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## 2008 Bridge The Gap

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## 2008 Bridge The Gap



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A South Carolina Bar Continuing Legal Education Division Program

### Welcome To Bridge The Gap!

#### What is Bridge The Gap?

Rule 402(c) of the South Carolina Appellate Court Rules sets forth the requirements for admission to practice law in South Carolina. Rule 402(c)(8) requires all South Carolina Bar applicants to successfully complete the Bridge The Gap program sponsored by the South Carolina Bar, under the directive of the South Carolina Supreme Court, prior to admission to practice law.

The Bridge The Gap program is a three-day (Monday-Wednesday) intensive course sanctioned by the South Carolina Supreme Court and coordinated by the SC Bar-CLE Division in conjunction with the University of South Carolina School of Law. The program focuses on practical nuts and bolts skills. It is designed to assist both the law student in transition from law school to the practice of law and the lawyer new to the practice of law in South Carolina.

#### Who should attend?

All candidates for admission to the South Carolina Bar must complete the Bridge The Gap program as set out in Rule 402(c). Bridge The Gap registrants will include current second and third year law school students, law school graduates, attorneys licensed to practice in other states, and may include *inactive* members of the SC Bar seeking to return to active status. \*Attorneys licensed and practicing in South Carolina are not eligible to receive CLE credit for Bridge The Gap unless they have received special permission from the S.C. Supreme Court Commission on CLE and Specialization. \*An inactive member who has practiced law in South Carolina or another jurisdiction during the immediately prior twelve months may become an active member by paying the difference in license fees if that member is current with mandatory continuing legal education (MCLE) requirements. After the first twelve months an active member who has completed the equivalent of the mandatory continuing legal education requirement for the preceding calendar year and who has filed a compliance statement with the Commission on Continuing Legal

Education and Specialization and paid the filing fee may become an active member upon payment of the difference in license fees.

#### When is it offered?

Bridge The Gap is offered four times a year - March 10-12, May 12-14, August 4-6 and October 13-15. There are two live programs held at the USC School of Law, one in March during the USC School of Law Spring Break and the other following the USC School of Law graduation.

The summer and fall Bridge The Gap programs are a videotape presentation of one of the two earlier live programs.

The Summer presentation is held August 4-6, at the USC School of Law, immediately following the July SC Bar exam.

The location for the Fall presentation, October 13-15 has yet to be determined. For more information on the Fall location visit [www.scbar.org/cle](http://www.scbar.org/cle) or call the CLE Division.

#### How much does it cost?

Tuition for Bridge The Gap is \$300. This cost includes all written materials for the entire three-day program, the entire first year's CLE requirements, and morning and afternoon refreshments each day.

**A typical one-day, six-hour South Carolina Bar CLE seminar costs approximately \$195. The Bridge The Gap handout materials provided during the program would cost over \$750 if purchased individually.**

#### Who are the faculty members?

The faculty for the program features members of South Carolina's Judiciary, the SC Bar, and the SC Bar Foundation staff. These professionals offer a wealth of practical knowledge and experience to program participants, both in their presentations and in the written materials prepared for the course.

Bridge The Gap faculty members do not receive monetary compensation or special teaching credit for their participation. Faculty members speak and provide extensive written materials strictly on a voluntary basis.

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

##### Winter Bridge The Gap March 10-12, 2008

Live at USC School of Law  
Registration Deadline\*..... February 29  
Cancellation Deadline\*\* . February 29

##### Spring Bridge The Gap May 12-14, 2008

Live at USC School of Law  
Registration Deadline\* ..... May 2  
Cancellation Deadline\*\* ..... May 2

##### Summer Bridge The Gap August 4-6, 2008

Video Presentation at USC School of Law  
Registration Deadline\* ..... July 25  
Cancellation Deadline\*\* ..... July 25

##### Fall Bridge The Gap October 13-15, 2008

Video Presentation Location T.B.D.  
Registration Deadline\* ..... October 3  
Cancellation Deadline\*\* ..... October 3

*\*Registrations received after 5:00 p.m. on this date or at the door will be subject to an additional charge of \$35.00*

*\*\*Refunds, less \$20.00 for administrative expenses, will be made for cancellations received in writing by Noon on this date.*

### What about materials?

Most speakers provide written materials in conjunction with their presentation. Each day, you will receive a set of materials corresponding to that day's lectures. You **MUST** check in with the registration desk **EACH DAY** to pick up your materials and to receive credit for attending each Bridge The Gap session.

The handout materials are designed to give you a brief substantive overview and a practical nuts and bolts approach to South Carolina law.

### How is my attendance reported?

Upon successful completion of the Bridge The Gap program, your attendance will automatically be certified to the South Carolina Supreme Court. In the calendar year of admission, a new attorney has no filing requirement for CLE and no courses taken will be counted. In the first filing year, Bridge The Gap attendance will satisfy 8 hours of MCLE credit, including 2 hours of LEPR (ethics) credit. During the first filing year, attorneys will be required to obtain a minimum of 6 hours of MCLE credit (for a total of 14 MCLE hours, 2 of which are LEPR) to complete the first year's filing requirement. If you have questions about CLE credit hours, please contact the SC Supreme Court's Commission on CLE & Specialization at (803) 799-5578. If you have questions about other requirements for admission to the SC Bar or being sworn-in, please contact the SC Supreme Court's Office of Bar Admissions at (803) 734-1080.

### What if I miss a session?

Pursuant to the South Carolina Supreme Court, if you arrive late, leave a session early, or miss a portion of the Bridge The Gap program, you will be required to make up the portion(s) you missed at a later date by arranging to view the videotaped segment(s) through the South Carolina Bar's CLE Division **BEFORE** your attendance at Bridge The Gap will be certified to the Office of Bar Admissions. **Roll calls may be taken at any time during the course of the program.**

### How should I dress?

Dress for Bridge The Gap is business casual. You may wish to bring a sweater or a jacket for your comfort. Please keep in mind that for many of you this will be the first impression that you will make on members of the South Carolina Bar and SC Judiciary.

If you have a disability, please call ahead to let us know how we may accommodate your needs.

### What should I expect?

The Bridge The Gap program offers substantive professional responsibility issues on Day One, a review of the South Carolina Court System on the morning of Day Two, and a review of arbitration and mediation on the morning of Day Three. The afternoon sessions of Day Two and Day Three offer three concurrent sessions. Registrants may choose one of two sessions per time slot which features a topic that relates to the area(s) of law in which they plan to practice i.e., Real Estate, Probate and Estate Planning, Family Law, etc.

If you are a licensed practitioner in another state or an inactive member of the South Carolina Bar and have been admitted to practice for at least five (5) years, you are not required to participate in the afternoon concurrent sessions on Days Two and Three.

### Where should I stay?

For those of you coming from out of town, the Courtyard by Marriott Columbia Downtown at USC is the most convenient hotel to the USC School of Law. For additional information or to make reservations, please call the hotel directly at (803) 799-7800. If you need information regarding other hotels in the area, please contact the Columbia Metropolitan Convention & Visitors Bureau at (800) 264-4884.

### How do I register?

To register, please fill out the registration form on page 3 and return it to the SC Bar-CLE Division. Please note the appropriate deadlines for each program. Please make certain that you complete the **ENTIRE** registration form and include your payment of at least \$250.

If you are a licensed practitioner in another state or an inactive SC Bar Member and have been admitted to practice for at least five (5) years, you are not required to participate in the afternoon concurrent sessions on Days Two and Three. *To qualify for this exemption, you must provide your Bar membership number(s) and identify the state(s) in which you are admitted to practice.* If this information cannot be substantiated, you will have to attend the concurrent sessions as outlined on the registration form. **Licensed practitioners are required to participate in all other segments of the program.**

### Where should I park?

**Please do not park in the faculty parking lot adjacent to the Law School.**

Free limited parking may be available in the parking lot located directly behind the old Carolina Coliseum. You may not use reserved or faculty only parking spaces or the faculty lot adjacent to the Law School. If you plan to park in the non-faculty parking lot, please display your mailed confirmation card in your rear window. You may be ticketed if you park in this lot and either do not display your parking pass in your rear window and/or if you back into your parking space.

If you do not receive a confirmation card in the mail, you may request a parking pass by calling the SC Bar-CLE Division or obtain one upon check-in on the first morning of the program.

You may also find metered parking available on Greene, South Main, Devine and Assembly Streets, next to the Law School. Most parking meters accept only quarters, please bring adequate change.

### Whom should I contact?

If you have any questions about Bridge The Gap, please contact the SC Bar-CLE Division at P.O. Box 608, Columbia, SC 29202, by telephone at (803) 771-0333 or (800) 768-7787 ext. 128, or visit our Web site at [www.scbar.org/bridgethegap](http://www.scbar.org/bridgethegap).

### Eligibility for Swearing-in

The Supreme Court's policy provides that an applicant will be eligible to be sworn in if the Office of Bar Admissions has received all required documentation **ten days before** the scheduled swearing-in ceremony. **An applicant who completes Bridge The Gap as his/her requirement for admission will be required to attend a swearing-in ceremony scheduled for the regular term of court, which is at least ten days after Bridge The Gap.** In order to be eligible for the swearing-in, you must meet the following requirements:

- 1) You must complete all requirements for admission with the completion of Bridge The Gap.
- 2) The South Carolina Bar-CLE Division must certify your completion of Bridge The Gap.
- 3) You must be dressed in attire that would be appropriate for an appearance before the South Carolina Supreme Court.
- 4) You must be prepared to pay the required \$50 fee. Checks should be made payable to the South Carolina Supreme Court.

**Please direct all correspondence and questions regarding the swearing-in ceremony to the Office of Bar Admissions.**

Office of Bar Admissions  
Supreme Court of South Carolina  
P. O. Box 11330, Columbia, SC 29211  
Tel: (803) 734-1080 / Fax: (803) 734-0394

### REGISTRATION

Please enroll me in the Bridge The Gap program indicated below:

- WINTER: March 10-12, 2008**  
Bridge The Gap #0808-401
- SPRING: May 12-14, 2008**  
Bridge The Gap #0808-402
- SUMMER: August 4-6, 2008**  
Bridge The Gap #0808-403
- FALL: October 13-15, 2008**  
Bridge The Gap #0808-400

### IMPORTANT

Days Two and Three (Tuesday and Wednesday) of the program feature concurrent sessions during the afternoon segment. Unless you are a licensed practitioner in another state or an inactive SC Bar Member and have been admitted to practice for at least five (5) years, you must attend one of the two sessions offered for each time period. Please indicate below the sessions you wish to attend.

#### DAY 2 - Check One Session (A or B) Per Time Segment

- 2:00 - 2:50 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_ (A) Real Estate  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (B) Workers' Compensation/  
 Social Security
- 3:00 - 3:50 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_ (A) Civil Litigation Plaintiff  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (B) Collection and Bankruptcy
- 4:00 - 4:50 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_ (A) Civil Litigation Defense  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (B) Estate Planning

#### DAY 3 - Check One Session (A or B) Per Time Segment

- 2:00 - 2:50 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_ (A) Family Law  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (B) Administrative Law
- 3:00 - 3:50 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_ (A) Criminal Defense  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (B) Employment and Labor Law
- 4:00 - 4:50 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_ (A) Criminal Prosecution  
 \_\_\_\_\_ (B) Business and Corporate Law

#### PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY:

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name for Name Badge: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone (include area code): \_\_\_\_\_ FAX (if available): \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

#### METHOD OF PAYMENT:

- Check (Check No. \_\_\_\_\_)  Money Order (Money Order No. \_\_\_\_\_)  Credit Card Payment  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 Deposit (balance due by first day of the program).  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \$300 Payment in full. \_\_\_\_\_ \$335 Late/Walk-In Registration.
- Credit Card:  American Express  MasterCard  Visa  
 Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Cardholder: \_\_\_\_\_

#### STATUS:

\_\_\_\_ Current Law School Student: Law School \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_ Law School Graduate: Law School \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_ Attorney licensed in another state: State(s) where licensed \_\_\_\_\_  
 License Number(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_ Inactive S.C. Bar Member: Bar Number \_\_\_\_\_

#### THREE EASY WAYS TO REGISTER

#### 1 BY MAIL

Complete form & MAIL to:  
SCBAR-CLE DIVISION,  
P.O. BOX 608, COLUMBIA, SC 29202-0608



#### 2 BY FAX

Complete form & FAX to:  
SCBAR-CLE DIVISION  
at (803) 252-8427



#### 3 ONLINE

Go to:  
[www.scbar.org/bridgethegap](http://www.scbar.org/bridgethegap)



### MONDAY PROGRAMS

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.  
Program begins at 9:00 a.m.

### TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY PROGRAMS

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m.  
Program begins at 8:30 a.m.

This registration form, accompanied by at least a \$250.00 deposit, must be received by the SC Bar-CLE Division before the specified deadline for the program in order to ensure availability of course materials.

**ALL BALANCES MUST BE PAID IN FULL BY THE OPENING SESSION OF THE PROGRAM. NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE. THE WALK-IN REGISTRATION FEE IS AN ADDITIONAL \$35.00.**