

STATE OF MAINE
SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT
AMENDMENTS TO
MAINE BAR ADMISSION RULES

2021 Me. Rules 06

Effective: December 7, 2021

All of the Justices concurring therein, the following amendments to the Maine Bar Admission Rules are adopted to be effective on the date indicated above. The specific amendments are stated below. To aid in the understanding of the amendments, an Advisory Note appears after the text of each amendment. The Advisory Note states the reason for the amendment, but the Advisory Note is not part of the amendment adopted by the Court.

1. Rule 5(b) of the Maine Bar Admission Rules is amended to read as follows:

(b) Application. The application, on a form to be provided by the Board in accordance with subdivision (d) of this rule, shall set forth the name, date and place of birth, social security number, permanent residence, and current address of the applicant; all secondary schools, undergraduate colleges, and law schools and other graduate or professional schools attended, together with the dates of attendance and degree received, or reason for leaving; the names and addresses of any employers within the preceding 5 years; the names and addresses of 3 persons to provide the references to the applicant's character and fitness to practice law required by subdivision (c)(4); any criminal convictions (other than minor traffic violations) in any jurisdiction and the circumstances thereof; whether the applicant has been admitted, or denied admission, to the bar of any jurisdiction, together with a statement of the circumstances of any denial of admission and a statement whether the applicant is in good standing in each jurisdiction where admitted and, if not, an explanation of the circumstances; and a statement of any special circumstances, such as a physical ~~handicap~~ disability, for which the applicant requests the establishment of special rules for taking the examination in accordance with Rule 10(f).

Advisory Note – December 2021

Subdivision (b) is amended to replace “handicap” with “disability” to comply with P.L. 2021, ch. 348, § 58, which requires the Judicial Branch to “discontinue the use of the terms ‘handicap,’ ‘handicapped’ and ‘hearing impaired’ to describe a person or set of persons in all laws, rules and official documents.”

2. Rule 10(d) of the Maine Bar Admission Rules is amended to read as follows:

(d) Special Examination Circumstances. Upon appropriate written request by an applicant in the application, the Board may, in order to provide for special circumstances such as a physical ~~handicap~~ disability, establish special rules for the taking of the examination by the applicant and may provide for an oral examination to supplement the written examination.

Advisory Note – December 2021

Subdivision (d) is amended to replace “handicap” with “disability” to comply with P.L. 2021, ch. 348, § 58, which requires the Judicial Branch to “discontinue the use of the terms ‘handicap,’ ‘handicapped’ and ‘hearing impaired’ to describe a person or set of persons in all laws, rules and official documents.”

Dated: December 7, 2021

FOR THE COURT,*

_____/s/_____
VALERIE STANFILL
Chief Justice

ANDREW M. MEAD
ELLEN A. GORMAN
JOSEPH M. JABAR
THOMAS E. HUMPHREY
ANDREW M. HORTON
CATHERINE R. CONNORS
Associate Justices

* This Rule Amendment Order was approved after conference of the Court, all Justices concurring therein.