

Utah Supreme Court Rules of Professional Practice

Rule 14-807. Law student and law graduate legal assistance.

(a) The purpose of this rule is to provide eligible law school students and recent law school graduates with supervised practical training in the practice of law for a limited period of time and to assist the Bar and the judiciary to discharge their responsibilities to help create a legal system which helps provide access to those individuals of limited means.

(b) Subject to the inherent power of each judge to have direct control of the proceedings in court and the conduct of attorneys and others who appear before the judge, the courts of Utah are authorized to allow eligible law school students and recent graduates to participate in matters pending before them consistent with this rule.

(c) In order to be eligible to participate under this rule an individual must be either:

(c)(1) a law school student who must have completed legal studies amounting to at least four semesters or the equivalent if the school is not on a semester basis at an ABA approved law school; or

(c)(2) a law school graduate who must have graduated from an ABA approved law school and have submitted an application for admission to the Bar in time for the first regularly-scheduled bar examination after graduation.

(d) The law school student's or graduate's participation shall be limited to civil, misdemeanor or administrative cases.

(e) A law school student's or graduate's participation shall be under the direct and immediate personal supervision and in the presence of a resident attorney admitted to practice law before the court, except that the presence of the supervising attorney shall not be required at default divorce proceedings which are not contested and where the appearing party is represented by a non-profit public service legal agency.

(f) The supervising attorney is responsible for ensuring that the conduct of the law school student or graduate complies with this rule which includes verifying the participant's eligibility.

(g) A law school student's or graduate's participation shall be agreed to by written stipulation of counsel for all parties to the action and filed in the case file.

(h) Before participating under this rule, a law school graduate shall:

(h)(1) provide the Bar's admissions office with the name of his or her supervising attorney; and

(h)(2) provide the Bar's admissions office with a signed and dated authorization to release information to the supervising attorney regarding the graduate's Bar applicant status; and

(h)(3) provide the Bar's admissions office with a signed and dated letter from the supervising attorney stating that he or she has read this rule and agrees to comply with its conditions.

(i) A law school student shall not receive any compensation or remuneration of any kind from the client on whose behalf the services are rendered.

(j) A law school student's or graduate's eligibility to provide services under this rule terminates upon the earlier occurrence of:

(j)(1) cessation of enrollment unless by reason of graduation in the case of a law school student;
or

(j)(2) in the case of a law school graduate:

(j)(2)(A) failure to submit a timely application for admission under (c)(2);

(j)(2)(B) the Bar's admissions office's or its character and fitness committee's decision to disallow the graduate to take the first regularly-scheduled bar examination;

(j)(2)(C) notification of the graduate's failure to successfully pass the first regularly-scheduled bar examination; or

(j)(2)(D) the graduate's failure to be admitted to practice at the first regularly-scheduled admission ceremony.