

New Jersey Mandatory Continuing Legal Education

Compliance Period General CLE Requirements

Every active lawyer is required to complete twenty-four credit hours of continuing legal education every two years. Of those twenty-four credits, at least four credits must be in ethics and/or professionalism. Attorneys shall demonstrate that they have satisfied the continuing legal education requirement by certifying to their compliance at the end of the two-year period in a manner prescribed by the Board on Continuing Legal Education. In addition, attorneys shall maintain all necessary records and documentation to demonstrate such compliance in accordance with regulations adopted under these Rules (<http://www.judiciary.state.nj.us/rules/r1-42.htm>)

Compliance Reporting Period Groups

- Group 1: Birthday occurs between January 1st and June 30th
- Group 2: Birthday occurs between July 1st and December 31st

Newly Admitted Attorneys – CLE Requirements (during the newly admitted lawyer’s first full two-year compliance period):

- 4 Ethics/Professionalism credits
- 15 Credit Hours in 5 of the following 9 subjects:
 - Basic estate administration
 - Basic estate planning
 - NJ civil or criminal trial preparation
 - NJ family law
 - NJ real estate closings
 - NJ trust/business accounting
 - NJ landlord/tenant
 - NJ municipal court practice
 - NJ law office management

The charts on the next page may assist you in determining your continuing legal education requirement for your first two compliance periods based on your date of admission to the NJ bar and your compliance group.

“Transitional reporting period” means that you have a one-year period to obtain 12 credits. At least two of the credits must be in ethics and/or professionalism and the balance of credits in any legal, judicial, or other educational activity accredited by the Board. No more than 6 of the 12 credits can be earned from alternative verifiable learning format courses.

“Must complete new admit requirement” means that during this 2-year reporting period you must obtain 24 credits. Of those 24 credits, at least four credits in must be in ethics and/or professionalism, 15 credits in any five of the nine New Jersey subject areas, and the balance of credits in any legal, judicial, or other educational activity accredited by the Board. No more than 12 of the 24 credits can be earned from alternative verifiable learning format courses.

Newly Admitted Attorneys CLE Requirements

(for first two reporting compliance periods only based on date of admission to the bar and compliance group)

Compliance Group 1 (birthdays from January 1st through June 30th)			
Year Admitted	Requirement Begins	First Compliance Reporting Period	Second Compliance Reporting Period
2010	January 1, 2011	12 credits by 12/31/11 Transitional reporting period	24 credits by 12/31/13 Must complete new admit requirement
2011	January 1, 2012	24 credits by 12/31/13 Must complete new admit requirement	24 credits by 12/31/15
2012	January 1, 2013	12 credits by 12/31/13 Transitional reporting period	24 credits by 12/31/15 Must complete new admit requirement
2013	January 1, 2014	24 credits by 12/31/15 Must complete new admit requirement	24 credits by 12/31/17
2014	January 1, 2015	12 credits by 12/31/11 Transitional reporting period	24 credits by 12/31/17 Must complete new admit requirement

Compliance Group 2 (birthdays from July 1 st through December 31 st)			
Year Admitted	Requirement Begins	First Compliance Reporting Period	Second Compliance Reporting Period
2010	January 1, 2011	24 credits by 12/31/12 Must complete new admit requirement	24 credits by 12/31/14
2011	January 1, 2012	12 credits by 12/31/12 Transitional reporting period	24 credits by 12/31/14 Must complete new admit requirement
2012	January 1, 2013	24 credits by 12/31/14 Must complete new admit requirement	24 credits by 12/31/16
2013	January 1, 2014	12 credits by 12/31/14 Transitional reporting period	24 credits by 12/31/16 Must complete new admit requirement
2014	January 1, 2015	24 credits by 12/31/16 Must complete new admit requirement	24 credits by 12/31/18