



# OVERVIEW OF WSBA BOARD, COMMITTEES, COUNCILS, PANELS AND OTHER BAR ENTITIES

2025-2026

*Note: Section Executive Committee information and applications can be found online [here](#).*

## **Access to Justice Board**

[View detailed position description](#)

Term: Three-Years

Appointed by: State Supreme Court

Recognizing that access to the civil justice system is a fundamental right, the Access to Justice Board works to achieve equal access for those facing economic and other significant barriers. If you have a demonstrated commitment to equal justice principles, please join us. Appointments are made by the Washington Supreme Court upon nomination of the Washington State Bar Association Board of Governors. The positions may be filled by an attorney or a person who is not an attorney. For additional information, visit the [Alliance for Equal Justice's website](#).

Eligible License Types: Lawyer, LLLT, LPO

Eligible License Status: Active, Honorary, Inactive, Judicial, and Pro Bono

Public Members: Yes

## **Adjunct Disciplinary Counsel Panel**

[View detailed position description](#)

Term: Five-Years

Appointed by: Board of Governors

Assists in carrying out the functions of the lawyer discipline system as needed pursuant to Rule 2.9 of the Rules for Enforcement of Lawyer Conduct (ELC). ADC panel members may be asked to assist staff disciplinary counsel with the investigation of a grievance; serve as independent special disciplinary counsel in the investigation of a grievance or prosecution of a disciplinary case; provide staff disciplinary counsel with an outside opinion on an area of law; serve as a practice monitor following imposition of a disciplinary sanction or suspension; or consult with a lawyer under the terms of a diversion contract. Prerequisite: ADCs must have been an active attorney or judicial member of the WSBA for at least seven years at the time of appointment, be on Active license status, and have no record of disciplinary action.



Eligible License Types: Lawyer  
 Eligible License Status: Active and Judicial  
 Public Members: No

### **Board of Bar Examiners**

[View detailed position description](#)  
 Term: Four-Years  
 Appointed by: Board of Governors

The Board of Bar Examiners grades the Multistate Essay Examination (MEE) and the Multistate Performance Test (MPT) answers for the Uniform Bar Examination and produces the content for the Washington Law Component test under the direction of the WSBA Board of Governors, in accordance with the Admission and Practice Rules approved by the Washington Supreme Court. Members attend mandatory training sessions and four-day grading conferences in March and August. All positions are funded.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer  
 Eligible License Status: Active and Judicial  
 Public Members: No

### **Character and Fitness Board**

[View detailed position description](#)  
 Term: Three-Years  
 Appointed by the Board of Governors  
 (Public Members are appointed by the State Supreme Court)

Carries out the functions and duties assigned to it according to the Admission and Practice Rules adopted by the Supreme Court. Deals with matters of character and fitness bearing on qualifications of applicants for admission and licensing to practice law in Washington, conducts hearings on the admission of any applicant, makes recommendations to the Washington Supreme Court, and considers petitions for reinstatement after disbarment. The Board shall consist of not less than three community representatives who are not licensed to practice law, and not less than one lawyer, LLLT or LPO member from each congressional district. The Board generally meets one full day per month for hearings. Considerable reading and meeting preparation time are required. Each member should expect to write at least one decision per year; assistance is provided as needed. *Prerequisite:* Board members (other than public members) must have been an active member of the WSBA for at least five years at the time of appointment. Members shall continue to serve until replaced.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer  
 Eligible License Status: Active  
 Public Members: Yes

### **Client Protection Board**



#### View detailed position description

Term: Three-Years

Appointed by: Board of Governors

Pursuant to APR 15, reviews claims for reimbursement of financial loss sustained by reason of a licensed legal professional's dishonest actions or failure to account for client funds. The Board decides claims up to \$25,000 and makes recommendations to the Board of Governors on claims for greater amounts. The Board meets four times a year. The Board has thirteen members, eleven of whom are lawyers or Limited License Legal Technicians, and two of whom are public members.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer, LLLT, LPO

Eligible License Status: Active, Inactive, Honorary, and Pro Bono

Public Members: Yes

#### **Committee on Professional Ethics**

#### View detailed position description

Term: Three-Years

Appointed by: Board of Governors

Provides guidance to WSBA members on legal ethics issues in the form of Advisory Opinions, considers and proposes to the Board of Governors (BOG) amendments to the Washington Rules of Professional Conduct, and considers and reports to the BOG on amendments and proposed amendments to the Washington Rules of Professional Conduct and the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct. The Committee may also conduct periodic outreach to the membership on these subjects.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer, LLLT, LPO

Eligible License Status: Active, Honorary, Inactive, and Pro Bono

Public Members: Yes (law professors only)

#### **Conflict Review Officer (CRO)**

#### View detailed position description

Term: Three-Years

Appointed by: Board of Governors

The Conflicts Review Officers (CRO), with support from the Office of General Counsel, are lawyers outside the discipline system who review and make initial (intake) determinations for grievances filed against disciplinary counsel and other lawyers involved in the discipline system. The CRO acts independently of disciplinary counsel and the WSBA. The CRO may dismiss, defer, or have a grievance assigned to special disciplinary counsel for further investigation. The Supreme Court appoints three CROs based on recommendations from WSBA's Board of Governors in consultation with the Disciplinary Selection Panel. *Prerequisites:* CROs must have prior experience as a Disciplinary Board member, disciplinary counsel, or special disciplinary counsel, and have no other role in the disciplinary system while serving as CRO. Additionally, CROs are subject to the Rules for Enforcement of Lawyer Conduct (ELC) 2.14



restrictions on advising or representing individuals regarding pending or likely disciplinary grievances or proceedings. Please review [ELC 2.7](#) before applying.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer

Eligible License Status: Active

Public Members: No

### **Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Committee**

[View detailed position description](#)

Term: Three-Years

Appointed by: Board of Governors

Supports WSBA and its practice sections in the delivery of high quality, mission-focused Continuing Legal Education by advising on content, speakers, and delivery models, and by helping to identify trends and gaps in legal education that WSBA is uniquely positioned to fill.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer, LLLT, LPO

Eligible License Status: Active, Honorary, Inactive and Pro Bono

Public Members: No

### **Council on Public Defense**

[View Volunteer Position Description](#)

Term: Two-Years

Appointed by: Board of Governors

Unites representatives of the bar; private and public criminal defense attorneys; judicial representatives appointed by the Washington Supreme Court, the Superior Court Judges Association and the District and Municipal Court Judges Association; current and former prosecutors; and the public to address new and recurring challenges that impact the public defense system. The CPD educates and informs policy makers on issues that need reform and provides concrete proposals that are enhanced by the comprehensive nature of the CPD membership. Prerequisite: The CPD is seeking one at-large public member, two current or former prosecutors, two at-large members who may be an attorney or a public member, one representative from local government or a public defense administrator who can be an attorney or a public member.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer, LLLT, LPO

Eligible License Status: Active, Honorary, Judicial, Inactive and Pro Bono

Public Members: Yes

### **Court Rules and Procedures Committee**

[View detailed position description](#)

Term: Two-Years

Appointed by: Board of Governors

Studies and develops suggested amendments to designated sets of court rules on a regular cycle of review. Performs the rules study function outlined in General Rule 9 and reports its recommendations to the Board of Governors.



Eligible License Types: Lawyer, LLLT, LPO  
 Eligible License Status: Active, Honorary, Inactive, and Pro Bono  
 Public Members: No

#### Disciplinary Advisory Round Table (DART)

[View detailed position description](#)

Term: Three-Years

Appointed by: State Supreme Court

The Disciplinary Advisory Round Table (DART) acts as a forum for the discussion of issues affecting the discipline system for licensed legal professionals in Washington State. DART provides an annual report to the Washington Supreme Court and the Board of Governors and makes recommendations for change and the identification of concerns or issues.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer, LLLT, LPO  
 Eligible License Status: Active  
 Public Members: Yes

#### Disciplinary Board

[View detailed position description](#)

Term: Three-Years

Appointed by: Supreme Court

Carries out the functions and duties assigned to it according to the Rules for Enforcement of Lawyer Conduct adopted by the Supreme Court. The full board meets monthly via teleconference, and in person as needed, reviewing hearing officer decisions and stipulations. Four review committees, each composed of three D-Board members, review disciplinary investigation reports and dismissals. Each review committee meets four times per year via teleconference. Considerable reading and meeting preparation is required. The Board consists of 4 community members and 10 lawyer members. Prerequisites: Lawyer Board members must have been an active member of the WSBA for at least five years at the time of appointment and have no record of public discipline. Lawyer Board members may not knowingly advise or represent individuals regarding pending or likely disciplinary grievances or proceedings. Board members are recommended by the WSBA Board of Governors in consultation with the Disciplinary Selection Panel and appointed by the Supreme Court.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer  
 Eligible License Status: Active  
 Public Members: Yes





### **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council**

[View detailed position description](#)

Term: Two-Years

Appointed by: Board of Governors

In promoting the regulation of the legal profession and improving the quality of legal services, the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council works to advance diversity, equity and inclusion and address the problems of bias, systemic inequities and underrepresentation in the legal profession. This Council comprises members of the WSBA Board of Governors, bar members, judicial officers, law students and members of the public who work with staff to review, advise and implement policy, programs and activities of the WSBA that promote diversity, equity and inclusion. The Council works with all members of the legal community including Affinity Bar Associations to advance diversity, equity and inclusion.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer, LLLT, LPO

Eligible License Status: Active, Inactive, Honorary Judicial, and Pro Bono

Public Members: Yes

### **Editorial Advisory Committee**

[View detailed position description](#)

Term: Two-Years

Appointed by: Board of Governors

The Editorial Advisory Committee is the “think tank” behind the WSBA’s official magazine, *Washington State Bar News*, working closely with the editor to ensure the content engages, excites, and informs its readers—members of the WSBA. Committee members may identify and develop article topics, write articles themselves or identify and recruit authors, review and critique issues of the magazine, work with staff to develop editorial policy, and guide the WSBA in relaying its own news.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer, LLLT, LPO

Eligible License Status: Active, Inactive, Honorary and Pro Bono

Public Members: No

### **Hearing Officers**

[View detailed position description](#)

Term: Two-Years (initially)

Public Members: No

Appointed by: Supreme Court

Serves as hearing officer for licensed legal professional disciplinary and disability matters, making evidentiary rulings, ruling on motions, conducting settlement conferences, and preparing written findings of fact, conclusions of law, and (as necessary) sanction recommendations according to strict deadlines. Annual training is required. Hearing officers are subject to the representation restrictions in ELC 2.14. The Supreme Court appoints hearing officers upon recommendation of the Board of Governors in consultation with the Disciplinary Selection Panel. Applicants must submit a writing sample. Prerequisites: A hearing officer must be an active member of the WSBA, have



been an active or judicial member of the WSBA for at least seven years, have no record of public discipline, and have experience as an adjudicator or advocate in contested adjudicative hearings. Please review the Rules for Enforcement of Lawyer Conduct, particularly ELC 2.5 to 2.6 and ELC Title 10, prior to applying.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer  
 Eligible License Status: Active and Judicial  
 Public Members: No

### **Judicial Recommendation Committee**

[View detailed position description](#)

Term: Three-Years

Appointed by: Board of Governors

Screens and interviews candidates for state Court of Appeals and Supreme Court positions. Recommendations are reviewed by the WSBA Board of Governors and referred to the state governor for consideration when making judicial appointments.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer, LLLT, LPO  
 Eligible License Status: Active  
 Public Members: No

### **Law Clerk Board**

[View detailed position description](#)

Term: Three-Years

Appointed by: Board of Governors

The Law Clerk Program is an alternative to law school designed to provide educational and practical experience through a combination of work and study with an experienced lawyer or judge. The Law Clerk Board oversees the Law Clerk Program in accordance with Rule 6 of the Admission and Practice Rules. The board considers applications for enrollment in the program, interviews applicants, follows the progress of law clerks, interviews and evaluates law clerks and tutors during the course of study, and certifies that law clerks have successfully completed the program and meet the educational requirement to take the bar examination for lawyers. The board meets quarterly.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer, LLLT, LPO  
 Eligible License Status: Active  
 Public Members: No

### **Legislative Review Committee**

[View detailed position description](#)

Term: One-Year

Appointed by: Board of Governors

Supports the WSBA's legislative affairs efforts at a crucial decision-making intersection. Reviews all Bar-request bills and forwards to the Board of Governors with recommendations, insight, and comments where appropriate.



Depending on the makeup of the Committee, it may also be able to provide technical support to Sections in drafting bills.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer, LLLT, LPO

Eligible License Status: Active

Public Members: No

### **Limited License Legal Technician (LLLT) Board**

[View detailed position description](#)

Term: Three-Years

Appointed by: State Supreme Court

The Limited License Legal Technician (LLLT) is licensed to provide limited legal assistance and advice in the area of family law. The LLLT Board is responsible for recommending to the Washington Supreme Court appropriate changes to rules relating to the practice of LLLTs. The board has the duty and power to develop and approve standard practice forms for LLLTs, oversee the provision of continuing legal education to LLLTs, and assess changes in the law that affect the practice of LLLTs. The board also plays a role in the LLLT discipline system. The board meets approximately six times per year.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer, LLLT, LPO

Eligible License Status: Active, Judicial, Pro Bono

Public Members: Yes

### **Limited Practice Board**

[View detailed position description](#)

Term: Three-Years

Appointed by: State Supreme Court

A Limited Practice Officer (LPO) is licensed to select, prepare, and complete legal documents pertaining to the closing of real property and personal property transactions. The Limited Practice Board is responsible for developing and recommending to the Washington Supreme Court general policy and requirements for the LPO license. The board works with exam writing experts to write and grade the LPO examination, develops and approves forms for use by LPOs, and plays a role in the LPO discipline system. The board members act as ambassadors of the LPO license for the broader legal profession and the public. The board meets four to six times per year.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer, LLLT, LPO

Eligible License Status: Active

Public Members: Yes





### **Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) Board**

[View detailed position description](#)

Term: Three-Years

Appointed by: State Supreme Court

Legal professionals in the state of Washington must continue their legal education throughout their careers in order to remain eligible to practice law. The MCLE Board plays a critical role in defining and determining compliance with the minimum education requirements under APR 11. The Board meets five times a year to consider MCLE policy issues and makes determinations on petitions, appeals, and special requests submitted by licensed legal professionals and CLE sponsors. This includes reviewing requests for waiver and extension of time to meet the minimum education requirements and holding hearings on denied requests. Board members also audit CLE courses throughout the year to ensure CLE providers are complying with APR 11. In addition to attending what are usually half-day meetings, members should expect to spend several hours reviewing materials prior to the meetings. Individuals with diverse backgrounds, teaching experience, and technology skills are encouraged to apply.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer, LLLT, LPO

Eligible License Status: Active

Public Members: Yes

### **Member Engagement Council**

Term: Three-Years

Appointed by: Board of Governors

The Council's purpose is to educate members in a proactive manner about WSBA's and Board of Governor's actions and work, to seek input and involve members in decision-making process, build relationship between members and WSBA governance and ensure ongoing updates to members on WSBA processes and measurement. In carrying out these goals, the Council shall seek to create mutual understanding between the board and members, drive board priorities, form relationships with WSBA sections, specialty, minority and regional bars and share opportunities across regions of the state and members resident outside the geographical area of the state.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer, LLLT, LPO

Eligible License Status: Active, Honorary, Inactive and Pro Bono

Public Members: No

### **Practice of Law Board**

[View detailed position description](#)

Term: Three-Years

Appointed by: State Supreme Court

The Board educates the public about how to receive competent legal assistance, considers and recommends to the Washington Supreme Court new avenues for people or entities not authorized to practice law to provide legal

**WASHINGTON STATE**  
BAR ASSOCIATION

*The mission of the Washington State Bar Association is to serve the public and the members of the Bar, to ensure the integrity of the legal profession, and to champion justice.*



and law-related services, and receives complaints alleging the unauthorized practice of law in Washington by any person or entity. The Board will review and may refer complaints that allege harm to the public interest to appropriate enforcement agencies. The Board participates in the administration of the Washington pilot project for entity regulation. The Supreme Court appoints members after considering nominations from the Practice of Law Board, the WSBA Board of Governors and other interested people and organizations. GR 25(a) says: “A minimum of five board members must be persons not currently authorized to practice law.” There are no other restrictions on members.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer, LLLT, LPO

Eligible License Status: Active, Honorary, Inactive Judicial, and Pro Bono

Public Members: Yes

### **Pro Bono and Public Service Committee**

[View the detailed position description](#)

Term: Two-Years

Appointed by: Board of Governors

Join a committee that is passionate about serving the public! We work to break down barriers that membership face when engaging in public service and pro bono work. We are tasked with promoting pro bono opportunities, liaising with entities engaged in pro bono, and developing public service resources. The Committee works with WSBA staff and collaborates with the Alliance for Equal Justice, the Pro Bono Council, and other Volunteer Lawyer Programs to advance pro bono efforts.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer, LLLT, LPO

Eligible License Status: Active, Inactive and Pro Bono

Public Members: No

### **Records Request Appeals Officer (RRAO)**

[View detailed position description](#)

Term: See details

Appointed by: Board of Governors

The Records Request Appeals Officer (RRAO) conducts any requested second-level review, following a first-level review by the Executive Director, of records disclosure decisions made by WSBA’s public records officer in response to a records request. Review by the RRAO is informal and summary but, in the sole discretion of the RRAO, may include briefing and oral argument. Decisions of the RRAO are final unless the requestor asks for, and the Washington Supreme Court decides to grant, discretionary review. See Washington General Rule (GR) 12.4(h)(2) (Washington State Bar Association Access to Records). Although there are certain key differences between GR 12.4 and the Washington Public Records Act, RCW 42.56, lawyers with Public Records Act experience are encouraged to apply. Initial appointment is for one year and



may be followed by reappointment for two-year terms. Applicants must be active Attorney members of the WSBA.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer

Eligible License Status: Active

Public Members: No

### **Small Town and Rural Council**

Term: Three-Years

Appointed by: Board of Governors

The WSBA Small Town and Rural Practice (STAR) Council is committed to strengthen and support the practice of law in the rural communities throughout Washington state. Members of the STAR Council will work to ensure that the practice of law in rural communities is present, growing, and thriving. The STAR Council members will guide policy and program development, serve as ambassadors between the WSBA and these communities, explore and advocate for creative and innovative solutions, and regularly assess the legal landscape in rural communities to determine if WSBA policy, advocacy, and program development require further resource for sustainability and improvements consistent with the STAR Council Charter.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer, LLLT, LPO

Eligible License Status: Active

Public Members: Yes (see Charter for details)

### **Washington Young Lawyers Committee**

[View detailed position description](#)

Term: Three-Years

Appointed by: Board of Governors

Works to actively engage new and young lawyers in the activities of WSBA, develops and conducts activities of value to new and young lawyers, and connects these lawyers to all WSBA resources. The WYLC is a diverse group of 18 new and young lawyers throughout Washington state. Leadership on the committee affords new and young lawyers the opportunity to build connections across the state and throughout the legal community.

Eligible License Types: Lawyer

(must meet definition of 'Young Lawyer' as stated in the WSBA Bylaws.

Eligible License Status: Active

Public Members: No