



Nonprofit Law Basics

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2026

Approved for 3.0 Law and Legal Procedure CLE credits.

\$159- Standard

\$129 - New Members*

Washington State Bar Association

1325 Fourth Ave., Suite 600 | Seattle, WA 98101

WEBCAST
ONLY

DESCRIPTION

This seminar equips lawyers with essential tools for advising nonprofit clients, covering entity formation and federal exemption, board governance and fiduciary duties, and the tax compliance rules that protect exempt status. Attendees will leave with practical skills in drafting governing documents, counseling boards, and avoiding the missteps that most often jeopardize a nonprofit's 501(c)(3) status.

FACULTY

Carrie M. Hobbs - *Ashurst Perkins Coie, Seattle*

Anthony McCormick - *Ashurst Perkins Coie, Seattle*

Nisha Nariya - *Ashurst Perkins Coie, Seattle*

MODERATOR

David Lawson - *Ashurst Perkins Coie, Seattle*

SCHEDULE

8:40 a.m. > Webcast Log-In Opens

8:55 a.m. > Welcome and Introductions by Program Moderator

• **David Lawson** - *Ashurst Perkins Coie, Seattle*

9:00 a.m. > So Your Client Wants to Start a Nonprofit: Formation, Exemption, and the Questions to Ask First

60 minutes, 1.0 credits L&LP

Every new lawyer will eventually sit across from a client who says, "I want to start a nonprofit." This session gives you the tools to answer the question that should come first—whether a new entity is actually the right vehicle—and then walk a client through entity selection and public charity classifications, state formation, and the federal exemption process with confidence. You will leave knowing how to draft articles and bylaws.

• **Nisha Nariya** - *Ashurst Perkins Coie, Seattle*

10:00 a.m. > Governing the Mission: Fiduciary Duties, Board Mechanics, and the Policies That Matter

60 minutes, 1.0 credits L&LP

Nonprofits fail more often from governance breakdowns than from lack of funding, and the lawyer is usually the first person asked to sort it out. This session will ground you in the three fiduciary duties that nonprofit directors owe, show you how board mechanics like quorum, committees, and minutes actually function as legal safeguards, and walk you through the policies that regulators expect to find in place. You will leave with practical strategies for raising issues with a board before they become crises.

• **Anthony McCormick** - *Ashurst Perkins Coie, Seattle*

11:00 a.m. > BREAK

11:15 a.m. > Tax-Exempt Does Not Mean Tax-Free: Compliance, UBIT, and the Limits on Exempt Activity

60 minutes, 1.0 credits L&LP

Tax-exempt does not mean tax-free, and a single misstep—an unreported excess benefit transaction, an ill-timed legislative endorsement, or three years of missed filings—can cost an organization its exemption entirely. This session demystifies the rules that keep nonprofits on the right side of the IRS, from the operational and inurement tests that sustain exempt status, to the political activity and lobbying limits that trip up even sophisticated organizations, to the unrelated business income rules that surprise clients generating revenue in creative ways.

• **Carrie M. Hobbs** - *Ashurst Perkins Coie, Seattle*

12:15 p.m. > Complete Online Evaluations • Adjourn

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REGISTRATION

To register online, please go to the [registration page](#). Click to add to cart and complete your purchase. You may pay by credit card, or via ACH. Alternatively, you may print and mail an invoice seven business days prior to the program along with your check payable to WSBA. Credit card payments by mail or fax are no longer accepted. Note, our service provider will charge you a separate, non-refundable transaction fee of 2.5% on all bank card transactions.

Effective Oct. 1, 2025, applicable sales tax will be applied to all live seminar registrations (in-person or virtual). For more information, refer to changes to [Washington sales tax law](#).

If special accommodations are needed, please email cle@wsba.org or call toll-free at 1-800-945-9722.

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PRICING INFORMATION

☐ **#27270 WEB, attend via webcast, 10/14/26**

☐ \$159 - Standard

☐ \$129 - New Members*

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