Standard 102. PROVISIONAL APPROVAL

(a) The Council shall grant provisional approval to a law school if at the time the school seeks such approval it demonstrates that it has achieved substantial compliance with the Standards and presents a reliable plan for bringing the law school into full compliance with each of the Standards within three years after receiving provisional approval. In order to demonstrate that it has a reliable plan to come into full compliance with the Standards within three years after receiving provisional approval, a law school must clearly state the specific actions that it plans to take to bring the school into full compliance and demonstrate that there is a reasonable probability that such actions will be successful. A provisionally approved law school may apply for full approval no earlier than two years after receiving provisional approval and must obtain full approval within five years after receiving provisional approval.

(b) The Council may withdraw provisional approval if the Council determines that the law school is no longer in substantial compliance with the Standards, is not making adequate progress toward achieving full compliance with each of the Standards, or is no longer able to demonstrate that there is a reasonable probability that the school will achieve full compliance with each of the Standards within the allotted time frame.

(c) If five years have elapsed since the law school was provisionally approved and the Council has not granted full approval, provisional approval shall terminate. Before the end of the five-year period in an extraordinary case and for good cause shown, the Council may extend the time within which the law school must obtain full approval.

(d) A provisionally approved law school shall not offer a post-J.D. degree program or other non-J.D. degree program, offer a program in a country outside the United States, or seek to establish a separate location.

(e) A provisionally approved law school shall state that it is provisionally approved in all of its printed and electronic materials describing the law school and its program and in any other publication that references the law school’s approval by the Council.

(f) A law school seeking provisional approval shall make its status clear in any printed and electronic materials describing the law school and its program and in any other publication that references the law school’s approval status. At a minimum, the law school shall state the following in all such communications:

The law school is not currently approved by the Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar of the American Bar Association and makes no representation to any applicant that it will receive approval from the Council before the graduation of any matriculating student.

(g) A law school seeking provisional approval shall not delay conferring a J.D. upon a student in anticipation of obtaining approval. An approved law school may not
retroactively grant a J.D. degree as an approved school to a student who graduated from the law school before its approval.

**Interpretation 102-1**

*Plans to achieve substantial compliance with any of the Standards are not sufficient to demonstrate substantial compliance.*

**Standard 103. FULL APPROVAL**

(a) The Council shall grant full approval to a provisionally approved law school if at the time the school seeks such approval it demonstrates that it is in full compliance with each of the Standards. Plans to achieve full compliance with any Standard are not sufficient to demonstrate full compliance.

(b) A law school granted approval under this Standard remains approved unless the Council withdraws that approval.