



NOVA SCOTIA BARRISTERS' SOCIETY

POLICY REGARDING ACCOMMODATION DURING THE BAR ADMISSION COURSE

1.1 Accommodation Allowed

1.1.1 The Society will ensure there is reasonable accommodation for those requiring it as a result of a disability or medical condition both during the Skills Course and for writing the Bar Examination. If the request for accommodation does not arise from a disability or medical condition, but is reasonable and necessary to ensure equitable treatment, reasonable accommodation may be provided at the discretion of the Executive Director.¹

Integrity of Bar Exam Maintained

1.1.2 The reasonable accommodation that will be provided will not compromise the integrity or the security of the Bar Examination or affect the standards set for the Skills Course and Bar Examination.

Notice to the Society Required

1.1.3 If applicants require accommodation, they must notify the Executive Director six weeks prior to the start of the Skills Course in which they are enrolled or the date of the Bar Examination. If an applicant unexpectedly requires accommodation within the six weeks period, the applicant must notify the Executive Director at his or her earliest opportunity. The Society will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the applicant in such emergency situations, whenever possible.

Information Required

1.1.4 To enable the Society to deal with the request, the applicants must provide the following information, as applicable:

- (a) A completed Accommodation Request Form;
- (b) A completed Medical Form which shall include
 - i. Particulars of the Licensed Healthcare Providers qualifications
 - ii. Particulars of the Licensed Healthcare Providers relationship with the applicant
 - iii. The type of disability or medical condition necessitating the request - providing both the medical and lay terms.
 - iv. Specifics of the accommodation being requested including but not limited to the specifics of any additional time which may be required
- (c) If the applicant's circumstances were the same while attending university, a description and confirmation of the accommodation that was provided by their college or law school for this disability.
- (d) Additional information or additional proof of information, if requested by the Executive Director.

Approved by the Credentials Committee – October 31, 2008

Revised by the Credentials Committee – January 22, 2010

Revised by the Credentials Committee – March 22, 2013

Revised by the Credentials Committee – May 24, 2013

Revised by the Credentials Committee – November 16, 2017

¹ For example, a nursing mother may require a private room and/or extra time to write the bar examination if she needs to take breaks to feed an infant. If an infant is present, such accommodation would not only respect the needs of the mother, but also of other applicants writing the exam. As an additional example, there may be situations where someone who has completed his or her legal education in a language other than English may request accommodation (i.e., extra time or list containing translation of legal terms).