

Prior MCLE Rule 793. Basic Skills Course Requirement

(a) Scope

Except as specified in paragraph (f), every Illinois attorney admitted to practice after December 31, 2005, must complete a Basic Skills Course, totaling at least 15 actual hours of instruction.

(b) Completion Deadline

The course must be completed within one year of the newly admitted attorney's admission to practice in Illinois.

(c) Topics

The course shall cover such topics as the jurisdiction of local courts, local court rules, filing requirements for various government agencies, how to draft pleadings and other documents, practice techniques and procedures under the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct, client communications, use of trust accounts, required record keeping and other rudimentary elements of practice.

(d) Exemption From Other Requirements

During this period, the newly admitted lawyer shall be exempt from the other MCLE requirements.

(e) Initial Reporting Period

The newly admitted attorney's initial two-year reporting period for complying with the MCLE requirements contained in Rule 794 shall commence, following the deadline for the attorney to complete the Basic Skills Course, on the next July 1 of an even-numbered year for lawyers whose last names begin with a letter A through M, and on the next July 1 of an odd-numbered year for lawyers whose last names begin with a letter N through Z.

(f) Prior Practice

The Basic Skills Course requirement does not apply to attorneys who are admitted in Illinois after practicing law in other states for a period of one year or more.

(g) Approval

The Basic Skills Course shall be offered by CLE providers, including "in-house" program providers, authorized by the Board after its approval of the provider's planned curriculum. Courses shall be offered throughout the state and at reasonable cost.

Adopted September 29, 2005, effective immediately. Subsequently amended September 27, 2011.