

CHAPTER 7

FACILITIES

Standard 701. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

A law school shall have physical facilities that are adequate both for its current program of legal education and for growth anticipated in the immediate future.

Interpretation 701-1

Inadequate physical facilities are those that have a negative and material effect on the education students receive or fail to provide reasonable access for persons with disabilities. If equal access for persons with disabilities is not readily achievable, the law school shall provide reasonable accommodation to such persons.

Interpretation 701-2

Adequate physical facilities shall include:

- (1) suitable class and seminar rooms in sufficient number and size to permit reasonable scheduling of all classes and seminars;*
- (2) suitable space for conducting its professional skills courses and programs, including clinical, pretrial, trial, and appellate programs;*
- (3) an office for each full-time faculty member adequate for faculty study and for faculty-student conferences, and sufficient office space for part-time faculty members adequate for faculty-student conferences;*
- (4) space for co-curricular, as opposed to extra-curricular, activities as defined by the law school;*
- (5) suitable space for all staff; and*
- (6) suitable space for equipment and records in proximity to the individuals and offices served.*

Interpretation 701-3

To obtain full approval, a law school's facilities shall be completed and occupied by the law school; plans or construction in progress are insufficient.

Interpretation 701-4

A law school must demonstrate that it is and will be housed in facilities that are adequate to carry out its program of legal education. If facilities are leased or financed, factors relevant to whether the law school is or will be housed in facilities that are adequate include overall lease or financing terms and duration, lease renewal terms, termination or foreclosure provisions, and the security of the school's interest.

Interpretation 701-5

A law school's physical facilities should be under the exclusive control and reserved for the exclusive use of the law school. If the facilities are not under the exclusive control of the law school or are not reserved for its exclusive use, the arrangements shall permit proper scheduling of all law classes and other law school activities.

Standard 702. LAW LIBRARY

The physical facilities for the law library shall be sufficient in size, location, and design in relation to the law school's programs and enrollment to accommodate the law school's students and faculty and the law library's services, collections, staff, operations, and equipment.

Interpretation 702-1

A law library shall have sufficient seating to meet the needs of the law school's students and faculty.

Standard 703. RESEARCH AND STUDY SPACE

A law school shall provide, on site, sufficient quiet study and research seating for its students and faculty. A law school should provide space that is suitable for group study and other forms of collaborative work.

Standard 704. TECHNOLOGICAL CAPACITIES

A law school shall have the technological capacities that are adequate for both its current program of legal education and for program changes anticipated in the immediate future.

Interpretation 704-1

Inadequate technological capacities are those that have a negative and material effect on the education students receive.

Interpretation 704-2:

Adequate technological capacity shall include:

- (1) sufficient and up-to-date hardware and software resources and infrastructure to support the teaching, scholarship, research, service and administrative needs of the school;*
- (2) sufficient staff support and space for staff operations;*
- (3) sufficient financial resources to adopt and maintain new technology as appropriate.*