

Status changes are granted in accordance with the provisions of Article III of the [WSBA Bylaws](#). Members should keep apprised of changes in the Bylaws which can affect status change requirements. Generally, members will need to complete the following requirements to return to active status:

Demonstrate Continued Competency

Members returning to active status must demonstrate continued competency to practice law in one of the following manners:

- Demonstrate “active legal experience” as defined in APR 1(e) for at least one of the last three years. Active legal experience can be:
 - the active practice of law,
 - a teacher at an approved law school,
 - a judge of a court of general or appellate jurisdiction, or WSBA judicial status, or
 - any combination of the above

in a state or territory of the U.S. or in the District of Columbia or in any jurisdiction where the common law of England is the basis of its jurisprudence.

OR

- Earn and report MCLE credits (requirements will be on [mcle.wsba.org](#))
 - 45(lawyer)/30(LPO & LLLT) total credits with at least 15 law & legal procedure credits and six ethics credits including one equity credit
 - Credits must be earned within the six years prior to the date of filing the application

OR

- Submit an MCLE Comity Certificate from Idaho, Oregon, or Utah

In addition, if you have been inactive, pro bono, honorary, and/or suspended for more than six years, you must also attend or watch the WSBA reinstatement course. Credits for the reinstatement course count toward the total credits required if you are required to earn and report MCLE credits.

Important Note! If you have been inactive, pro bono, honorary, and/or suspended for more than ten consecutive years without any “active legal experience” as defined in APR 1(e), then you must take and pass the bar exam to demonstrate continued competency. You will need to complete the bar exam application and pay the bar exam application fee.

Pay MCLE Late Fees: You must pay outstanding MCLE late fees, if any, on [mcle.wsba.org](#).

Trust Account Declaration: You must disclose if you will have any trust accounts and, if so, account information.



Professional Liability Insurance Disclosure or Financial Responsibility: Lawyers must disclose if they are in private practice and, if so, whether they will maintain professional liability insurance. LPOs and LLLTs must provide proof of financial responsibility.

Updates to Contact Information: You will be asked to update your contact information on record with the WSBA.

Payment of License Fees and Assessments: You will be required to pay license fees, mandatory assessments, and any late fees or reinstatement fees depending on the status from which you are returning and when you are returning to active status.

Additional Requirements for Reinstatement from Suspension: Members seeking reinstatement from suspension must also cure the reason for their suspension, and, if it is a disciplinary suspension, be in compliance with the order or opinion of suspension. In addition, you will be required to submit or show you already submitted your affidavit of compliance with Title 14 of the ELC/ELPOC/ELLTC.

All questions about status changes may be directed to statuschanges@wsba.org or (206) 239-2131.

The WSBA administers the licensing and renewal process for Washington licensed legal professionals on behalf of and under rules adopted by the Washington Supreme Court.

Any discrepancy or conflict between the information provided here and the rules and regulations adopted by the Washington Supreme Court, or the bylaws and policies of the Washington State Bar Association, is unintentional and will be resolved in favor of strict compliance with the rules, regulations, bylaws, and policies.

