



Requesting a New State Bar Section

To begin the process, please contact Darin Day, SBM Director of Outreach:
(517) 346-6330 or dday@michbar.org

Under Article VII of the State Bar of Michigan bylaws, the Board of Commissioners has sole discretion to create, combine, re-name, and dissolve sections. Article VII also outlines the requirements for requesting a new section. If you are interested in discussing the formation of a new section, please contact the SBM Director of Outreach. As background, below is a summary of Article VII requirements:

1. The petitioning group must include a minimum of 150 active SBM licensees in good standing who have demonstrated a commitment to apply for membership in the proposed new section and pay the proposed dues.
2. In addition, the petitioning group must submit the following documents:
 - a. a statement of need for the proposed new section;
 - b. a statement confirming that the contemplated jurisdiction of the proposed new section will address a substantial need not currently being addressed by any other section or committee of the SBM;
 - c. proposed section bylaws, including a jurisdiction statement;
 - d. names of the proposed committees of the section; and
 - e. a proposed two-year operating budget, projected annual expenses not to exceed anticipated annual revenues.
3. Section bylaws must provide for a governing council that includes a chair, chair-elect, and other such officers and/or section members as determined by the section.