



The American Bar Association (ABA) Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar (Council) has notified Thomas Jefferson School of Law that it has been placed on probation. See ABA Probation Notice dated November 2017.

The Law School is addressing the ABA's concerns and will continue taking steps to demonstrate full compliance with all ABA standards.

Of primary importance to the Law School is that it continues to provide an opportunity for students of all backgrounds to receive an excellent education. Similarly, the Law School provides an opportunity for access to justice for the communities its graduates return to serve.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ABA'S LETTER:

Is Thomas Jefferson School of Law still accredited by the ABA?

Yes, the Law School remains on the list of ABA accredited schools.

Why did the ABA decide to put the Law School on probation?

The Council determined that the Law School was not in compliance with three Standards: Standard 301(a) regarding the requirement that the Law School maintain a rigorous program of academic study that prepares students to pass the bar; Standard 501(a) and (b) with respect to the requirements that the Law School not admit applicants who do not appear capable of passing the bar; and Standard 202(a) and (d) regarding anticipated financial resources sufficient to operate in compliance with the Standards. There is no allegation of any wrongdoing or misconduct on the Law School's part.

Have other law schools that have been put on probation been successful in getting off probation?

Yes, there have been other law schools who have been put on probation and were successful in getting back into compliance.

Does this impact students' ability to receive Financial Aid?

No. Students remain eligible for federal student financial aid.

Will current students still be able to graduate from an ABA accredited school and sit for the bar?

According to the ABA, law students attending an ABA accredited law school on probation will graduate from an ABA accredited law school and be eligible to sit for the bar.

What is the Law School doing to address the ABA's concerns about the academic program?

The Law School's academic program features integrated academic support across the curriculum. The committed faculty use innovative techniques and provide personalized feedback.

To better prepare students for the bar, the faculty are including more practice in multiple choice and writing skills in required classes. In addition, the Law School has expanded the required curriculum to ensure that far more students take bar preparation courses. It has also added one-on-one mentoring for students to create individual bar study plans.

The Law School is also focused on continuing to improve preparation for the bar for graduates, offering additional extensive support and incentives for effective bar study as well as the First Timers mentoring program. All of these efforts complement the innovative skills classes, Centers of Academic Excellence, and clinical and externship opportunities.

Does the Law School admit applicants who do not appear capable of graduating and entering the profession?

The Law School believes all its admitted students have the potential of passing the bar exam and being successful professionals. The Law School looks at the applicant's academic credentials and takes a holistic approach to determine whether an applicant should be admitted.

What is the financial position of the Law School?

The Law School is meeting its financial obligations and will continue prudent financial management.