Applications for New Post-J.D. / Non-J.D. Degrees or Certificates

FAQ's for Law Schools

Where can I find the application?

The application for law schools seeking acquiescence for a new post-J.D./non-J.D. degree or certificate is posted under Substantive Change Questionnaires on the Section’s Questionnaire page:

http://www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_education/resources/questionnaire.html

Click on the link for Application for Degree or Certificate Programs other than the J.D.

Are there deadlines for Post-J.D./Non-J.D. applications?

Applications are considered at Council meetings in September, November, February, and May. The deadlines can be found at:

http://www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_education/resources/llm-degrees_post_j_d_non_j_d.html

What is required for the application?

As provided by Standard 105, before a law school makes a substantive change in its program of legal education or organizational structure, it shall obtain the acquiescence of the Council. In addition to the application for acquiescence, the law school must provide a letter from the dean certifying that the law school has completed all of the requirements for requesting acquiescence in a substantive change and that the law school has obtained the concurrence of the president in the application.

Are other items needed?

Yes, the Questionnaire requests additional items such as the program curriculum, faculty profile summaries, the Director's CV, and faculty minutes or final university action approving the program. Applications will not be forwarded to the Council until they are complete.

What is the cost?

Fees for applications for acquiescence in post-J.D./non-J.D. programs can be found under Other Applications on the Law School Fee Schedule page and are due at the time of application.

https://www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_education/accreditation/schedule-of-law-school-fees/
If the law school supplies the director’s name, the name of the program, e-mail and phone number, we can create an invoice. Electronic payments are accepted by the ABA once an invoice is issued to the law school.

**Where should the application be sent?**

Please submit the application electronically, along with all accompanying documentation, to:

**APSchoolProposals@americanbar.org.** A hard copy is not required.

**How long after the Council’s review and consideration of the proposed program will the law school be notified of a decision?**

The law school will receive written notification of the Council’s decision whether or not to grant acquiescence within two-three weeks following the meeting.

**How do I make changes to an existing post-J.D./non-J.D. program?**

Applications for changes to an existing degree or certificate are posted under Substantive Change Questionnaires on the Section’s Questionnaire page:

[http://www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_education/resources/questionnaire.html](http://www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_education/resources/questionnaire.html)

Click on the link for **Change in Programs other than the J.D. Application.**