



STATE BAR OF TEXAS

Minimum Continuing Legal Education

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Memorandum

To: CLE Sponsors
From: Nancy Smith, Director
Date: April 27, 2009
RE: MCLE Accreditation Fee Increase

On April 17, 2009, the State Bar of Texas Board of Directors approved changes to MCLE Regulations that will increase accreditation fees for many CLE sponsors who are currently submitting course information to the Minimum Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) program in Texas. The accreditation fee increases are the first instituted by the MCLE program in Texas since inception of the program twenty-three years ago and are required to maintain our current level of service to our sponsors and to Texas attorneys attending CLE activities.

This memo includes a summary of the accreditation fee increases. A copy of all of the changes to the MCLE Regulations that become effective June 1, 2009 can be found at www.texasbar.com/mcle. All Applications for Accreditation of CLE Activity, online course submissions and attendance information received on or after June 1, 2009 will be subject to the increases and service charges outlined in the summary and identified in the MCLE Regulations.

The amount of the increase in the accreditation fee will be contingent upon your organization's sponsor status with the MCLE program in Texas. For accreditation/evaluation purposes, the Texas MCLE program recognizes Accredited Sponsors, Local Bar Associations, and Non-Accredited Sponsors. To qualify for the lesser fees charged to Accredited Sponsors and Local Bar Associations outlined in the attached summary, your organization will need to meet one or both of the following requirements:

- 1) Eligible for Accredited Sponsor status and currently recognized as meeting the requirements of Accredited Sponsors outlined in MCLE Regulations, Sections 10.3-10.3.7; and/or
- 2) Eligible for recognition as a Local Bar Association in Texas as outlined under MCLE Regulations, Section 10.8.5.

If you have any questions regarding the increases or regarding eligibility for Accredited Sponsor Status or Local Bar Association status under Texas MCLE Regulations, please contact our office.

MCLE Fee Increases
Approved by the State Bar Board of Directors on April 17, 2009
Effective date for the increases: June 1, 2009

Accreditation Fees-Sponsor, MCLE Regulations, Sections 10.8.1-10.8.5

Current Fee Charged (prior to June 1, 2009)

Sponsors pay an accreditation fee upon submission of applications for accreditation of CLE activities. One of two options is selected for payment of the fee: Option A - \$10 per credit hour, or Option B - \$5 per attendee, whichever would be least. The minimum fee is \$25 regardless of the option selected.

June 1, 2009 Increase for Accredited Sponsors and Local Bar Associations

Option A – \$14 per credit hour or Option B- \$7 per attendee, which ever would be least, with the minimum fee being \$35.

June 1, 2009 Increase for Non-Accredited Sponsors

Option A - \$20 per hour or Option B - \$10 per attendee, whichever would be least, with the minimum fee being \$50.

Late Filing Fees, MCLE Regulations, Sections 10.8.9-10.8.10

Current Fee Charged (prior to June 1, 2009)

CLE sponsors pay a \$50 late filing fee for submission of applications that are received less than 15 days in advance of the activity date. This fee will remain the same for Accredited Sponsors and Local Bar Associations.

June 1, 2009 Increase for Non Accredited Sponsors

Non-accredited sponsors (excluding Local Bar Associations) are charged a \$100 late filing fee for submission of applications received less than 15 days in advance of the activity date.

Additional Service Charges MCLE Regulations, Sections 6.2.1-6.3

Current Fee Charged (prior to June 1, 2009)

No Fee for submission of State Bar of Texas CLE Course Attendance Forms. Certificates and Lists of Attendees are not accepted or processed.

June 1, 2009 Attendance Service Charges

- Sponsors may report attendance free of charge either online at the MCLE sponsors site or by approved electronic file submission.
- MCLE sponsors will be charged a \$2 per attendee service charge for attendance submitted via State Bar of Texas CLE Attendance Form (scan form).
- Sponsors will be charged \$10 per attendee service charge for submission of attendance via attendance lists and or certificates of attendance.
- Texas Local Bar Associations are exempt from the \$2 per attendance form service charge. (MCLE Regulations, Section 10.8.5)