

New LLLT Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Requirements

APR Amendments Effective 9/1/2017

The Washington Supreme Court adopted amendments to the Admission and Practice Rules (APR) effective September 1, 2017.

This is part of the effort to coordinate the admission and licensing of lawyers, limited license legal technicians (LLLTs), and limited practice officers (LPOs), all licensed by the Court to practice law in Washington.

MCLE Rule – APR 11

Continuing legal education for all licensed legal professionals, including LLLTs, is now referred to as Mandatory Continuing Legal Education or MCLE. The MCLE rule is APR 11. LLLTs will see quite a few changes in these requirements.

Three-year Reporting Period

LLLTs will now report CLE credits every three years, consistent with how other licensed legal professionals in Washington report, instead of annually. A three-year reporting period will be phased in over the next three years. LLLTs will report credits in three separate groups, and their reporting deadlines and specific credit requirements for their first new reporting period will depend on their assigned group. Because of these changes, LLLTs will have an extra six months for their first reporting period. See the LLLT MCLE Table.

New Credit Types

For each three-year reporting period, LLLTs will report 30 total credits. Of those 30, at least 15 must be “Law and Legal Procedure” credits, at least six must be “Ethics” credits, and the remainder can be either of those

types or “Other” credits (see below for a description of “Other” credits). There is no minimum requirement for “Other” credits.

MCLE Calendar

The LLLT MCLE reporting period will end on December 31—the date by which the credits must be earned - and LLLTs will need to certify their credits by no later than February 1 of the following year. See the LLLT MCLE Table.

“Other” Approved Course Subjects

In addition to law and legal procedure and ethics credits, LLLTs can earn credit for courses and seminars designed for licensed legal professionals in:

- Professional development;
- Personal development and mental health;
- Office management; and
- Improving the legal system.

See APR 11(f) for more details.

Approved Activities for Credit

In addition to live seminars and recorded courses, LLLTs can also earn credit for teaching a qualifying course and for the time spent preparing. Credit can now be earned for providing pro bono legal services through a QLSP.

8 Hour Rule & Carry Over Credits

LLLTs may only earn a maximum of eight credits per day. LLLTs who earn more than 30 credits in a three-year reporting period may carry over up to 15 credits, only two of which may be ethics, to the next reporting period.



Who to Contact at the WSBA

Admissions, LLLT Exam	admissions@wsba.org (206) 727-8209
MCLE	mcle@wsba.org (206) 733-5987
Status Changes	statuschanges@wsba.org (206) 239-2131
License Fees, License Renewal	questions@wsba.org (800) 945-WSBA
General LLLT Inquiries	LLLT@wsba.org (206) 727-8289
LLLT Board Inquiries	renatag@wsba.org (206) 733-5912

LLLT MCLE Reporting Period Table

Year Admitted	1 st Phase-In Reporting Period	Then Every Three Years Jan - Dec
2014, 2018	July 1, 2017 – Dec 31, 2018 (2016-2018) 10 Total/5 Law & Legal/2 Ethics Certify by February 1, 2019	2019 – 2021, etc. 30 Total/15 Law & Legal/6 Ethics
2015, 2016	July 1, 2017 – Dec 31, 2019 (2017-2019) 20 Total/10 Law & Legal/4 Ethics Certify by February 3, 2020	2020 – 2022, etc. 30 Total/15 Law & Legal/6 Ethics
2013, 2017	July 1, 2017 – Dec 31, 2020 (2018-2020) 30 Total/15 Law & Legal/6 Ethics Certify by February 1, 2021	2021 – 2023, etc. 30 Total/15 Law & Legal/6 Ethics

