

GUIDELINES FOR STUDENT PRACTICE CERTIFICATION IN CONNECTICUT

The **Connecticut Superior Court Practice Book Rules 3-14 through 3-21** permit the certification of student interns for legal practice under eligibility guidelines that align with those established by **Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Rule 3:03**.

However, the student practice requirements in Massachusetts differ from those in Connecticut in their requirements for Out-of-State Interns. As such, a student may meet the eligibility criteria for certification under the Connecticut Practice Book but **not** under **Massachusetts SJC Rule 3:03**.

Importantly, if a student **does not qualify under Massachusetts Rule 3:03**, they are **not eligible for certification in Connecticut**, regardless of the Connecticut-specific criteria.

Excerpts from the [Connecticut Practice Book](#)

Sec. 3-14. Legal Interns An eligible legal intern may, under supervision by a member of the Connecticut bar as provided in Section 3-15, appear in court with the approval of the judicial authority or before an administrative tribunal, subject to its permission, on behalf of any person, if that person has indicated in writing his or her consent to the intern's appearance and the supervising attorney has also indicated in writing approval of that appearance. (P.B. 1978-1997, Sec. 68.)

Sec. 3-21. —Out-of-State Interns A legal intern who is certified under a legal internship program or student practice rule in another state or in the District of Columbia may appear in a court or before an administrative tribunal of Connecticut under the same circumstances 173 and on the same conditions as those applicable to certified Connecticut legal interns, if the out of-state intern files with the clerk of the Superior Court in Hartford a certification by the dean of his or her law school of his or her admission to internship or student practice in that state or in the District of Columbia, together with the text of that state's or the District of Columbia's applicable statute or rule governing such admissions.

Certification Process for Students Eligible for Student Practice Certification

1. Marie Fletcher will send a Dean's Certification letter along with a copy of Massachusetts Rule 3:03 to the Hartford Superior Court to verify the student's eligibility and request student practice certification.
2. The Dean's Certification letter is kept on file by the court for when an [Application for Appearance of Legal Intern](#) is received.

To request that the **Dean's Certification Letter** be sent to the **Hartford Superior Court**, or for additional information, please contact:

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