the MCLE Board's Suggested Amendment to APR 11

To: accreditation@lawline.com <accreditation@lawline.com>

Dear Accredited Sponsor,

The MCLE Board wishes to update you on the status of the suggested amendment to APR 11. On September 18, 2020, the MCLE Board presented the suggested amendment to the WSBA Board of Governors for their review. The Board of Governors voted to support the MCLE Board's suggested amendment and provided a [letter of support](#), which was then submitted to the Washington Supreme Court on October 15, 2020.

On January 8, 2021, the Washington Supreme Court [ordered](#) that the proposed amendment be published on the Washington Reports, Washington Register, Washington State Bar Association, and Administrative Office of the Court's websites. As per the Court order, the proposed amendment will be open for public comment until April 30, 2021. The MCLE Board appreciates all the input provided thus far and encourages everyone – even those who have previously commented – to provide their comments to the Court at this time. Comments may be submitted to the Court via mail or email (emails must be no greater than 1500 words).

Mail: P.O. Box 40929

Olympia, Washington 98504-0929

Email: supreme@courts.wa.gov

Please see the [MCLE Board website](#) and the [Washington Supreme Court website](#) for more information. You are welcome to share this information within your organization or networks - to those who may be interested in leaving a comment with the Washington Supreme Court. Again, thank you for your time and valuable feedback throughout this process. Please let us know if you have any questions!

Kind Regards,

The MCLE Board



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