

Supreme Court of Kentucky

**IN RE:
ORDER AMENDING
RULES OF THE SUPREME COURT (SCR)**

2016-11

**I. SCR 2.015 Professional Responsibility Examinations
(This rule shall be effective July 1, 2017)**

SCR 2.015 shall read:

(1) No person shall be eligible for admission to the Kentucky Bar until that person has first passed the Multi-state Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE) administered by the National Conference of Bar Examiners by attaining a scaled score thereon of at least 80.

(2) No person shall sit for the Bar Examination administered under SCR 2.080, 3.500 or 3.510 without first passing the Multi-state Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE) administered by the National Conference of Bar Examiners by attaining a scaled score thereon of at least 80.

**II. SCR 2.022 Application for Admission by Examination
(This rule shall be effective February 1, 2017)**

SCR 2.022 shall read:

The application for Admission by Examination shall be on a verified form approved by the Board and may not be filed more than 90 days before the filing deadline outlined below.

(1) Every person who intends to apply for admission to the Kentucky Bar by examination must electronically submit a complete, verified Application for Admission by Examination form and pay the required fee to the Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions. An application must be complete at the time of its filing, including a properly executed Authorization & Release form; and must include the following fee:

- (a) Applicants not previously admitted to practice law-\$625.00 (cashier's or certified check or money order)
- (b) Attorney applicants admitted in another jurisdiction-\$775.00 (cashier's or certified check or money order)

The filing deadline is October 1 for the February Bar examination and February 1 for the July Bar examination.

(2) Additional costs will be imposed if required by the Character and Fitness Committee in conducting the background investigation necessary for certification of eligibility. These additional costs are incurred when circumstances require a more intensive background investigation. The cost of any record, document or inquiry concerning an application or transcript of record as a result of a hearing shall be paid by the applicant. Any additional expenses incurred must be paid prior to the release of any examination results for the applicant.

(3) Upon notice from the Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions, the Deans of each law school shall file individual certifications attesting to each applicant's character and fitness and date of graduation. The Dean's certification shall be specific as to each applicant and on a form provided by the Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions.

(4) Any applicant whose application to the Bar of another state has been refused for any reason is ineligible to take the Bar examination in this state unless the refusal was based upon a failure to pass the Bar examination in that state.

(5) Any applicant who is a member of the bar in another jurisdiction must produce a certificate of good standing with the application. The applicant must also produce a statement from the disciplinary board of that jurisdiction indicating whether any complaints have been filed against the applicant and their disposition. Any applicant who has a complaint(s) pending, is under disciplinary action, suspended, or any other action that would prohibit the practice of law as a member of the bar in another jurisdiction is not eligible for admission in Kentucky. Any applicant who is disbarred in another jurisdiction is not eligible for admission in Kentucky.

(6) An applicant who wishes to withdraw from the Bar examination must notify the Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions, in writing, not later than 5 days prior to the examination date or have a verified excuse, otherwise, the Bar examination fee of \$175.00 shall be forfeited.

(7) No part of any fees or expenses as stated in the paragraphs above shall be refundable.

III. SCR 2.080(1) Bar Examinations
(This subsection shall become effective with the administration of the July 2017 Bar Examination, scheduled for July 25-26, 2017)

Subsection (1) to SCR 2.080 shall read:

(1) The Board of Bar Examiners shall examine such applicants as are certified to it as provided in Rule 2.040. The examination shall cover a period of two days and may cover the following subjects:

- (a) Contracts, including sales and secured transactions
- (b) Constitutional Law
- (c) Business Entities (corporations, partnerships and/or others)
- (d) Criminal Law and Procedure
- (e) Civil Procedure
- (f) Family Law
- (g) Property (real and/or personal)
- (h) Torts
- (i) Estates (wills and/or trusts)
- (j) Evidence
- (k) Such other subjects as the Board may select from among questions proposed by the National Conference of Bar Examiners.

Prior to or at the time of the examination, each applicant shall certify that he or she has successfully completed a course of study in law school in the subject of ethics, and that if admitted to practice, the applicant will adhere to the Code of Ethics prescribed by the Supreme Court. The Character and Fitness Committee of the Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions may, in exceptional cases, waive the requirement that an applicant have successfully completed a course of study in law school in the subject of ethics.

IV. SCR 2.080(2) Bar Examinations
(This subsection shall become effective with the administration of the July 2019 Bar Examination, scheduled for July 30-31, 2019)

Subsection (2) to SCR 2.080 shall read:

(2) The Board may cover the subject matter in any manner that it sees fit, including or not including essay examinations prepared by the Board, and any of the following examinations prepared by the National Conference of Bar Examiners: Multi-state Essay Examinations (MEE) and the Multi-state Bar Examination (MBE). Beginning with the administration of the July 2019 Bar

Examination, the Board may also include item(s) from the Multi-state Performance Test (MPT), prepared by the National Conference of Bar Examiners.

All sitting. All concur.

ENTERED: December 29, 2016.


CHIEF JUSTICE