

# Applications for Limited Legal Licensure in Washington State

Applications must be filed through the Washington State Bar Association (WSBA) [Online Admissions System](#).

- The Washington Supreme Court Admission and Practice Rules (APR) 3-5, 8(f), 14 and 20-25 and the [WSBA Admissions Policies](#) govern applications for legal licensure in Washington state.
- All applicants are subject to a character and fitness review prior to being admitted to practice law. See APR 20-24.3. Per WSBA Admissions Policies, an investigation report from the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE) is required for applicants who hold a foreign law degree and either do not possess an ABA-accredited J.D. or have not completed Washington’s Law Clerk Program and for applicants who have been admitted as a lawyer in another state or territory of the U.S. or D.C. These applicants referred to the NCBE will be required to pay an investigation fee and submit authorization and release forms directly to the NCBE. The amount and type of application information that needs to be verified may impact the general timeline to licensure.
- Applicants are not licensed or permitted to practice law until the Supreme Court of Washington has entered an order admitting the applicant to the practice of law.
- This is a high-level summary of various application types in Washington and is not a comprehensive list of all application requirements; any discrepancy or conflict between the information provided here and the rules and regulations set by the Washington Supreme Court, or the bylaws and policies of the WSBA, is unintentional and will be resolved in favor of strict compliance with the rules, regulations, bylaws, and policies.

## MORE DETAILS ONLINE

See the WSBA website for additional information regarding applications for all [lawyer license types](#), as well as [pro hac vice](#) admission (permission to practice in a particular action or proceeding in Washington) or licensure as a [limited practice officer](#), which are not included in the chart on the reverse side.

	APR 3 Licensed Legal Intern	APR 8(f) Indigent Representation	APR 8(f) House Counsel	APR 14 Foreign Law Consultant
<b>LEADS TO:</b>	Membership limited to those who have been admitted to the bar in another jurisdiction and are practicing law in Washington only.	Membership limited to those who have been admitted to the bar in another jurisdiction and are practicing law in Washington only.	Membership limited to those who have been admitted to the bar in another jurisdiction and are practicing law in Washington only.	Membership limited to those who have been admitted to the bar in another jurisdiction and are practicing law in Washington only.
<b>ELIGIBILITY:</b>	Must be admitted to practice law in another jurisdiction and be a member of the bar in that jurisdiction. Must be admitted to practice law in Washington only.	Must be admitted to practice law in another jurisdiction and be a member of the bar in that jurisdiction. Must be admitted to practice law in Washington only.	Must be admitted to practice law in another jurisdiction and be a member of the bar in that jurisdiction. Must be admitted to practice law in Washington only.	Must be admitted to practice law in another jurisdiction and be a member of the bar in that jurisdiction. Must be admitted to practice law in Washington only.
<b>APPROVAL:</b>	Must be approved by the Supreme Court of Washington.	Must be approved by the Supreme Court of Washington.	Must be approved by the Supreme Court of Washington.	Must be approved by the Supreme Court of Washington.
<b>TERM:</b>	2-4 years.	2-4 years.	2-4 years.	2-4 years.
<b>APPLIC. FEE:</b>	\$100.	\$100.	\$100.	\$100.

FLIP TO REVIEW THE CHART >

**WASHINGTON STATE**  
BAR ASSOCIATION

	<b>APR 9 Licensed Legal Intern</b>	<b>APR 8(c) Indigent Representation</b>	<b>APR 8(f) House Counsel</b>	<b>APR 14 Foreign Law Consultant</b>
<b>LICENSE TYPE</b>	Nonmember limited (in scope and duration) license, supervised practice	Nonmember limited (in scope and duration) license to provide legal services to indigent clients only	Nonmember limited license (in-house counsel) to practice law for a Washington business entity	Nonmember limited license to advise in Washington state on the laws of the foreign country in which applicant is licensed to practice law as a lawyer
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Not be admitted to practice law in any state or territory of the United States or the District of Columbia; <b>AND</b></li> <li>&gt; Enrolled in a J.D. program at <a href="#">ABA-accredited law school</a> with 2/3 of a 3-year program completed or 5/8 of a 4-year program completed; <b>OR</b></li> <li>&gt; Enrolled in <a href="#">APR 6 Law Clerk Program</a> and 5/8 of program completed; <b>OR</b></li> <li>&gt; J.D. from ABA-accredited law school earned within the last 9 months; <b>OR</b></li> <li>&gt; Completion of the APR 6 Law Clerk Program within the last 9 months; <b>OR</b></li> <li>&gt; LL.M. from ABA-accredited law school that meets the requirements of <a href="#">APR 3(b)(4)</a> earned within the last 9 months.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Admitted to the practice of law with current good standing in other state or territory of the U.S., or D.C.; <b>AND</b></li> <li>&gt; Eligible to apply for admission as a lawyer under APR 3 in Washington; <b>AND</b></li> <li>&gt; Rendering services in a bar association, governmentally sponsored legal services organization, public defender's office, or similar program providing legal services to indigents in Washington; <b>AND</b></li> <li>&gt; Associated with an active Washington lawyer, who shall be the lawyer of record for all matters.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Admitted to the practice of law with current good standing in other state or territory of the U.S., or D.C.; <b>AND</b></li> <li>&gt; Affidavit from employer who is a Washington corporation, association, or other business entity (non-government) in Washington whose lawful business consists of activities other than the practice of law or the provision of legal services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Admitted to the practice of law with current good standing in foreign jurisdiction; <b>AND</b></li> <li>&gt; Active legal experience as a lawyer or counselor at law or the equivalent in a foreign jurisdiction for at least 5 of 7 years immediately preceding the filing of the application.</li> </ul>
<b>APPLICATION FEE</b>	<b>\$50.00</b> (waived if enrolled in a law school clinic)	<b>None</b>	<b>\$970.00</b> + NCBE investigation fee	<b>\$970.00</b> + NCBE investigation fee
<b>OTHER INFORMATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Must comply with all provisions, including limitations on scope of practice, in APR 9.</li> <li>&gt; The qualifications needed to be a Rule 9 Supervising Lawyer are described in APR 9(c).</li> <li>&gt; Valid up to 30 months or 18 months post-graduation (whichever is sooner).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Applicant must apply for and take first available bar exam or have already filed an application for admission by motion or by UBE Score Transfer.</li> <li>&gt; License is subject to automatic termination (see APR 8(c)(4)), including automatic termination 1 year after indigent representation licensure.</li> <li>&gt; NCBE investigation report is not required.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Must comply with all provisions, including limitations on scope of practice, in APR 8(f).</li> <li>&gt; License is subject to automatic termination (see APR 8(f)(7)), including if employment is terminated.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Must comply with all provisions, including limitations on scope of practice, in APR 14.</li> <li>&gt; Must provide letter of recommendation from foreign jurisdiction.</li> <li>&gt; Demonstrate equivalent reciprocity in foreign jurisdiction.</li> </ul>
<b>APPROX. PROCESSING TIME</b>	<b>3-4 weeks;</b> Rule 9 ID sent to intern and supervising lawyer	<b>2-3 weeks</b>	<b>4-6 months</b>	<b>9 months</b>