

MARYLAND RULES OF PROCEDURE

RULES OF THE BOARD

Board Rule 9. ESSENTIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

(a) The State Board of Law Examiners establishes the following essential eligibility requirements for admission to the practice of law in Maryland:

(1) the ability to conduct oneself with a high degree of honesty, integrity, and trustworthiness in all professional relationships and with respect to all legal obligations;

(2) the ability to conduct oneself diligently and reliably in fulfilling all obligations to clients, attorneys, courts, and others;

(3) the ability to conduct oneself with respect for and in accordance with the law and the Maryland Attorneys' Rules of Professional Conduct;

(4) the ability to communicate clearly with clients, attorneys, courts, and others;

(5) the ability to reason, analyze, and recall complex factual information and to integrate such information with complex legal theories;

(6) the ability to exercise good judgment in conducting one's professional business;

(7) the ability to avoid acts that exhibit disregard for the health, safety, and welfare of one's self and others;

(8) the ability to use honesty and good judgment in financial dealings on behalf of oneself, clients, and others;

(9) the ability to comply with deadlines and time constraints;
and

(10) the ability to conduct oneself professionally and in a manner that engenders respect for the law and the profession.

(b) In determining whether an applicant or petitioner for admission to the Maryland Bar meets the applicable burden of proof set forth in Rule 19-204(d) or Rule 19-216(d)(1), the State Board of Law Examiners and the Character Committees shall consider whether the applicant or petitioner meets the essential eligibility requirements set forth in section (a) of this Board Rule.

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