

1 **18-201. Minimum educational requirements.**

2 A. **Hours required.** Every active licensed member of the state bar shall complete
3 twelve (12) hours of continuing legal education during each year as provided by these rules. One
4 (1) hour of continuing legal education is equivalent to sixty (60) minutes of instruction. This rule
5 sets forth the requisite hours and categories of continuing legal education. Rule 18-204 NMRA
6 sets forth the means by which the hours may be acquired.

7 B. **Legal substantive credits.** Ten (10) of the required twelve (12) hours may include
8 legal subjects or subjects which relate to the individual attorney's practice of law. The hours shall
9 be defined as general credits.

10 C. **Legal ethics and professionalism credits.** At least two (2) hours of the twelve (12)
11 hours shall be devoted to board approved subjects dealing with legal ethics or professionalism.
12 Excess ethics and professionalism credits shall be applied as follows:

13 first, to any deficit in general credits in the current compliance year;
14 second, to the next compliance year as carry-over ethics and professionalism credits; and
15 third, to the next compliance year as carry-over general credits, subject to the limitations
16 set forth in Paragraph D of this rule.

17 D. **Carry-over.** Any member may carry up to twelve (12) hours of excess credits
18 earned in one (1) compliance year over to the next compliance year only. Only two (2) hours of
19 ethics and professionalism credit may be carried over as part of the twelve (12) hours of credits.
20 Excess ethics and professionalism credits can be converted to be used toward the substantive
21 (general) requirement. Only four (4) self-study credit hours ~~cannot~~ may be carried
22 over as part of the twelve (12) hours of credits. No credit may be carried over for more than one
23 (1) compliance year.

1 E. **Judges.** Judges, retired judges who are active licensed members of the state bar,
2 domestic violence special commissioners, and domestic relations hearing officers shall be required
3 to complete the same number of hours of continuing legal education as other active licensed bar
4 members. The means by which these individuals may satisfy their continuing legal education
5 requirements are set forth in Rule 18-204 NMRA.

6 [As amended, effective January 1, 1990; November 1, 1991; February 1, 1992; March 23, 1998;
7 January 1, 2001; as amended by Supreme Court Order No. 05-8300-007, effective January 1, 2006;
8 by Supreme Court Order No. 06-8300-033, effective January 1, 2007; by Supreme Court Order
9 No. 11-8300-020, effective May 1, 2011 for compliance year ending December 31, 2011, and
10 subsequent compliance years; as amended by Supreme Court Order No. 20-8300-015, effective
11 December 31, 2020.]