

Proposed Amendments to Guideline 2.3  
Guidelines for *Unaccredited Law School Rules*

2.3 Honesty in Communications.

(A) Honesty in Communications Generally.

A law school must be honest and forthright in all communications, including communications with the Committee, the legal profession, the public, prospective students, applicants, and students.

(B) Honesty in Communications with Students.

A law school must be honest and forthright in all communications with students. It must not mislead students as to their reasonable prospects of obtaining the degree in the program in which they are enrolled, their ability to qualify for or be admitted to the bar in any jurisdiction, the cost of the requirements for obtaining the degree in the program in which they are enrolled, or the financial support available through loans or scholarships for their course of study.

(C) Honesty in Communications with Prospective Students and Applicants.

A law school must be honest and forthright in all communications with prospective students and applicants. It must not mislead them as to their reasonable prospects of admission, obtaining the degree in the program in which they seek to enroll, their ability to qualify for or be admitted to the bar in any jurisdiction, the cost of the requirements for obtaining the degree in the program in which they are interested in enrolling or seek to be enrolled, or the financial support available through loans or scholarships for their course of study.

(D) Required Disclosures.

(1) To ensure that prospective students of, applicants to, and students of a law school's J.D. degree program are fully informed about the requirements and possible limitations associated with attending and graduating from an unaccredited law school, a law school must include the following statements, without alteration, in its bulletin, catalog, website, application for admission, and enrollment agreement for its J.D. degree program:

“The method of instruction at this law school for the Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree program is [principally in physical classroom facilities]/[principally by correspondence]/[principally by technological means including interactive classes].”

“Students enrolled in the J.D. degree program at this law school who successfully complete the first year of law study must pass the First-Year Law Students' Examination required by Business and Professions Code § 6060(h) and [Title 4, Division 1, Chapter 1 Rule VIII-4.3\(l\)](#) of the ~~*Rules Regulating Admission to Practice Law in California*~~ of the [Rules of the](#)

[State Bar of California](#) as part of the requirements to qualify to take the California Bar Examination. A student who passes the First-Year Law Students' Examination within three (3) administrations of the examination after first becoming eligible to take it will receive credit for all legal studies completed to the time the examination is passed. A student who does not pass the examination within three (3) administrations of the examination after first becoming eligible to take it must be promptly disqualified from the law school's J.D. degree program. If the dismissed student subsequently passes the examination, the student is eligible for re-enrollment in this law school's J.D. degree program, but will receive credit for only one year of legal study."

"Study at, or graduation from, this law school may not qualify a student to take the bar examination or to satisfy the requirements for admission to practice in jurisdictions other than California. A student intending to seek admission to practice law in a jurisdiction other than California should contact the admitting authority in that jurisdiction for information regarding the legal education requirements in that jurisdiction for admission to the practice of law."

The type size of the foregoing disclosures must be at least as large as the type size used in the main text of the material in which it is included.

(2) A law school must publish on its webpage, with an active link located on its home page under the "Admissions" tab or heading, a standardized report, in a format determined by the Committee, all of the disclosure information required by Business and Professions Code § 6061.7. All information in the standardized report must be complete, accurate and not misleading. A law school must submit its standardized report with its Annual Compliance Report required by Rule 4.242. A law school must distribute the standardized report to all applicants being offered conditional scholarships at the time the scholarship offer is made.

(3) Reference to Required Disclosures.

To ensure that prospective students of, applicants to, and students of a law school's J.D. degree program are fully informed about the requirements and possible limitations associated with attending and graduating from an unaccredited law school, a law school must refer students to the statements required in subsection (D) in the disclosure statement required by rule 4.241 of the *Unaccredited Law School Rules* and provide the standardized report required by Business and Professions Code § 6061.7. A law school must also refer prospective students and applicants to the disclosure statements required in subsection (D) and Business and Professions Code § 6061.7 in written correspondence or electronic communications sent by the law school in response to inquiries about admission to the J.D. degree program at the law school and continuing enrollment in that program at the law school.

| (4) Reference to Registration with the Committee; Reference to Other Accreditations, Approvals and Memberships.

A law school may say it is registered with the Committee in any communication, but must indicate that its registration is as an unaccredited law school in the category in which it is registered. A law school that is accredited or approved by another agency or is a member of an association may state that fact in any communication, but must indicate in connection with any such statement that its degree-granting authority in connection with its students qualifying to take the California Bar Examination and obtain admission to the practice of law in California is based on its registration as an unaccredited law school with the Committee of Bar Examiners.