Every document required to be filed by these Rules must be filed through the
electronic filing manager established by the Board. A document is considered timely
filed if it is electronically filed by 11:59 p.m. Central Standard Time on the filing
deadline.

Rule 2
General Eligibility Requirements for Admission to the Bar

(a) To be eligible for admission or reinstatement as a licensed attorney in Texas, an
Applicant must:

1. comply with all applicable requirements of these Rules;
2. be at least 18 years of age;
3. be of present good moral character and fitness;
4. have completed the law study required under these Rules, unless specifically
   exempted under Rule 13;
5. qualify under one of the following categories:
   A. be a United States citizen;
   B. be a United States national;
   C. be an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence;
   D. be otherwise authorized to work lawfully in the United States, including
      in a period of Optional Practical Training; or
   E. be an Applicant who does not reside in the United States when the
      Application is submitted;
6. have satisfactorily completed the Texas Bar Examination, unless specifically
   exempted from the Texas Bar Examination under Rule 13 (but an Applicant
   for reinstatement must not be so exempted);
7. have satisfactorily completed the Multistate Professional Responsibility
   Examination;
8. have satisfactorily completed the Texas Law Component, unless specifically
   exempted under Rule 5 (but an Applicant for reinstatement must not be so
   exempted);
9. be willing to take the oath required of attorneys in Texas;
10. pay the appropriate licensing fee to the Clerk of Supreme Court of Texas; and
11. enroll in the Bar by filing an enrollment form and paying the appropriate fees
    and assessments due within the time specified in the State Bar Rules.

(b) If an Applicant does not satisfy all requirements for admission to the Bar within
two years from the date that the Applicant is notified that the Applicant has passed the Texas Bar Examination, the Applicant’s Texas Bar Examination score is void; provided, however, that the Board may waive this provision for good cause shown.

**Rule 3**

**Law Study Requirement**

(a) The law study requirement for eligibility of an Applicant to take the Texas Bar Examination, unless otherwise provided in Rule 13, is met by:

(1) graduation with a J.D. degree from an approved law school;
(2) satisfaction of all requirements for graduation from an approved law school with a J.D. degree; or
(3) study of law in an approved law school or schools by satisfying all requirements for graduation with a J.D. degree, except for not more than four semester hours or its equivalent in quarter hours; provided, however, that no person shall be licensed to practice law until graduation or satisfaction of all requirements for graduation, unless specifically excepted.

(b) If a law school was an approved law school when the Applicant enrolled, the law school is deemed to be an approved law school as to that Applicant for four years thereafter, regardless of its status when the Applicant graduated. If a law school was an approved law school when the Applicant graduated, the Applicant is deemed to be a graduate of an approved law school, regardless of the status of the school when the Applicant enrolled.

(c) If an Applicant graduated from a law school that was not an approved law school when the Applicant enrolled and was not an approved law school when the Applicant graduated, the Applicant is not a graduate of an approved law school even if the law school later became or becomes an approved law school.

**Rule 4**

**Present Good Moral Character and Fitness Requirement**

(a) No one shall be eligible for admission to the Bar or for certification as a Foreign Legal Consultant until the investigation of such person’s moral character and fitness has been completed, and it has been determined by the Board that such individual possesses present good moral character and fitness.

(b) Good moral character is a functional assessment of character and fitness of a prospective lawyer. The purpose of requiring an Applicant to possess present good moral character is to exclude from the practice of law those persons possessing character traits that are likely to result in injury to future clients, in the obstruction