

WASHINGTON STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

LICENSURE PATHWAYS IMPLEMENTATION STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**Virtual Meeting
September 2, 2025**

Call to Order and Welcome

The meeting of the Licensure Pathways Implementation Steering Committee of the Washington State Bar Association (WSBA) was called to order by Chair Zaida Rivera on Tuesday, September 2, 2025, at 2:10 p.m. Committee members in attendance were:

**Zaida Rivera
Alfredo González Benítez
Judge Cathy Helman
Dusty Weber LaMay
Dean Tamara Lawson
Julia McGann
Terra Nevitt
Judge Leone Reinbold
Dean Jacob Rooksby
Yuriko Hannali Styles
Dean Anthony Varona**

Also in attendance were WSBA Assistant General Counsel Catherine Schur; WSBA Chief Regulatory Counsel Renata Garcia; WSBA Associate Director Bobby Henry; Professor Gillian Dutton; Assistant Dean Jeff Minneti; and observers Gray B; M.S. Hobson, IV.

Approve August 4, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Alfredo moved to approve the August 4, 2025 Steering Committee meeting minutes. Terra seconded. Minutes unanimously approved.

Member and Public Comment

Gray B. described personal experiences with lawyer licensing and spoke in support of lawyer licensing programs that accommodate people for whom the bar exam is not a good option.

Update from Supervised Practice Subcommittee

Seattle University School of Law Professor Gillian Dutton presented an update on recommendations for required activities and assessments developed by the Supervised Practice Subcommittee. The Subcommittee sought feedback on the proposals from the Steering Committee. Steering Committee members asked questions about the proposals thus far. Committee members also offered input on a range

of topics including methods to preserve objectivity in candidate assessments and further developing specific portfolio requirements.

Creation of Subcommittee for Pathways Program Evaluation and Data Collection

WSBA Assistant General Counsel Catherine Schur introduced a proposal to sunset the Core Competencies Subcommittee now that their work has been completed and create a new subcommittee focused on evaluation of the pathways programs. The new subcommittee would identify measures of success for the new licensure pathways and develop a plan for evaluation and data gathering for the new pathways. Members of the Core Competencies Subcommittee would be invited to join the new subcommittee. WSBA staff will seek additional committee members with experience in program evaluation and data collection methods.

Dean Varona moved to approve creation of the Program Evaluation Subcommittee and sunset the Core Competencies Subcommittee; Alfredo seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Other Updates

Catherine and Zaida reported that Zaida and IAALS researchers will be providing an update on the pathways to the Washington Supreme Court on Sept. 4, 2025. Zaida, Justice Montoya-Lewis, Judge Leone Reinbold, and Marthy Hernandez will be discussing the pathways and access to the legal profession at the ATJ Conference on Sept. 18, 2025 at 10:45 a.m. Zaida also reported that she participated on a panel that discussed the pathways at the June 2025 STAR Summit.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Rivera adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m. on September 2, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Schur
Assistant General Counsel