

SUPREME COURT OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of) Arizona Supreme Court
) No. R-12-0002
PETITION TO AMEND RULE 34,)
RULES OF THE SUPREME COURT)
)
) **FILED 12/10/2012**
)
)
_____)

**ORDER
Amending Rule 34, Rules of the Supreme Court**

A petition having been filed proposing to allow law students to take the Arizona uniform bar examination in their third year of law school, and supplemental information and comments having been received, upon consideration,

IT IS ORDERED that amendments to Rule 34, Rules of the Supreme Court, be adopted on an experimental basis, in accordance with the attachment hereto, effective January 1, 2013 until December 31, 2015. The petitioners and Attorney Regulation Advisory Committee shall file reports with this Court on the early examination process on or before November 1, 2015.

DATED this 10th day of December, 2012.

REBECCA WHITE BERCH
Chief Justice

Supreme Court No. R-12-0002
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TO:

Rule 28 Distribution

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ATTACHMENT¹

RULES OF THE SUPREME COURT

Rule 34. Application for Admission

(a) [No change in text.]

(b) Applicant Requirements and Qualifications.

1. No applicant shall be recommended for admission to the practice of law in Arizona by the Committee on Character and Fitness unless the Committee is satisfied that:

A.-F. [No change in text.]

2. An applicant may be allowed to sit for the Arizona uniform bar examination prior to the award of a juris doctor degree if the applicant:

A. is a currently enrolled student in good standing at a law school fully or provisionally approved by the American Bar Association;

B. is expected to graduate with a juris doctor degree within one hundred twenty (120) days of the first day of early exam administration;

C. has satisfied all requirements for graduation with a juris doctor except for not more than eight (8) semester hours or its equivalent in quarter hours at the time of early exam administration;

D. will not be enrolled in more than two (2) semester hours or its equivalent in quarter hours during the month of early bar examination testing and the immediately preceding month;

E. has been determined by their school to be academically prepared for early testing;

F. provides by the deadline to the Committee on Character and Fitness, on a form provided by the Committee, an affidavit attested to by the applicant and the law school that they meet the above criteria. The law school's decision whether to certify that the student meets the criteria is final and shall not be subject to review by the Committee or the Court.

1 Changes or additions in rule text are indicated by underscoring and deletions from text are indicated by ~~strikeouts~~.

No applicant shall be recommended to practice law until graduation or satisfaction of all requirements for graduation, and completion of all requirements for admission to the practice of law under these rules. If an applicant under this subsection has not graduated with a juris doctor within one hundred twenty (120) days of the first day of early exam administration, all parts of the Arizona uniform bar examination, including the score, are void and the applicant's examination scores shall not be disclose for any purpose. Scores may not be released until such time as satisfactory proof of award of juris doctor, as determined by the Court, is provided to the Committee. An early examination which is voided shall count as a examination attempt under Rule 35(c)(1).

At the completion of the juris doctor requirements and within sixty (60) days after graduation, the applicant must cause his or her law school, dean, or registrar to submit to the Committee on Character and Fitness proof of graduation, showing his or her juris doctor was conferred within one hundred twenty (120) days of the first day of early exam administration. Failure to complete the course of study within one hundred twenty (120) days of the examination and provide evidence of graduation within an additional sixty (60) days shall render the applicant's score void.

23. The Committee on Character and Fitness shall endeavor to complete its inquiries, some or all of which may be delegated to the National Conference of Bar Examiners, to be in position to recommend for or against a successful Arizona uniform bar examinee's admission to the practice of law no later than the time the results of the Arizona uniform bar examination are available for examination applicants. This time limitation is aspirational only, and may be extended for further inquiry and formulation of a recommendation when the circumstances of a case so require.

(c)-(n). [No change in text.]