QUALIFICATION FOR ADMISSION TO PRACTICE LAW IN CALIFORNIA BY LAW STUDENTS RECEIVING THEIR LEGAL EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

The requirements for admission to practice law in California are contained in the *Rules Regulating Admission to Practice Law in California (Rules).* The following is a summary of the requirements for law students who have received their legal education outside the United States. For the specific requirements, refer to the *Rules.*

To be admitted to practice law in California, an applicant must comply with the requirements outlined in Rule II, *Rules,* which include: 1) completion of the requisite pre-legal and legal education; 2) registration as a law student; 3) passage or exemption from the First-Year Law Students' Examination; 4) a positive moral character determination; 5) passage of the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination; and, 6) passage of the California Bar Examination. Additionally, an applicant must not be certified by the State Department of Social Services as being in non-compliance with a court ordered child or family support obligation. There is no requirement of citizenship or residency.

Law students who received their legal education outside the United States must establish their eligibility to take the California Bar Examination by showing they have successfully completed the equivalent of two years of undergraduate studies and four years of legal studies in the United States. Law students educated outside the United States seeking to qualify to take the General Bar Examination must do the following:

1. Complete and file an "Application for Evaluation of Law Study Completed and Contemplated by Law Students Educated Outside the United States," with the required fee of $30 (Application follows)

2. Provide an evaluated course breakdown of all post-secondary education, which was completed by a credential evaluation agency approved by the Committee of Bar Examiners (Committee), directly to the State Bar's Office of Admissions;

3. Provide a certified transcript of all legal studies completed, which must include the beginning and ending dates of enrollment, each class taken, the grade or mark received for each class and the date the degree was awarded; and,

4. File a Registration form and submit the required fees.

Documents in a language other than English must be accompanied by a notarized translation by a disinterested party, which is attested to with respect to accuracy.

Information provided by a credential evaluation agency regarding the number of years of study is considered advisory; the Committee of Bar Examiners reserves the right to make the final decision as to how much credit the law student will receive toward qualifying to take the General Bar Examination.

Law study completed in a foreign state or country where the common law of England is not the basis of jurisprudence can only be recognized towards the general education requirement and will not be considered as credit toward satisfying the legal education requirements contained in the *Rules*.

Law students who have received an LLM degree based on substantive classes from a law school approved by the American Bar Association or accredited by the Committee will be exempt from the requirement of taking and passing the First-Year Law Students' Examination (Rule VIII, *Rules*). It is recommended, however, that students have a law study evaluation completed before undertaking any additional law study in the United States in an attempt to qualify to take the California Bar Examination.

A determination of eligibility to take the California Bar Examination will be made after review of all required documents and applicants will thereafter be notified of their status regarding eligibility to take the California Bar Examination, exemption or the requirement to take the First-Year Law Students' Examination, and whether any additional course work is required.

APPLICATION FOR EVALUATION OF LAW STUDY COMPLETED AND CONTEMPLATED BY LAW STUDENTS EDUCATED OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

To submit a request for an evaluation of law study completed in a foreign jurisdiction(s) and how much law study credit will be allowed and needed, if any, in order to qualify to take the California Bar Examination, a law student or law school official must complete this form and enclose a check made payable to The State Bar of California for $30.00. Only foreign educated applicants who have not been admitted to practice law in a United States or foreign jurisdiction should complete this form. In addition to this form, an evaluated course breakdown of all post-secondary education, which was completed by an approved credential evaluation agency, and a certified transcript of all legal studies completed, which must include the beginning and ending dates of enrollment, each class taken, the grade or mark received for each class and the date the degree was awarded, must be provided. Law study completed in a foreign state or country where the common law of England is not the basis of jurisprudence will only be recognized towards meeting the general education requirement, and will not be considered as credit toward satisfying the legal education requirements necessary to take the California Bar Examination. The completed form and other documents noted above should be returned to: **OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS; THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA; 1149 SOUTH HILL STREET; LOS ANGELES, CA 90015-2299.**

Student's Name: _____
First Middle Last

Registration (Social Security) Number: _____

Address: _____

_____

_____

Daytime Telephone Number: _____

If submitted by a law school official on behalf of a student, please provide the following information:

Name, Title and Law School: _____

School(s) Attended	From Month	From Year	To Month	To Year

I (this student) ☐ have ☐ have not passed the bar examination in a United States or foreign country. If you have passed a bar examination, list in which state or country: _____, and provide an explanation of why you are not admitted.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

CREDENTIAL EVALUATION SERVICES
APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE OF BAR EXAMINERS

The following list of credential evaluation services has been compiled by the Committee of Bar Examiners (Committee). In order to be included on the list, the credential evaluation service must: 1) be a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services, 2) require certified credentials, and 3) provide as part of each evaluation, complete information that includes courses, U.S. unit/hour equivalent, U.S. grade equivalent, and a summary of U.S. degree equivalent. The evaluations are considered advisory in nature and are not determinative relative to the credit that may be allowed for purposes of satisfying the pre-legal and/or legal education requirements necessary for qualification to register with the Committee, take the First-Year Law Students' Examination and/or to take the California Bar Examination.

Center for Applied Research
Evaluation and Education, Inc.
International Evaluation Service
P.O. Box 20348
Long Beach, CA 90801
(562) 430-1105/Fax: (562) 430-8215

Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc.
P.O. Box 92970
Milwaukee, WI 53202-0970
(414) 289-3400/Fax: (414) 289-3411
eval@ece.org

Educational Records Evaluation Service, Inc.
777 Campus Commons Rd, Ste 200
Sacramento, CA 95825-8309
(916) 565-7475/Fax: (916) 565-7476
edu@eres.com

The Foreign Educational Document Service
P.O. Box 4091
Stockton, CA 95204
(209) 948-6589

Foundation for International Services, Inc.
19015 North Creek Parkway, Suite 103
Bothell, WA 98011-8029
(206) 487-2245/Fax: (206) 487-1989

Global Services Associates
2554 Lincoln Blvd. #445
Marina del Rey, CA 90291-5082
(310) 828-5709/Fax: 310-828-5709
global@iccas.com

International Consultants of Delaware, Inc.
109 Barksdale Professional Center
Newark, DE 19711-3528
(302) 737-8715/Fax: (302) 737-8756
icd@icdel.com

International Education Research Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 66940
Los Angeles, CA 90066
(310) 390-6276/Fax: (310) 397-7686
info@ierf.com

Josef Silny & Associates, Inc.
International Education Consultants
P.O. Box 248233
Coral Gables, FL 33124
(305) 666-0233/Fax: (305) 666-4133
info@jsilny.com

World Education Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 745, Old Chelsea Station
New York, NY 10113-0745
(212) 966-6311/Fax: (212) 966-6395
info@wes.org