

**STATE OF VERMONT
VERMONT SUPREME COURT
JANUARY TERM, 2026**

Promulgation Order Adding § 19 to Administrative Order No. 41 (Licensing of Attorneys)

Pursuant to Chapter II, § 30, of the Vermont Constitution, it is hereby ordered:

1. That Administrative Order No. 41 § 19 be added as follows:

§ 19. Provisional Licensure.

(a) **Eligibility.** An applicant for admission to the Bar of the Vermont Supreme Court is eligible to practice law in the State of Vermont on a provisional basis provided that the applicant:

(1) is currently licensed to practice law in at least one U.S. jurisdiction; is not under suspension or revocation in any jurisdiction for disciplinary reasons; and is a member in good standing in all jurisdictions in which the applicant practices law; and

(2) has been determined to be eligible for admission to the Bar by the Board of Bar Examiners and is awaiting the Character and Fitness Committee's investigation report or admission to the Bar.

(b) **Prerequisites.** Prior to provisional licensure, the applicant must submit a form to the Office of Attorney Licensing certifying compliance with paragraph (a)(1) and agreeing to comply with and be subject to Vermont statutes and the rules of the Vermont Supreme Court, including the Rules of Professional Conduct and the Rules Governing Establishment and Operation of the Professional Responsibility Program.

(c) **Expiration.** Provisional licensure ends when the applicant becomes fully licensed in Vermont, withdraws the applicant's application for admission to the Bar, is denied admission to the Bar for any reason, or no longer meets the requirements of subdivision (a) above.

Board's Notes—2026 Amendment

Section 19 is added to allow applicants for admission who are admitted in another U.S. jurisdiction to fully practice law in Vermont while awaiting the completion of the Character and Fitness process. Applicants, upon successful completion of the Character and Fitness process, still must complete all required steps for full licensure, including taking the oath of admission.

The Legal Intern rules of the Rules of Admission remain in effect but now apply to only law students, Law Office Study participants, and applicants for admission who are not admitted in another U.S. jurisdiction.

2. That this section is added as prescribed and promulgated effective **July 1, 2026**. The Board's Notes are advisory.

3. That the Chief Justice is authorized to report these amendments to the General Assembly in accordance with the provisions of 12 V.S.A. § 1, as amended.

Dated in Chambers at Montpelier, Vermont this 6th day of January, 2026.



Signed by the Vermont Supreme Court

Paul L. Reiber, Chief Justice

Harold E. Eaton, Jr., Associate Justice

Nancy J. Waples, Associate Justice