

Test 1

Is this email not displaying correctly? [View In Browser](#)



Issue 406 | November 20

Law Schools Gain Flexibility to Opt Out of LSAT Requirements

Law Schools Gain Flexibility to Opt Out of LSAT Requirements

The ABA's Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar approved a new process, which allows individual law schools to seek permission to bypass LSAT test requirements for up to 100% of their incoming classes for the next three to five years. Currently, law schools can admit up to 10% of their classes without a standardized test score. While a similar proposal was rejected last year by the ABA House of Delegates (HOD), this new measure requires participating schools to share data with the ABA to determine impacts on enrollment, diversity measures, and bar exam success. This new proposal did not need HOD approval because it is not part of law school accreditation standards. Read more about the new proposal at [Reuters](#).

WSBA Begins Data-Driven Equity and Justice Plan

The [Washington State Bar Association](#) (WSBA) has released its 2024 demographic study. This study informs the updated [Equity and Justice Plan](#), a five-year roadmap for fostering diversity, inclusion, and systemic change in the legal profession. Building on the 2013 [Diversity and Inclusion Plan](#), the WSBA noted strides in education surrounding this issue, dialogue among members, and equity-focused decision-making, but acknowledges ongoing challenges. The WSBA is inviting member feedback on the plan before it presents it to the Board of Governors early next year.

Implementing Enterprise Risk Management

The new [Enterprise Risk Management \(ERM\) Handbook for Association Board Members](#) provides essential guidance for boards to oversee risk management effectively. This resource, inspired by a popular [ASAE article](#), outlines best practices for implementing a proactive, organization-wide ERM approach that aligns with an association's strategic goals. Unlike traditional, reactive risk management, ERM integrates risk oversight across all functions, fostering a cohesive framework. The handbook covers key concepts, such as defining significant risks, establishing board committees for risk oversight, and using tools like dashboards for effective reporting.

How the Legal Community in North Carolina Rallied Post-Helene

In the aftermath of Hurricane Helene's devastating impact on western North Carolina, [Law.com](#) reports how the legal community in Asheville and beyond rallied to address unprecedented challenges. Severe flooding, infrastructure damage, and courthouse closures disrupted legal operations, while public defenders, private attorneys, and firms adapted to support displaced clients and overwhelmed court systems. Efforts included extending deadlines, delivering supplies, and providing free legal services to emergency

responders. As recovery continues, the [North Carolina Bar Association](#) is coordinating disaster legal services and volunteer efforts to assist affected communities.

Using the Organization's Voice Wisely

Association leaders often face calls to weigh in on important news topics, but experts emphasize the need for a deliberate strategy over reactive statements. Statements should align with the organization's mission, tolerance range, and should consider the impact on stakeholders. Read more advice at [Associations Now](#). Want more guidance on deciding whether to make a statement? Check out a recap of the 2024 ABA Bar Leadership Institute session, [Speaking Out or Strategic Silence? Organizational Approaches to Issuing Public Statements](#).



[Learn more about the ABA Center for Bar Leadership](#)



This message was sent to michael.ward@americanbar.org.
Your e-mail address will only be used within the ABA.
We do not sell or rent e-mail addresses.

American Bar Association
321 N Clark, Chicago, IL 60654-7598
800-285-2221 | 312-988-5522

| |
|------------------------------------|
| Update profile |
| E-mail preferences |
| Unsubscribe |
| Privacy Policy |
| Contact Us |