



TRANSITION INTO LAW PRACTICE PROGRAM

1-PAGE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY FOR INSIDE & OUTSIDE MENTOR VOLUNTEERS

- WHAT:** When Beginning Lawyers are admitted to practice in Georgia, they are required to be mentored. The Transition Into Law Practice Program (“TILPP”) - the “mentoring program” - replaced the former Bridge-the-Gap requirement in its entirety effective July 1, 2005. TILPP applies to Beginning Lawyers in the year of their Georgia admission and the next calendar year (just like Bridge-the-Gap did).
- REMEMBER:** TILPP is a departure from the “one-size fits all” Bridge-the-Gap format. The manner in which Beginning Lawyers comply with TILPP differs depending upon their practice settings.
- HOW:** How do you volunteer as a Mentor? You should complete and submit a **Mentor Volunteer Form** in order to volunteer as a Mentor. Mentoring is **not** an ordinary volunteer opportunity. The names of prospective Mentors satisfying minimum qualifications are forwarded to the Georgia Supreme Court for consideration. Mentors are appointed for one-year terms. **The Georgia Supreme Court formally appoints Mentors in recognition of the importance of mentoring. View the Mentor Volunteer Form at <http://www.gabar.org/membership/tilpp/volunteer.cfm>.**
- WHAT:** What are the **Minimum Qualifications for Mentors**? The Mentor Volunteer Forms contain this information.
- WHAT:** What are your responsibilities as a Mentor? Your responsibilities include: devoting the time required for meaningful mentoring; helping devise a Mentoring Plan; monitoring your Beginning Lawyer’s progress; and, certifying whether or not the Plan was satisfactorily completed.
- REMEMBER:** TILPP places the responsibility upon the Beginning Lawyer, not the Mentor, to insure that all pertinent forms are completed and submitted. Beginning Lawyers are provided with numerous compliance resources, including a **1-Page Executive Summary**.
- HOW:** How does your Beginning Lawyer comply with TILPP? Here’s a quick summary of the 4-Steps. **Enrollment:** The first step is for your new attorney to complete their enrollment into TILPP. How they enroll depends upon their practice setting; **Mentoring:** Beginning Lawyers complete an approved mentoring plan. The specifics of the individual plan depend upon the practice setting; **CLE:** Concurrent with mentoring, your Beginning Lawyer completes 12 hours of CLE. The specific CLE programs depend upon their practice setting. Prosecutors and Public Defenders have specialized programs. All other Beginning Lawyers in TILPP complete the 6 hour Beginning Lawyers Program and an additional 6 hours of their choice, for a total of 12 CLE hours; and, **Completion:** Your Beginning Lawyer receives written confirmation completion of both TILPP components - Mentoring and CLE.
- HOW:** All new lawyers are required to complete Mandatory Advocacy Experiences (MAEs) regardless of their practice setting. See http://www.gabar.org/membership/tilpp/upload/MAE_Handbook.pdf for the **Handbook on Mandatory Advocacy Experiences. This Regulation has probably changed since you tried your first case.** MAEs are basically observations.
- WHAT:** What form do you submit to confirm that your Beginning Lawyer completed the mentoring plan? **The Mentoring Completion Certification is submitted to confirm completion of the mentoring plan. The form is available in the Inside & Outside Mentoring Manuals.**
- FAQ:** Do you have a question not answered in this Executive Summary? Email tilpp@gabar.org or call 404.527.8704.
- THANK YOU:** Most important of all, thank you for your service! You have joined thousands of experienced Georgia attorneys who are making a positive difference in our legal profession!