Attorney Qualifications for County Reimbursement, Felony Cases

Pursuant to Ohio Administrative Code section 120-1-10, appointed counsel must meet these requirements in order to qualify for state reimbursement. The state public defender may refuse to reimburse the county for cases on which appointed counsel do not meet these requirements.

Felonies	Training*	Experience**
4th and 5th degree	Within two years prior to appointment, minimum 12 hours CLE in criminal practice and procedure	At least one year of experience in criminal law **OR** clinical/intern experience***
3rd degree	Within two years prior to appointment, minimum 12 hours CLE in criminal practice and procedure	At least one year of experience in criminal law **OR** clinical/intern experience*** **AND** Within 10 years preceding appointment, experience in at least one criminal jury trial
1st and 2nd degree	Within two years prior to appointment, minimum 12 hours CLE in criminal practice and procedure	At least three years of experience in criminal law **OR** clinical/intern experience*** **AND** Within 10 years preceding appointment, experience as trial counsel in two criminal jury trials, at least one of which was as lead counsel
Aggravated murder without death penalty specifications, murder, and life sentence	Within two years prior to appointment, minimum 12 hours CLE in criminal practice and procedure	At least five years of experience criminal law **AND** Within 10 years preceding the appointment, prior experience as lead counsel in three jury trials, at least two of which were felonies
Felony OVI	Within two years prior to appointment, minimum 12 hours CLE in criminal practice and procedure at least six of which must be focused on OVI practice and procedure	

*Continuing Legal Education (CLE) hours must be certified by the Ohio Supreme Court commission on Continuing Legal Education.

** Attorneys appointed to represent indigent clients in felony cases must meet the applicable requirements. Where an attorney within 10 years prior to the appointment successfully completed a trial training program, consisting of 30 hours of instruction or more, the training program will satisfy any requirement in OAC 120-1-10 to serve as lead counsel in one criminal jury trial and lead counsel in one delinquency bench trial.

*** Where an attorney has previously served as a certified legal intern, pursuant to Rule II of the Supreme Court Rules of the Government of the Bar, for at least six months with an organization providing indigent defense services, or successfully completed a law school clinical education program focusing on criminal defense, said experience will satisfy any requirement in paragraphs (I) to (O) of this rule to have: (1) One year of experience as an attorney practicing in the area of criminal law.