

FILED
SUPREME COURT STATE
OF WASHINGTON
JUNE 5, 2025
BY SARAH R. PENDLETON
CLERK

THE SUPREME COURT OF WASHINGTON

IN THE MATTER OF THE PROPOSED
AMENDMENTS TO APR 3(b)—APPLICANTS FOR
ADMISSION TO PRACTICE LAW

ORDER

NO. 25700-A-1631

The Washington State Bar Association and the University of Washington School of Law, having recommended the adoption of the proposed amendments to APR 3(b)—Applicants for Admission to Practice Law, and the Court having published the proposed amendments for comment, and having considered the proposed amendments, and having determined that the proposed amendments will aid in the prompt and orderly administration of justice;

Now, therefore, it is hereby

ORDERED:

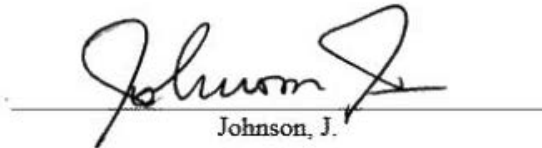
- (a) That the proposed amendments as attached hereto are adopted.
- (b) That the proposed amendments will be published in the Washington Reports and will become effective September 1, 2025.

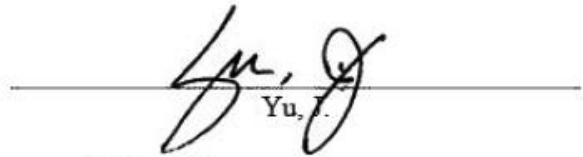
ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO APR 3(b)—APPLICANTS FOR
ADMISSION TO PRACTICE LAW

DATED at Olympia, Washington this 5th day of June, 2025.


CHIEF JUSTICE


Johnson, J.


Yu, J.


Madsen, J.


Montoya-Lewis, J.


González, J.


Whitener, J.


Gordon McCloud, J.


Mungia, J.

APR 3

APPLICANTS FOR ADMISSION TO PRACTICE LAW

(a) [Unchanged.]

(b) Qualification for Lawyer Bar Examination. To qualify to sit for the lawyer bar examination, a person must not be eligible for admission by motion or Uniform Bar Examination (UBE) score transfer and must present satisfactory proof of:

(1)-(3) [Unchanged.]

(4) graduation with a Master of Laws (LL.M.) degree for the practice of law as defined below and either:

(A) graduation with a JD degree from a United States law school not approved by the Board of Governors, or

(B) graduation from a university or law school in a jurisdiction outside the United States, with a degree in law that would qualify the applicant to practice law as a lawyer or the equivalent in that jurisdiction.

~~(5)~~ “LL.M. degree for the practice of law” means an LL.M. program at a law school approved by the Board of Governors that consists of a minimum of 18,200 minutes of total instruction to include at least 12,000 minutes of instruction on principles of domestic United States law, which must include:

~~(A)~~ (i) a minimum of 2,080 minutes in United States Constitutional Law, including principles of separation of powers and federalism;

~~(B)~~ (ii) a minimum of 2,080 minutes in the civil procedure of state and federal courts in the United States;

~~(C)~~ (iii) a minimum of 1,400 minutes in the history, goals, structure, values, rules and responsibilities of the United States legal profession and its members; and

~~(D)~~ (iv) a minimum of 1,400 minutes in legal analysis and reasoning, legal research, problem solving, and oral and written communication.

Applicants who graduated with a Master of Laws (LL.M.) degree from a law school approved by the Board of Governors but whose degree program did not include completion of the total instruction required for the LL.M. degree for the practice of law as set forth in this subsection may qualify to sit for the lawyer bar examination by providing satisfactory proof that they have completed supplemental coursework at one or more law schools approved by the Board of Governors sufficient to satisfy the total required instruction as set forth above.

(c)-(i) [Unchanged.]