Definitions

As used in the Standards, Interpretations, and Rules of Procedure:

(1) “Approved law school” means a fully approved law school that the Council has determined meets the requirements of Standard 103 or a provisionally approved law school that the Council has determined meets the requirements of Standard 102.

(2) “Association” means the American Bar Association.

(3) “Branch campus” means a type of separate location at which a student may earn more than two-thirds of the credit hours that the law school requires for the award of a J.D.

(4) “Council” means the Council of the Section.

(5) “Credit(s) or Credit Hour(s)” means semester hour credits as defined in Standard 310. Law schools that use academic schedules other than semesters, such as a quarter system, shall convert these credits in a manner that is consistent with the provisions of Standard 310 or as otherwise provided in a particular Standard or Interpretation.

(6) “Dean” means the chief administrative officer of a law school and includes an acting or interim dean.

(7) “Distance education course” means one in which students are separated from the faculty member or each other for more than one-third of the instruction and the instruction involves the use of technology to support regular and substantive interaction among students and between the students and the faculty member, either synchronously or asynchronously.

(8) “Distance Education J.D. Program” means a program where a law school grants a student more than one third of the credit hours required for the J.D. degree for distance education courses.

(9) “Full-time faculty member” means an individual whose primary professional employment is with the law school, who is designated by the law school as a full-time faculty member, who devotes substantially all working time during the academic year to responsibilities described in Standard 404(a), and whose outside professional activities, other than those described in Standard 404(a), if any, do not unduly interfere with his or her responsibilities as a full-time faculty member.
(10) “Governing board” means a board of trustees, board of regents, or comparable body that has ultimate policy making authority for a law school or the university of which the law school is a part.


(12) “Interpretations” mean the Interpretations of the Standards for Approval of Law Schools.

(13) “J.D. degree” means the professional degree in law granted upon completion of a program of legal education that is governed by the Standards.

(14) “Managing Director” means the Managing Director of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar of the American Bar Association.

(15) “President” means the chief executive officer of a university or, if the university has more than one administratively independent unit, of the independent unit. If a law school is not part of a university, “president” refers to the chief executive officer of any entity that owns the law school, if there is such a person, or else the Chair of the Board of Directors of the law school.

(16) “Probation” is a public status indicating that a law school is not being operated in compliance with the Standards and is at risk of having its approval withdrawn.

(17) “Rules” mean the Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools.

(18) “Section” means the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar of the American Bar Association.

(19) “Separate location” means a physical location within the United States: (1) at which the law school offers J.D. degree courses, (2) where a student may earn more than sixteen credit hours of the school’s program of legal education, and (3) that is not in reasonable proximity to the law school’s main location.

(20) “Standards” mean the Standards for Approval of Law Schools.

(21) “University” means a post-secondary educational institution, whether referred to as a university, college, or by any other name, that confers a baccalaureate degree (and may grant other degrees).