



Join A Network of Specialists: Become Board Certified In **Wills, Trusts and Estates Law**

The Florida Bar's certification program is consistently recognized as a national leader among other state programs.

*Board certified lawyers are:
"Evaluated for professionalism and tested for expertise."*

Florida Bar board certification can benefit you in the following ways:

- ★ *Certification provides an objective measure that a potential client can rely upon when selecting a lawyer.*
- ★ *In Florida, only certified attorneys are allowed to identify themselves as "specialists" or "experts" or to use the letters "B.C.S." to indicate Board Certified Specialist.*
- ★ *By becoming board certified, you join an existing network – and a directory of lawyers at FloridaBar.org/certification – of specialists who frequently refer others to specialists in their fields of practice.*
- ★ *Certification may enhance the stature of your law firm and can result in lower malpractice insurance rates. Florida Lawyers Mutual Insurance Co. offers a 10 percent discount to board certified lawyers.*

Minimum standards for wills, trusts and estates law certification, provided in Rule 6-7.3, include:

- Practice of law for at least 5 years, or 4 years with an LL.M. in taxation or estate planning and probate law;
- Substantial involvement in the specialty of wills, trusts and estates law- 40% or more- during each of the 2 years immediately preceding application;
- 90 hours of approved wills, trusts and estates law certification continuing legal education in the 3 years immediately preceding application;
- Peer review; and,
- A written examination.

If you're considering board certification in wills, trusts and estates law, applications must be postmarked by October 31 for the following year's exam. Standards, policies, applications and staff contacts are available online at

FloridaBar.org/certification.