

American Bar Association  
Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar  
Standards Review Committee

Draft for November 7 - 8, 2010 Meeting

Strike-outs and underlines show changes from the current standards.

**CHAPTER 7  
FACILITIES**

**Standard 701. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

**(a) A law school shall have physical facilities that are adequate to fulfill the requirements of the Standards and advance the goals of its educational program, both for its current program of legal education and for growth anticipated in the immediate future.**

**(b) If equal access for persons with disabilities is not readily achievable, the law school shall provide reasonable accommodation to such persons.**

**(c) A law school that offers "live client" clinics or similar real life practice experiences shall provide sufficient and suitable space appropriate for conducting its clinical program including confidential client interviewing space and secure space for client files.**

**(d) To obtain full approval, a law school's facilities shall be completed and occupied by the law school; plans or construction in progress are insufficient.**

**(e) A law school does not comply with the Standards if its physical facilities have a negative and material effect on the school's ability to fulfill the requirements of the Standards, advance the goals of its educational program, or provide reasonable access for persons with disabilities.**

***Interpretation 701-1***

*Inadequate physical facilities are those that have a negative and material effect on the education students receive or fail to provide reasonable access for persons with disabilities. If equal access for persons with disabilities is not readily achievable, the law*

~~school shall provide reasonable accommodation to such persons.~~

**Interpretation 701-1 2**

In considering the adequacy of a law school's facilities, factors that will be considered include the extent to which the law school provides: Adequate physical facilities shall include:

- (1) suitable class and seminar rooms in sufficient number and size to permit reasonable scheduling of all classes and seminars;
- (2) for its space for clinics or other real life practice experiences, in addition to the factors listed in (c) above, space that is appropriate for providing both competent and ethical representation to clients and meaningful instruction and supervision to students, a suitable reception area for clients, appropriate work areas for students, and adequate room for professional staff, faculty, and student conferences; suitable space for conducting its professional skills courses and programs, including clinical, pretrial, trial, and appellate programs;
- (3) office space ~~an office~~ for each full-time faculty member sufficient to enable adequate for faculty research study and for faculty-student conferences, and sufficient office space for part-time faculty members sufficient adequate for faculty-student conferences;
- (4) appropriate space for co-curricular, ~~as opposed to extra-curricular,~~ activities as defined by the law school;
- (5) suitable space for all staff; ~~and~~
- (6) suitable space for equipment and records in reasonable proximity to those who need access to them; ~~the individuals and offices served.~~
- (7) facilities and equipment that meet all applicable life safety codes.

**Interpretation 701-3**

~~To obtain full approval, a law school's facilities shall be completed and occupied by the law school; plans or construction in progress are insufficient.~~

**Interpretation 701-3 4**

*A law school must demonstrate that it is and will continue to be housed in facilities that are adequate to fulfill the requirements of the Standards and advance the goals of its educational program. ~~carry out its program of legal education.~~ If all or part of the facilities are leased or financed, factors relevant to whether the law school is or will be continue to be housed in facilities that are adequate include overall lease or financing terms and duration, lease renewal terms and conditions, termination or foreclosure provisions, and the likelihood that the school will be able to continue to occupy and control the facilities. ~~security of the school's interest.~~*

***Interpretation 701-4 5***

*A law school's physical facilities preferably should be under the exclusive control and reserved for the exclusive use of the law school. If the facilities are not under the exclusive control of the law school or are not reserved for its exclusive use, the arrangements must shall permit proper scheduling of all law classes and other law school activities.*

**Standard 702. LAW LIBRARY**

**The physical facilities for the law library shall be sufficient in size, location, and design in relation to the law school's programs and enrollment to accommodate the law school's students and faculty and the law library's services, collections, staff, operations, and equipment.**

***Interpretation 702-1***

*A law library shall have sufficient seating to meet the needs of the law school's students and faculty.*

**Standard 703. RESEARCH AND STUDY SPACE**

**A law school shall provide, on site, sufficient quiet study and research seating for its students and faculty. A law school shall also should provide a reasonable amount of space that is suitable for group study and other forms of collaborative work.**

**Standard 704. TECHNOLOGICAL CAPACITIES**

**A law school shall have ~~the~~ technological capacities and support that are adequate to fulfill the requirements of the Standards and advance the goals of its educational program. ~~for both its current program of legal education and for program changes anticipated in the immediate future.~~ A law school does not comply with this**

**Standard if its technological capacities and support have a negative and material effect on it's ability to fulfill the requirements of the Standards or advance the goals of its educational program.**

***Interpretation 704-1***

*Inadequate technological capacities are those that have a negative and material effect on the education students receive.*

***Interpretation 704-1 2:***

*Adequate technological capacity and support shall, in general, include:*

- (1) sufficient ~~and up to date~~ hardware and software resources and infrastructure to support the teaching, scholarship, research, service and administrative needs of the school;*
- (2) sufficient staff support and space for staff operations;*
- (3) sufficient financial resources to adopt and maintain new technology as appropriate.*