

Requirements for Government Attorney Applications Submitted to the Midland-Odessa and Pecos Divisions

(Government Attorneys)

Admission to practice in the Western District of Texas is covered in [Local Court Rule AT-1\(g\)](#), Admission of Attorneys. Please read these requirements below carefully before preparing your application packet. Please note that these requirements apply to applications sent to the Midland-Odessa or Pecos Divisions only. Other divisions may have different requirements. Resident applicants (those residing in the Western District of Texas) must apply to the specific divisional office where their firm is located, per Local Court Rule AT-1(b)(3). *However, once you are admitted into a division, you are able to practice in all seven divisional offices.*

The Application and Admissions Process

Only completed applications will be submitted to the admissions committee. The review and approval process may take up to 45-60 days unless the Committee requires additional information from the applicant. **Items needed for a complete application (items that are in blue shades underlined have hyperlinks):**

1. [Original Application for admission](#) with notarized signature. All questions must be answered. If a question does not apply, enter N/A or None.
2. [One \(1\) Letter of Recommendation from Supervisory attorney](#). The letters must have the attorney's signature. A /s/ is not acceptable. [See Sample Letter](#).
3. [\(1\) Original \(or electronic\) Certificate of Good Standing](#) from the state bar association or Supreme Court in which the applicant resides or is admitted to practice. The certificate must be current (dated within 60 days at time of application).
4. [\(1\) Original \(or electronic\) Certificate of Good Standing](#) from the U.S. District Court in which the applicant resides or is admitted to practice. The certificate must be current (dated within 60 days at time of application). If an applicant is not a member of the Federal District where he/she resides, the applicant must provide a Certificate of Good Standing from another Federal court where the applicant practices.
5. If not admitted into any Federal Court, the applicant must [Complete the Federal Court Practice Seminar](#). The Federal Court Practice on-line seminar can be found at www.texasbarcle.com. Click on the selection for **On-line Classes / mp3s** and then select "Federal" as the area of practice. Applicants must submit proof of completion from the on-line course with their submitted application.
6. Government Attorneys are **EXEMPT** from paying the \$219 admission fee.

Submit Your Application Electronically

1. Click on our electronic drop box and submit **ONLY** when all the above requirements have been complied for submission into **ONE PDF document**. Please make sure to include your receipt from pay.gov.
2. After your application has been reviewed by our office to ensure all required documentation has been submitted and accurately completed, the admissions clerk will forward the application on to the Admissions Committee.
3. Utilize the email below if any additional information is requested by our office.
4. You do not need to mail in the application. The application packet that is submitted electronically becomes the original when received.

Additional Information

Government Attorney Requirements

Attorneys employed by a municipal, county, state or federal government agency have different requirements for admission and are exempt from paying the admission fee. [See Local Court Rule AT-1\(g\)](#).

Time for Completing Application

Applicants must complete all the requirements (including any requested supplemental or explanatory information for admission within one year after the filing of the application. Failure to complete all requirements will cause the application to expire, and a new application will be required. [See Local Rule AT-1\(b\)\(4\)](#).

Taking the Oath

Applicants who are approved for admission by the Admissions Committee will be notified by e-mail/letter and will be provided information about how to be sworn into the Western District bar.

Still Have Questions?

Please contact us via email: Midland-Odessa_Attorney_Admissions@txwd.uscourts.gov