

**Academy of Trial Lawyers
of Allegheny County**

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Criteria for Active Membership

Active membership shall be limited to attorneys at law who:

- (a) are admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania;*
- (b) have their primary office located in Allegheny County;*
- (c) regularly appear in the litigation of a substantial number of cases in which a jury trial is either requested or eventually conducted in the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County and/or the United States Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania.*
- (d) have been engaged principally in trial practice for a period of at least five (5) years;*
- (e) have completed at least three (3) jury trials; and*
- (f) had at least twenty (20) full days of jury trial. The following may be substituted for jury trial days:
 - i) a criminal jury trial or non-jury trial or other comparable evidentiary proceeding before a judge or arbitrator (for example, a preliminary injunction hearing, arbitration, Fry/Daubert hearing or Markman hearing -- but not an administrative or family law hearing) which proceeding involves direct and cross examination of witnesses, an opening statement and/or closing argument, and an adjudication on the central issue of the case (as opposed to, for example, decisions on procedural or collateral issues);*
 - ii) one (1) day of a qualifying proceeding under sub-section i) above shall equal one (1) jury trial day.**

The trial experience in (e) and (f) is not required to have taken place in Allegheny County or the Western District of Pennsylvania. A trial day includes procedures such as jury selection, argument on evidentiary motions (such as motions in limine and motions relating to expert testimony), motions after jury selection, opening and closing statements and taking testimony. Trial experience does not include Common Pleas Arbitration Division hearings.