

RULE 2. APPELLATE, DISTRICT AND COUNTY-LEVEL COURT JUDGES.

a. Each judge of an appellate court, district court, statutory county court, and county court performing judicial functions will, as an official duty:

(1) complete before taking office, or within one year after taking office, at least 30 hours of instruction in the administrative duties of office and substantive, procedural and evidentiary laws unless the judge has previously complied with this requirement and has been absent from the bench less than one year before taking the present office;

(2) each fiscal year thereafter, complete at least 16 hours of instruction in substantive, procedural and evidentiary laws and court administration.

b. Instruction credit completed during any fiscal year in excess of the minimum number of hours required may be applied to the following fiscal year's requirement.

c. Programs sponsored by the following organizations and approved by the Court of Criminal Appeals Education Committee for appellate, district, and statutory county judges, or, the County Judges Education Committee for constitutional county judges, can be utilized to satisfy the requirements of Rule 2a:

- (1) Judicial Section of the State Bar of Texas
- (2) Texas Center for the Judiciary, Inc.
- (3) The Texas Association of Counties
- (4) National Judicial College, Reno, Nevada
- (5) Appellate Judges' Conference of the American Bar Association, Chicago, Illinois
- (6) National Conference of Chief Justices
- (7) American Academy of Judicial Education, Washington, D.C.
- (8) Institute of Judicial Administration, N.Y.U., New York, N.Y.
- (9) Texas College of Probate Judges

- (10) National College of Probate Judges
 - (11) An accredited law school
 - (12) A local, state or national bar association
 - (13) A professional organization devoted to improvement of the legal profession such as the Texas Association of Defense Counsel and the Texas Trial Lawyers Association
 - (14) The County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas or the V.G. Young Institute of Texas A & M University
 - (15) Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association
 - (16) Texas District and County Attorneys Association
 - (17) Wright Lecture Series
 - (18) National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges
- d. All rules applicable to active appellate, district, and statutory county-court judges, except Rule 2a(1), are also applicable to retired and former appellate, district, statutory county-court judges if they are subject to assignment.
- e. A constitutional county judge is exempt from the continuing judicial education requirement for any fiscal year for which the judge files an affidavit with the Registrar stating that the judge does not perform judicial functions. For purposes of this subsection, a judicial function is one that is appropriate solely to a member of the judiciary.

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**Effective as amended May 12, 2008*