

# NHSC RULE 53

AT A GLANCE

**NHSC RULE 53.1(B)(1)**  
Complete 720 minutes (12 hours) of CLE with at least 120 minutes (2 hours) of legal ethics, professionalism or the prevention of malpractice, substance abuse or attorney client disputes.

**NHSC RULE 53.1(C)**  
Reporting year: June 1 to May 31.  
Annual NHMCLE affidavit filing period: June 1 to July 1.

**NHSC RULE 53.3(B)**  
Lawyers shall maintain certificates of attendance for a period of 2 years following the close of a reporting year.

**SCAN  
HERE**

**TO LEARN MORE**



## QUICK TIPS

- The NHMCLE office is a separate entity from the NHBA CLE Department and administers Rule 53 on behalf of the New Hampshire Supreme Court.
- Courses are recorded and tracked in the Attorney Reporting Tool (ART), which is accessed through the New Hampshire Bar Association's MyNHBar portal.
- Entering your CLEs is not filing! Attorneys must electronically file the NHMCLE Affidavit once the required minutes are entered.
- NHMCLE no longer requires pre or post approval of CLE courses.

**Attorneys are required to enter all non-NHBA CLE courses.**

### CONTACT US

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NEW HAMPSHIRE  
**SUPREME COURT**  
NHMCLE BOARD  
Minimum Continuing Legal Education

# Guide to NHMCLE

What you need to know!



# WHY CLE?

Continuing Legal Education (CLE) improves the administration of justice and serves the public interest by strengthening the professional skills of practicing lawyers, and improving the quality of legal services.

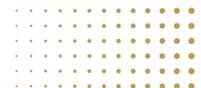
In accordance with New Hampshire Supreme Court Rule 53, all active members of the New Hampshire Bar are required to engage in ongoing legal study throughout their careers. Specifically, Rule 53.1(E) mandates that covered individuals pursue "significant intellectual and practical content reasonably directed at maintaining or enhancing his or her professional knowledge skills and values."

The NHMCLE Board recognizes that activities meeting these criteria generally qualify for CLE credit, though other activities beyond the outlined guidelines may also be eligible under the rule's broader language.



## TO QUALIFY FOR NHMCLE CREDIT, COURSES OR ACTIVITIES SHALL MEET THE FOLLOWING:

- The course shall be of intellectual or practical content, and where appropriate, address professionalism issues, including professional conduct, prevention of malpractice, law practice management or attorney-client relations.
- The course shall contribute directly to lawyers' professional competence or skills or to their education with respect to professional or ethical obligations.
- The program must include a certificate of attendance.
- Lawyers shall not claim credit for attending the same course, whether in person or via another presentation method, more than once in a reporting period.
- Only activities undertaken while admitted to the Bar of New Hampshire or another jurisdiction will qualify for credit.



## STANDARDS FOR ETHICS/PROFESSIONALISM CREDIT

Courses that satisfy the ethics/professionalism requirement address legal ethics (including the New Hampshire Rules of Professional Conduct), professionalism, prevention of malpractice and substance abuse, and attorney-client relations.

### TOPICS THAT WILL NOT GENERALLY BE ACCEPTED

- Moot court judging
- Law school or paralegal teaching
- Bar exam preparation courses
- Client development (e.g. "rainmaking" or web site design)
- Marketing or branding a law practice
- Hiring and compensation of lawyers or staff
- General office skills and business planning for profitability
- Reading texts