

Comprehensive Guide to

# Bar Admission

# Requirements

# 2012

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF  
BAR EXAMINERS  
AND  
AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION  
SECTION OF LEGAL EDUCATION  
AND ADMISSIONS TO THE BAR



National Conference  
of Bar Examiners



Section of Legal Education  
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This publication represents the joint work product of the National Conference of Bar Examiners and the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. The views expressed herein have not been approved by the House of Delegates or the Board of Governors of the American Bar Association, nor has such approval been sought. Accordingly, these materials should not be construed as representing the policy of the American Bar Association.

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## Preface

This publication is an updated edition of the *Comprehensive Guide to Bar Admission Requirements*, first published in 1984. It replaces the 2011 edition. The National Conference of Bar Examiners, the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, and the Section's Bar Admissions Committee wish to thank the state bar admission administrators for their cooperation in furnishing the data.

The text that appears in this booklet reflects an editorial decision to leave intact much of the information supplied by bar admission agencies; that is, some language consistencies have been forgone in order to preserve the words as received from the jurisdictions. The material supplied by each jurisdiction reflects the court rule, not situations under which waivers are granted, unless otherwise indicated.

We hope that by working closely with the state bar admission administrators in compiling and verifying the information contained in this publication, we have produced charts that will be useful to everyone concerned with the bar admissions process.

Because bar admission rules and practices are subject to change, however, this publication should be used only as a general guide. Specific, up-to-date answers to questions concerning bar admissions should be obtained from the bar admission agency in the jurisdiction involved. A directory of bar admission agencies begins on page 47.

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# Code of Recommended Standards for Bar Examiners

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The American Bar Association, the National Conference of Bar Examiners, and the Association of American Law Schools make the following recommendations to the duly constituted authorities in the several states who are vested with responsibilities and duties in respect to admission to the bar, and to lawyers and the law schools generally.

The Code of Recommended Standards for Bar Examiners has been adopted by the policy-making bodies of the ABA, NCBE, and AALS. An initial Code was adopted in 1959. A revised Code was adopted in 1980. Amendments adding the present moral character and fitness standards were adopted in February 1987; additional amendments bringing the Code to its present form were adopted in August 1987, with ABA adoption by the House of Delegates on August 11, 1987. Minor updates approved by the three cosponsoring organizations were made in 2011. The recommended standards represent the results of accumulated study and experience of a number of lawyers, examiners, and teachers of high standing. They are offered solely in the hope that they will afford guidance and assistance and will lead toward uniformity of objectives and practices in bar admissions throughout the United States.

## I. Bar Examiners

1. **Qualifications.** A bar examiner should be a person with scholarly attainments and an affirmative interest in legal education and requirements for admission to the bar. A bar examiner should be willing and able to devote whatever time is necessary to perform the duties of the office. A bar examiner should be conscientious, studious, thorough, and diligent in learning the methods, problems, and progress of legal education, in preparing bar examinations, and in seeking to improve the examination, its administration, and requirements for admission to the bar. A bar examiner should be just and impartial in recommending the admission of applicants. A bar examiner should exhibit courage, judgment, and moral stamina in refusing to recommend applicants who lack adequate general and professional preparation or who lack moral character and fitness.
2. **Tenure.** A bar examiner should be appointed by and be responsible to the judicial branch of government, and should be appointed for a fixed term, but should be eligible for reappointment if performing work of high quality. Members of bar examining authorities should be appointed for staggered terms to ensure continuity of policy, but there should be sufficient rotation in the personnel of each authority to bring new views to the authority and to ensure continuing interest in its work.
3. **Conflicts of Interest.** A bar examiner should not have adverse interests, conflicting duties, or inconsistent obligations that will in any way interfere or appear to interfere with the proper administration of the examiner's functions. A bar examiner should not participate directly or indirectly in courses for the preparation of applicants for bar admission. The conduct of a bar examiner should be such that there may be no suspicion that the examiner's judgment may be swayed by improper considerations.

## II. Eligibility of Applicants

4. **Burden of Proof.** The burden of establishing eligibility to take the bar examination should be on the applicant.
5. **College Education.** Each applicant should be required to have successfully completed at least three-fourths of the work acceptable for a baccalaureate degree at an accredited college or university before beginning the study of law.
6. **Law School Education.** Each applicant should be required to have completed all requirements for graduation with a J.D. or LL.B. degree from a law school approved by the American Bar Association before being eligible to take a bar examination, and to have graduated therefrom before being eligible for admission to practice. Neither private study, correspondence study, law office training, age, nor experience should be substituted for law school education.

## III. Moral Character and Fitness

7. **Purpose.** The primary purpose of character and fitness screening before admission to the bar is the protection of the public and the system of justice. The lawyer licensing process is incomplete if only testing for minimal competence is undertaken. The public is inadequately protected by a system that fails to evaluate character and fitness as those elements relate to the practice of law. The public interest requires that the public be secure in its expectation that those who are admitted to the bar are worthy of the trust and confidence clients may reasonably place in their lawyers.

## Code of Recommended Standards for Bar Examiners

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8. **Organization and Funding.** A body appointed by and responsible to the judicial branch of government (which may be separate from the bar examining authority but which will be referred to hereinafter as the bar examining authority) should administer character and fitness screening. It should perform its duties in a manner that assures the protection of the public by recommending or admitting only those who qualify. Sufficient funding and staffing should be provided to permit appropriate investigation of all information pertaining to applicants' character and fitness.
9. **Development and Publication of Standards.** Character and fitness standards should be articulated and published by each bar examining authority. Some variation in rules and interpretations among the bar examining authorities may be appropriate, as character and fitness screening is the responsibility of each individual bar examining authority. Standards should be applied in a consistent manner and interpretative material should be developed in furtherance of this objective.
10. **The Investigative Process.** The bar examining authority may appropriately place on the applicant the burden of producing information. Each investigation should be initiated by requiring the applicant to execute under oath a thorough application and to sign an authorization and release form that extends to the bar examining authority and to any persons or institutions supplying information thereto. The applicant should be informed of the consequences of failing to produce information requested by the application and of making material omissions or misrepresentations. The bar examining authority should frame each question on the application in a manner that renders the scope of inquiry clear and unambiguous. The bar examining authority should have the power to cause witnesses and documents or other records to be subpoenaed and to administer oaths or affirmations.
11. **Confidentiality and Due Process.** Each jurisdiction should adopt a rule respecting confidentiality of records and sources that balances the need to protect the applicant, the sources, and the public. Minimally, this rule should provide confidentiality of records and sources for purposes other than cooperation with another bar examining authority. The bar examining authority should adopt a rule respecting due process that specifies procedures which include notice to applicants and an opportunity to appear, with right to counsel, before the committee before a final adverse determination is made. The bar examining authority should adopt a rule respecting a permissible reapplication date for applicants who, after being afforded due process, are denied admission on character and fitness grounds.
12. **Standard of Character and Fitness.** A lawyer should be one whose record of conduct justifies the trust of clients, adversaries, courts, and others with respect to the professional duties owed to them. A record manifesting a significant deficiency in the honesty, trustworthiness, diligence, or reliability of an applicant may constitute a basis for denial of admission.
13. **Relevant Conduct.** The revelation or discovery of any of the following should be treated as cause for further inquiry before the bar examining authority decides whether the applicant possesses the character and fitness to practice law:
  - unlawful conduct
  - academic misconduct
  - making of false statements, including omissions
  - misconduct in employment
  - acts involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation
  - abuse of legal process
  - neglect of financial responsibilities
  - neglect of professional obligations
  - violation of an order of a court
  - evidence of mental or emotional instability
  - evidence of drug or alcohol dependency
  - denial of admission to the bar in another jurisdiction on character and fitness grounds
  - disciplinary action by a lawyer disciplinary agency or other professional disciplinary agency of any jurisdiction
14. **Access to Information.** Access to bar admission character and fitness information, bar disciplinary information, and criminal justice information is particularly essential and should be facilitated by legislation, rule making, and inter-jurisdictional cooperation.
15. **Use of Information.** The bar examining authority should determine whether the present character and fitness of an

applicant qualifies the applicant for admission. In making this determination through the processes described above, the following factors should be considered in assigning weight and significance to prior conduct:

- the applicant's age at the time of the conduct
- the recency of the conduct
- the reliability of the information concerning the conduct
- the seriousness of the conduct
- the cumulative effect of conduct or information
- the evidence of rehabilitation
- the applicant's positive social contributions since the conduct
- the applicant's candor in the admissions process
- the materiality of any omissions or misrepresentations

The investigation conducted by the bar examining authority should be thorough in every aspect and should be concluded expeditiously. It should be recognized that information may be developed in the course of the investigation that is not germane to the question of licensure and should be disregarded. Conduct that is merely socially unacceptable is not relevant to character and fitness for law practice and should not be considered.

### IV. Bar Examinations

16. **Necessity of Written Examination.** A person who is not a member of the bar of another jurisdiction of the United States should not be admitted to practice until the person has passed a written bar examination administered under terms and conditions equivalent to those applicable to all other applicants for admission to practice. An applicant may also be required to pass a separate examination on the subject of professional responsibility, such as the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination.
17. **Opportunity for Examination.** Each examination should be held at such times as will assure sufficient opportunity to the applicants to prepare therefor without interfering with the completion of law school studies.
18. **Purpose of Examination.** The bar examination should test the ability of an applicant to identify legal issues in a statement of facts, such as may be encountered in the practice of law, to engage in a reasoned analysis of the issues, and to arrive at a logical solution by the application of fundamental legal principles, in a manner which demonstrates a thorough understanding of these principles. The examination should not be designed primarily to test for information, memory, or experience. Its purpose is to protect the public, not to limit the number of lawyers admitted to practice.
19. **Subjects of Examination.** In selection of subjects for bar examination questions, the emphasis should be upon the basic and fundamental subjects that are regularly taught in law schools. However, subjects of substantial local importance may be included. Reasonable notice of the subject matter to be covered by the examination should be made available to the law schools and the applicants.
20. **Questions and Format.** The bar examination may include multiple-choice questions, such as those on the Multistate Bar Examination, and should include essay questions. Questions should not be based on unusual or unique local case or statutory law, except in subjects with respect to which local variations are highly significant and applicants are informed that answers should be based upon local law. An essay question should not be repeated except after a substantial lapse of time. Questions should not be labeled as to subject matter and should not be so worded as to be deceptive or misleading. Sufficient time should be allowed to permit the applicant to make a careful analysis of the questions and to prepare well-reasoned answers to essay questions.
21. **Preparation of Questions.** The bar examining authority may use the services of its members or staff or other qualified persons, including out-of-state law teachers, to prepare bar examination questions, and it may also use the services of the National Conference of Bar Examiners. Before an essay question is accepted for use, every point of law in the question should be thoroughly briefed and the question should be analyzed and approved by the members of the bar examining authority.
22. **Applicants with Disabilities.** Without impairing the integrity of the examination process, the bar examining authority should adopt procedures allowing disabled applicants to have assistance, equipment, or additional time as it

determines to be reasonably necessary under the circumstances to assure their fair and equal opportunity to perform on the examination.

### V. Grading Bar Examinations

23. **Non-Identity Grading.** Each jurisdiction should establish procedures which assure that the identity of each applicant in the grading process is not known to any person having responsibility for grading or determining whether the applicant passes or fails until the grades of all applicants have been finally determined.
24. **Grading Process.** The bar examining authority may use the services of its members or staff or other qualified persons to grade answers to essay questions. If practical, all answers to a particular essay question should be graded by the same person. If multiple graders are used, the bar examining authority should adopt procedures for the calibration of the graders to assure uniformity of grading standards. The bar examining authority may adopt procedures dispensing with the grading of the answers to some of the essay questions of applicants who attain high scores on multiple-choice questions, but no failing score should be given except upon the basis of the grades of the applicant on all questions. The grading process and grade distributions should be periodically reviewed in order to assure uniformity in grading.
25. **Rights of Failing Applicants.** The decision of the bar examining authority as to whether an applicant has passed or failed a bar examination should be final. An applicant who fails a bar examination should have the right, within a reasonable period of time after announcement of the results of the examination, to see the applicant's answers to the essay questions and the grades assigned thereto, and to compare each of these answers with an approved answer.

26. **Re-examination.** An applicant who has failed to pass three or more bar examinations may be required to complete additional study prescribed by the bar examining authority, or to establish that the reasons for previous failures no longer exist, before being permitted to take any subsequent examination.

### VI. Administration

27. **Adequacy of Staff.** The bar examining authority should be provided with adequate administrative and clerical staff.
28. **Publication of Results.** The bar admission authority should announce the numbers of applicants who have passed and who have failed the bar examination as a whole and by law school.
29. **Periodic Studies.** A thorough study should be periodically made of the results of the bar examination to determine its effectiveness, to discover defects, and to suggest possible improvements in the bar examination system. Each jurisdiction should make the results of these studies available to other jurisdictions upon request.
30. **Conferences with Applicants.** The bar examining authority should make representatives available to meet with potential applicants upon invitation at least once each year at each of the law schools in the jurisdiction. Such representatives should be prepared to discuss general purposes, policies, and procedures of the examination.
31. **Committee on Cooperation.** Each jurisdiction should have an active committee on cooperation, consisting of representatives of the bar examining authority, the law schools, the judiciary, and the bar, which meets at least annually to consider issues relating to legal education, eligibility, and admission to the bar.

## CHART 1: Basic Information

Jurisdiction	What authority promulgates the rules for admission?		Is prelegal education required?		Is there a residency requirement for licensing?		Is registration of law students required?*		Are law students eligible to take the bar exam before graduation?	
	S. Ct.	Leg.	Yes	No	In-state	U.S.	Yes	No	Yes	No
Alabama	X		X				X			X
Alaska	X	X		X				X		X
Arizona	X			X				X		X
Arkansas	X			X		X		X		X
California	X	X	X				X			X
Colorado	X			X				X		X
Connecticut	X			X		X		X		X
Delaware	X		X					X		X
District of Columbia	X			X				X		X
Florida	X			X				X		X
Georgia	X		X					X		X
Hawaii	X			X				X		X
Idaho	X			X				X		X
Illinois	X		X				X			X
Indiana	X			X				X	X	
Iowa	X			X			X		X	
Kansas	X		X					X	X	
Kentucky	X			X				X	X	
Louisiana	X			X			X			X
Maine	X		X					X		X
Maryland	X	X	X					X		X
Massachusetts	X	X	X					X		X
Michigan	X	X	X					X		X
Minnesota	X			X				X		X
Mississippi	X	X	X				X		X	
Missouri	X			X				X	X	
Montana	X			X				X		X
Nebraska	X		X					X	X	
Nevada	X			X				X		X
New Hampshire	X		X			X		X		X
New Jersey	X			X				X		X
New Mexico	X			X				X		X
New York	X			X				X	X	
North Carolina	X		X					X	X	
North Dakota	X		X				X			X
Ohio	X		X				X			X
Oklahoma	X		X				X			X
Oregon	X			X				X		X
Pennsylvania	X		X					X		X
Rhode Island	X			X		X		X		X
South Carolina	X			X				X		X
South Dakota	X			X				X		X
Tennessee	X		X					X		X
Texas	X			X			X		X	
Utah	X			X				X		X
Vermont	X		X					X	X	
Virginia	X	X		X				X	X	
Washington	X			X				X		X
West Virginia	X		X					X	X	
Wisconsin	X			X				X	X	
Wyoming	X	X		X				X		X
Guam	X		X					X		X
Northern Mariana Islands	X	X	X					X		X
Palau	X			X				X		X
Puerto Rico	X	X	X					X		X
Virgin Islands	X		X					X		X

\*See Chart 7, page 26, for law student registration fees.

See supplemental remarks.

## CHART 1: Basic Information (Supplemental Remarks)

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### Are the rules for admission to the practice of law in your jurisdiction promulgated by the state supreme court or the state legislature?

**Alabama** Board of Commissioners, with ultimate approval in the Supreme Court.

**Connecticut** Superior Court.

**District of Columbia** Court of Appeals.

**Maryland** The statutory requirements are implemented by rules adopted by Court of Appeals.

**Massachusetts** Rules for admission of attorneys promulgated by the Supreme Judicial Court. Board of Bar Examiners may make additional rules subject to Supreme Judicial Court approval; legislative enabling statute.

**Mississippi** Board of Bar Examiners, subject to ultimate authority in the legislature with Supreme Court approval.

**North Carolina** Board of Bar Examiners, with ultimate approval by the Council of the North Carolina State Bar and the Supreme Court.

**Texas** Legislature enacts Board's enabling statute; Supreme Court adopts rules.

**Virginia** Admission by examination: Board of Bar Examiners, with ultimate authority in the legislature. Admission on motion: Supreme Court of Virginia.

### Is a specific period of prelegal education required?

**Alabama** Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.

**California** Two years of college; total of 60 semester or 90 quarter units of college credit with an average grade at least equal to that required for graduation, or attain specific minimum scores on selected general exams administered by College Level Examination Program (CLEP).

**Delaware** Bachelor's degree.

**Georgia** Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.

**Kansas** Baccalaureate degree.

**Maine** Bachelor's degree.

**Maryland** Applicant must have completed prelegal education necessary to meet the minimum requirements for admission to an ABA-approved law school.

**Massachusetts** Graduation from high school or equivalent and completion of work acceptable for a bachelor's degree or equivalent.

**Michigan** Two years college; total of 60 semester or 90 quarter hours.

**Mississippi** Three years college if on a 3-3 program, or bachelor's degree.

**New Hampshire** Three years' work required for a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or the equivalent.

**North Carolina** Completion of academic work required for admission to a law school approved by the Council of the North Carolina State Bar.

**Ohio** Bachelor's degree.

**Oklahoma** Bachelor's degree.

**Pennsylvania** Bachelor's degree or equivalent education.

**Vermont** Three-quarters of work required for bachelor's degree.

**West Virginia** Bachelor's degree.

**Guam** Two years college.

**Puerto Rico** Bachelor's degree or equivalent education.

**Virgin Islands** Bachelor's degree.

### Is there an in-state or U.S. residency requirement for licensing?

**Florida** All applicants are required to document their citizenship or immigration status.

**Georgia** All applicants are required to document their citizenship or immigration status.

**Minnesota** Prior to admission must be a resident, maintain an office in the state, or designate the clerk of the Supreme Court as agent for service of process for all purposes.

**New Hampshire** Applicants must be domiciled in the United States.

## CHART 1: Basic Information (Supplemental Remarks, *continued*)

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**Ohio** Motion applicants are required to attest to being a citizen or a resident alien of the United States.

**South Dakota** Prior to admission must be a resident, maintain an office in the state, or designate the clerk of the Supreme Court as agent for service of process for all purposes.

**Utah** There is no residency requirement, but applicants do need to prove that they are in the United States legally.

### Is registration of law students required?

**Alabama** Within 60 days of starting law school.

**California** Within 90 days of starting law school.

**Florida** Law students are encouraged, but not required, to register in the first year of law school.

**Illinois** By the first day of March following applicant's commencement of law school (first day of July for spring semester matriculants).

**Iowa** By November 1 of the year the student commences the study of law in an accredited law school.

**Mississippi** By October 1 of applicant's second year of law school.

**North Dakota** Law students must file a registration application by October 1 of the second year of law school, or 14 months after the first day of the first year of law school.

**Ohio** By November 15 in the applicant's second year of law school.

**Oklahoma** By October 15 of the year following the year in which law study was commenced.

**Texas** Within approximately 60 days after entry into an approved Texas law school. Does not apply to graduates from approved law schools in other states.

### Are law students eligible to take the bar examination before graduation?

**District of Columbia** By filing deadline, must be certified by dean of the law school as having completed all requirements for graduation.

**Florida** May take the MPRE prior to graduation from law school.

**Indiana** Applicants who have fewer than 5 credit hours to complete, are within 100 days of graduation, have completed 2 hours of professional responsibility, and have completed all requirements for admission to the bar may sit.

**Iowa** Must receive degree within 45 days after the first day of the examination.

**Kansas** Must graduate within 30 days after the bar examination.

**Kentucky** Must have completed degree requirements prior to taking bar examination, although degree may not have been conferred.

**Mississippi** Must complete all work required for degree within 60 days of the examination.

**Missouri** Must have completed all degree requirements prior to taking bar examination, although degree may not have been conferred.

**Nebraska** Must receive degree within 60 days of examination.

**New York** Must have completed all work required for graduation, although degree may not have been conferred as yet.

**North Carolina** Must graduate within 30 days after exam.

**Texas** Must be within 4 semester hours of completing all requirements for graduation.

**Vermont** Must have completed all work required for graduation, although degree may not have been conferred.

**Virginia** Must have completed all requirements for graduation prior to taking bar examination, although degree may not have been conferred.

**West Virginia** Board may permit applicant to take examination where applicant qualifies for degree but will not receive it before examination. Board may permit examination in last semester of law school upon showing of scheduled active duty overseas at time of July examination.

**Wisconsin** Must receive degree within 60 days after examination.

## CHART 2: Character and Fitness Determinations

Jurisdiction	Does your jurisdiction have published character and fitness standards?		Will a felony conviction bar an applicant from admission?		Does a separate agency evaluate character and fitness?		Do your rules provide for conditional admission other than by waiver?		What categories of conditional admission do your rules permit?					Does your jurisdiction have a structured program for deferring admission?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Substance abuse	Mental disability	Debt	Criminal history	Other	Yes	No
Alabama		X		X		X		X							X
Alaska	X			X		X		X							X
Arizona	X			X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X
Arkansas	X			X		X		X						X	
California		X		X		X		X						X	
Colorado	X			X		X		X							X
Connecticut	X			X		X	X		X	X					X
Delaware		X		X		X		X							X
District of Columbia		X		X		X		X							X
Florida	X			X		X	X		X	X				X	
Georgia	X			X	X			X							X
Hawaii		X		X		X		X							X
Idaho	X			X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X
Illinois	X			X		X	X		X	X	X				X
Indiana	X			X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Iowa		X		X		X		X							X
Kansas	X			X		X		X							X
Kentucky	X			X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X
Louisiana	X			X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X
Maine		X		X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X
Maryland		X		X		X		X							X
Massachusetts	X			X		X		X							X
Michigan	X			X	X			X							X
Minnesota	X			X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Mississippi	X		X			X		X							X
Missouri	X		X			X		X							X
Montana	X			X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X
Nebraska	X			X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X
Nevada	X			X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
New Hampshire	X			X	X			X							X
New Jersey	X			X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X
New Mexico	X			X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X
New York		X		X	X			X							X
North Carolina	X			X		X		X							X



## CHART 2: Character and Fitness Determinations *(continued)*

Jurisdiction	Does your jurisdiction have published character and fitness standards?		Will a felony conviction bar an applicant from admission?		Does a separate agency evaluate character and fitness?		Do your rules provide for conditional admission other than by waiver?		What categories of conditional admission do your rules permit?					Does your jurisdiction have a structured program for deferring admission?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Substance abuse	Mental disability	Debt	Criminal history	Other	Yes	No
North Dakota	X			X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X
Ohio	X			X	X			X							X
Oklahoma		X		X		X		X							X
Oregon	X			X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X
Pennsylvania		X		X		X		X							X
Rhode Island	X			X	X		X		X		X				X
South Carolina	X			X	X			X							X
South Dakota	X			X		X	X								X
Tennessee		X		X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X
Texas	X		X			X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X
Utah	X			X		X		X							X
Vermont	X			X	X			X							X
Virginia	X			X		X		X							X
Washington	X			X	X			X							X
West Virginia		X		X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X		X
Wisconsin	X			X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X
Wyoming	X			X	X			X							X
Guam		X		X		X		X							X
Northern Mariana Islands		X	X			X		X							X
Palau		X		X		X		X							X
Puerto Rico		X		X	X		X								X
Virgin Islands		X		X		X		X							X

See supplemental remarks.

## CHART 2: Character and Fitness Determinations (Supplemental Remarks)

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### Will a felony conviction bar an applicant from admission?

**Alabama** Applicant must be granted a full pardon with civil rights restored before applicant will be considered for admission.

**Arkansas** A felony conviction weighs heavily in admission decision.

**Connecticut** Rebuttable presumption of lack of good moral character.

**Delaware** Not an automatic bar, but felony conviction may affect finding of good moral character.

**Florida** Not an automatic bar, but restoration of civil rights is required to apply for admission. Applicant must provide satisfactory evidence of good moral character.

**Georgia** Not an automatic bar, but a pardon or restoration of civil rights is necessary.

**Idaho** Not an automatic bar, but felony conviction may affect finding of good moral character.

**Illinois** Convicted felons must first receive character and fitness certification before being permitted to write a bar examination.

**Indiana** Conviction of felony is prima facie evidence of lack of requisite good moral character. Applicant has the burden to overcome prima facie evidence.

**Iowa** Not an automatic bar, but a felony conviction weighs heavily in admission decision.

**Kansas** Persons convicted of a felony are ineligible to apply for admission until 5 years after the date of successful completion of sentence or period of probation.

**Kentucky** Felony conviction does not always prohibit admission, but may affect finding of good moral character.

**Maine** Conviction of a felony would not result in an automatic denial of admission. Applicant bears the burden of establishing good moral character.

**Maryland** Conviction of felony would not result in automatic denial of admission. Applicant bears heavy burden of producing clear and convincing evidence of full and complete rehabilitation and present good moral character.

**Massachusetts** Not automatic bar, but applicant must establish present good moral character.

**Mississippi** Persons convicted of a felony except manslaughter or a violation of the Internal Revenue Code are ineligible.

**Missouri** Persons convicted of a felony are ineligible to apply for admission until 5 years after the date of successful completion of sentence or period of probation and until they meet all of the other requirements specified in rule pertaining to ineligibility.

**Montana** An applicant found guilty of a felony is conclusively presumed not to have present good moral character and fitness. The presumption ceases upon completion of the sentence and/or period of probation.

**Nebraska** Conviction of felony would not result in an automatic denial of admission, but applicant would bear the heavy burden of producing clear and concise evidence of full and complete rehabilitation and present good moral character.

**North Dakota** If offense is determined to have a direct bearing on applicant's ability to serve the public as an attorney or if applicant is not sufficiently rehabilitated.

**Ohio** Applicants convicted of a felony must meet specific conditions and undergo additional review before they can be approved.

**Oregon** An applicant shall not be eligible for admission after having been convicted of a crime, the commission of which would have led to disbarment in all the circumstances present, had the person been an Oregon attorney at the time of conviction.

**Pennsylvania** A felony conviction is viewed as a serious impediment to qualification.

**Rhode Island** Conviction of a felony would not result in automatic denial, but applicant must establish good moral character.

**South Carolina** Although not an automatic bar, felony conviction may affect finding of good moral character.

**Texas** Felony conviction is an absolute bar to application and admission for 5 years after completion of sentence/probation; thereafter, the applicant must demonstrate present good moral character.

**Utah** Conviction of a felony establishes a rebuttable presumption of a lack of good moral character.

**Virginia** Conviction of a felony or crime involving moral turpitude is not an automatic bar but may affect finding of good moral character.

## CHART 2: Character and Fitness Determinations (Supplemental Remarks, *continued*)

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**Wisconsin** Not an automatic bar, but applicant must establish present good character and fitness.

**Guam** Conviction of a felony or crime involving moral turpitude is not an automatic bar to admission with certain exceptions.

**Northern Mariana Islands** Ineligible unless applicant has been granted full pardon.

**Palau** Applicant must have received a full pardon.

**Puerto Rico** Not an automatic bar, but felony conviction may affect finding of good moral character.

### **Does a separate agency evaluate character and fitness?**

**Georgia** The Board to Determine Fitness of Bar Applicants is separate and distinct from the Board of Bar Examiners. The Fitness Board makes character and fitness determinations. The Office of Bar Admissions reports to both Boards, and both Boards must certify an applicant to the Supreme Court.

**New York** Character and fitness applications are processed by 1 of 4 appellate departments.

**Ohio** Local bar association admissions committees make recommendations to the Board of Commissioners on Character and Fitness, which makes final determinations. This Board is separate from the Board of Bar Examiners.

**Rhode Island** The Rhode Island Supreme Court Committee on Character and Fitness makes character and fitness determinations for the Court. The Committee on Character and Fitness is separate from the Rhode Island Supreme Court Board of Bar Examiners, which deals with testing content and administration.

**West Virginia** District Character Committee conducts character and fitness investigation and interviews each applicant, then submits report and recommendation to the Board of Law Examiners.

### **Do your rules provide for conditional admission other than by waiver?**

**Texas** Rule provides for probationary licensing for chemical dependency and other circumstances in which the Board determines that the protection of the public requires temporary monitoring.

### **What categories of conditional admission do your rules permit?**

**South Dakota** Rules do not specify categories of conditional admission. The Board can recommend conditional admission to the Supreme Court where there are unresolved issues of good moral character, fitness, or general qualification of the applicant.

**Puerto Rico** Committee on Character evaluates each examinee's character and fitness after he/she passes the bar exam. According to the rule, the Committee can advise the Court to grant a conditional admission. However, the rule does not state categories of cases in which the Committee should recommend a conditional admission.

### **Does your jurisdiction have a structured program for deferring admission?**

**Arkansas** Issuance of license may be deferred for up to 2 years pending further evaluation, drug tests, etc.

**California** California has an abeyance program where an applicant enters into an agreement with the Committee of Bar Examiners for a set period of time. If an applicant successfully completes the program, it is likely he or she will receive a positive moral character determination without further hearings.

**Minnesota** Applicants with alcohol, drug, financial responsibility, or other problems who cannot show rehabilitation, and who would otherwise be issued a letter of adverse determination based upon misconduct, may postpone Board's determination for a period of up to 24 months. The Board will reconsider the application after that period of time.

## CHART 3: Eligibility to Take the Bar Examination: Legal Education

Note: For foreign law school graduates' eligibility to take the bar examination, see Chart 4 on pages 14–15.

Jurisdiction	Is eligibility to take the bar exam limited to J.D. or LL.B. graduates of ABA-approved law schools under your rules?		If not, what other means of legal study do your rules permit for bar exam applicants?								
	Yes	No	Non-ABA-approved in-state law school approved by state authority	Non-ABA-approved out-of-state law school approved by state authority	Non-ABA-approved law school plus specified # of hours at ABA-approved law school	Non-ABA-approved law school and bar passage in another state, without additional legal education	Non-ABA-approved law school plus specified # of years of practice	Unapproved U.S. law school (not state- or ABA-approved), wherever located	Law office study	Correspondence study	Online study
Alabama		X	X	X			X	X			
Alaska		X				X	X				
Arizona		X					X				
Arkansas	X										
California		X	X			X			X	X	X
Colorado		X		X		X	X				
Connecticut		X	X	X							
Delaware	X										
District of Columbia		X		X	X			X		X	X
Florida		X				X	X				
Georgia	X										
Hawaii		X				X	X				
Idaho	X										
Illinois		X*									
Indiana	X										
Iowa	X										
Kansas	X										
Kentucky		X				X	X				
Louisiana		X*									
Maine		X				X	X		X		
Maryland		X				X	X				
Massachusetts		X	X								
Michigan		X	X	X							
Minnesota		X					X	X		X	X
Mississippi	X										
Missouri		X			X	X	X				
Montana	X										
Nebraska	X										
Nevada		X	X	X			X				
New Hampshire		X				X					
New Jersey	X										
New Mexico		X				X	X			X	X
New York		X					X		X		
North Carolina	X										

\*Foreign law degree is the only non-ABA-approved category of legal education permitted; see Chart 4, pages 14–15.

## CHART 3: Eligibility to Take the Bar Examination: Legal Education (*continued*)

Note: For foreign law school graduates' eligibility to take the bar examination, see Chart 4 on pages 14–15.

Jurisdiction	Is eligibility to take the bar exam limited to J.D. or LL.B. graduates of ABA-approved law schools under your rules?		If not, what other means of legal study do your rules permit for bar exam applicants?								
	Yes	No	Non-ABA-approved <i>in-state</i> law school approved by state authority	Non-ABA-approved <i>out-of-state</i> law school approved by state authority	Non-ABA-approved law school <i>plus specified # of hours at ABA-approved law school</i>	Non-ABA-approved law school <i>and bar passage in another state, without additional legal education</i>	Non-ABA-approved law school <i>plus specified # of years of practice</i>	Unapproved U.S. law school (not state- or ABA-approved), wherever located	Law office study	Correspondence study	Online study
North Dakota	X										
Ohio		X*									
Oklahoma	X										
Oregon		X				X	X			X	X
Pennsylvania		X					X				
Rhode Island		X					X				
South Carolina	X										
South Dakota	X										
Tennessee		X	X								
Texas		X					X				
Utah		X		X			X				
Vermont		X		X		X		X	X		X
Virginia		X							X		
Washington		X					X		X		
West Virginia		X				X		X			
Wisconsin		X		X		X					
Wyoming		X							X		
Guam	X										
Northern Mariana Islands	X										
Palau		X		X		X					
Puerto Rico		X	X								
Virgin Islands		X*									

\*Foreign law degree is the only non-ABA-approved category of legal education permitted; see Chart 4, pages 14–15.

See supplemental remarks.

## CHART 3: Eligibility to Take the Bar Examination: Legal Education (Supplemental Remarks)

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**Is eligibility to take the bar examination limited to J.D. or LL.B. graduates of ABA-approved law schools under your rules?**

**Note: For foreign law school graduates' eligibility to take the bar examination, see Chart 4 on pages 14–15.**

**Alabama** Graduates of unaccredited law schools who wish to sit for the bar exam must be licensed and in good standing for the past 5 years in the state where the unaccredited law school from which they graduated is located and that state must have a reciprocal agreement with the state of Alabama allowing graduates of Alabama's unaccredited law schools to sit for that state's bar examination. At this time no state or jurisdiction has such a reciprocal agreement with Alabama.

**Alaska** Graduates of non-ABA-approved law schools who have passed the bar exam in another state are eligible to take the bar exam without additional legal education after 5 years' active practice in another jurisdiction in which they have been admitted.

**Arizona** Graduates of non-ABA-approved law schools can write the examination if they have at least 5 years of active and continuous practice within the last 7 years in some other state or states.

**California** Applicants who obtain legal education by attending unaccredited, which includes fixed-facility, correspondence and distance learning, law schools registered in California, or by law office study, must have 4 years of law study and take the First-Year Law Students' Examination after their first year. Online study is permitted through unaccredited distance learning law schools registered with the Committee of Bar Examiners. Applicants who pass the examination within 3 consecutive administrations of first becoming eligible to take it will receive credit for all law study completed to the date of the administration of the examination passed. Applicants who pass it on a subsequent attempt will receive credit for only 1 year of study. Applicants

attending law schools accredited by the Committee of Bar Examiners qualify to take the bar exam upon graduation. Graduates of non-ABA-approved law schools who have passed the bar exam in another state must not only have passed the examination, but have been admitted, in order to take the bar exam in California.

**Colorado** Must have practiced 5 of previous 7 years in order to sit for bar exam if person is a graduate of a non-ABA-approved law school. Graduates of unapproved (not ABA- or state-approved) law schools are not eligible for this option.

**Connecticut** Connecticut currently does not have any non-ABA-approved in-state schools. An applicant who otherwise does not meet the educational requirements may be eligible to sit for the exam if he/she meets certain conditions. Conditions include admission before the highest court of original jurisdiction in a U.S. state, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or a U.S. District Court for 10 or more years, good standing in such jurisdiction, active practice of law in that jurisdiction for 5 of the last 7 years, and an intention to actively practice law in Connecticut and to devote a majority of his/her work to such practice.

**District of Columbia** Graduates of non-ABA-approved law schools can write the exam if they have successfully completed at least 26 semester hours in subjects tested on the DC bar exam from an ABA-approved law school.

**Florida** After 10 years' active practice in another jurisdiction (District of Columbia or other states in the United States or in federal courts in the United States or its territories, possessions, or protectorates) in which applicant has been duly admitted, the applicant may file a representative compilation of work product for evaluation by the Board.

**Georgia** Published waiver policy lists criteria considered by Board in determining whether waiver standard has been met.

### CHART 3: Eligibility to Take the Bar Examination: Legal Education (Supplemental Remarks, *continued*)

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**Hawaii** Graduates of non-ABA-approved law schools who have passed the bar exam in another state are eligible to take the bar exam without additional legal education if they have actively practiced law for 5 of the 6 years immediately prior to application.

**Kentucky** Non-ABA-approved law school graduates can apply to take the bar exam, but must first have an education equivalency evaluation conducted and must have been actively and substantially engaged in the practice of law as principal occupation for 3 of last 5 years and meet other standards set by the Board. Graduates of non-ABA-approved law schools who have passed the bar exam in another state are eligible to take the bar exam without additional legal education if they are admitted elsewhere, have 3 years' active practice out of 5 preceding the application, and establish that the non-ABA-approved law school is the substantial equivalent of a Kentucky ABA-approved law school.

**Maine** Applicants may have either graduated from a law school accredited by the jurisdiction where it is located and have been admitted to practice by exam within the U.S. and have been in the active practice of law in a jurisdiction in which they are admitted for at least 3 years; or have completed 2/3 of graduation requirements from an ABA-approved law school and within 12 months after successful completion pursued the study of law in the law office of an attorney in active practice of law in Maine on a full-time basis for at least 1 year.

**Maryland** A graduate of a non-ABA-approved law school must first be admitted by exam in another U.S. jurisdiction to qualify to apply for a waiver to take the Maryland Bar Examination. An attorney applicant who is a graduate of a non-ABA-approved law school is eligible for special attorney exam if the attorney applicant has practiced law for 10 years, or 5 years in the immediate past 10 years, following admission by examination in another jurisdiction.

**Massachusetts** Graduates of law schools which at the time of graduation were approved by the ABA or authorized by statute of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts may sit for the exam.

**Michigan** Applicant must have a J.D. from a reputable and qualified law school. Law schools fully or provisionally approved by the ABA on the date the applicant's degree is conferred are considered to be reputable and qualified.

**Minnesota** Applicants to the Minnesota bar must have either (1) a degree from a law school that is fully or provisionally approved by the ABA or (2) all of the following: (a) a J.D. from any U.S. law school, (b) a bachelor's degree accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, and (c) evidence that the applicant has lawfully practiced law in a U.S. jurisdiction for 60 of the preceding 84 months.

**Missouri** Graduates of non-ABA-approved law schools who have passed the bar exam and have been admitted in another state are eligible to take the bar exam after full-time practice for 3 of the 5 years preceding application or completion of 24 credit hours in residence at an ABA-approved law school.

**Nevada** An attorney who is not a graduate of an ABA-approved law school and has at least 10 years of active and continuous practice in some other state(s) must first have an education equivalency evaluation conducted.

**New Hampshire** Graduates of 2 non-ABA-approved law schools in Massachusetts are permitted to sit if they have first been admitted in Massachusetts.

**New Mexico** Graduates of non-ABA-approved law schools, including correspondence and online law schools, may write the examination if they are licensed and in good standing in another U.S. state and have engaged in the practice of law in the state where admitted for 4 of the 6 years prior to application.

**New York** Law office study permitted after successful completion of 1 year at an ABA-approved law school. The amount of credit awarded for law school study is computed after a review of the law school transcript. Graduates of non-ABA-approved law schools can write the examination

### CHART 3: Eligibility to Take the Bar Examination: Legal Education (Supplemental Remarks, *continued*)

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only if they (1) have been admitted to practice in another jurisdiction and (2) have at least 5 years active and continuous practice within the last 7 years in jurisdiction(s) where they are admitted to practice.

**North Carolina** An applicant who was educationally eligible prior to August 1, 1995, remains so.

**Oregon** Graduates of non-ABA-approved law schools who have passed the bar exam in another state are eligible to take the bar exam without additional legal education if they have been admitted to practice before the highest tribunal in another state, the District of Columbia, or a federal territory, have graduated from a law school equivalent to a law school approved by the ABA and where requirements for admission are substantially equivalent to those of Oregon, and have been actively, substantially, and continually engaged in the practice of law for at least 3 of the 5 years immediately preceding the taking of exam. Evaluating satisfaction of educational requirements is made without regard to whether the education was received via traditional fixed-facility courses or online courses.

**Pennsylvania** An applicant must have graduated from a law school that was approved by the ABA at the time of the applicant's matriculation or graduation or, if the applicant has graduated from a non-ABA-approved law school, the applicant must be admitted and in good standing in a reciprocal jurisdiction and have practiced 5 out of the last 7 years in a reciprocal jurisdiction immediately preceding the date of filing of the application.

**Rhode Island** A graduate of a non-ABA-approved law school is eligible to take the Rhode Island Bar Examination if he or she qualifies for attorney admission (i.e., an out-of-state attorney who has been engaged in the active practice of law in another jurisdiction for at least 5 out of the 10 years immediately preceding the filing of the bar application), provided he or she meets the other qualifications for admission.

**Texas** Generally, Texas requires an applicant to have a J.D. from an ABA-approved law school. Texas has no provision for admitting an applicant whose law degree was obtained through correspondence study (which includes "distance learning" or "external programs"). An attorney licensed in another U.S. jurisdiction may be eligible for exemption from the ABA-approved J.D. requirement to take the Texas Bar Exam if he or she has been actively and substantially engaged in the lawful practice of law in a U.S. jurisdiction for at least 3 out of 5 years before the application is filed.

**Utah** Non-ABA-approved law school graduates must meet a combination of graduation and active practice requirements. The applicant's law school cannot be based on correspondence or online study, it must be accredited in the state where it resides, and the degree must be the substantial equivalent of the legal education provided by an ABA-approved law school. The applicant must also have been lawfully engaged in the practice of law for 10 of the 11 years immediately preceding the filing of the application.

**Vermont** Four-year law office study program; must have completed 3/4 of work accepted for a bachelor's degree in a college approved by the Court before commencing the study of law. Non-ABA or online law school can be approved by the Supreme Court and may include up to 2 years of law office study before eligible to sit for bar exam. If a graduate of a non-ABA-approved law school has passed the bar exam in another state and is admitted and actively engaged in the practice of law in another jurisdiction, eligibility to take the bar exam without additional legal education may be granted by the Board.

**Washington** Graduates of non-ABA-approved law schools must have passed a bar exam for admission and have active legal experience for at least 3 of 5 years immediately preceding the application.



### CHART 3: Eligibility to Take the Bar Examination: Legal Education (Supplemental Remarks, *continued*)

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**West Virginia** Non-ABA-approved law school graduates must show that legal education is equivalent to ABA-approved law school unless admitted by bar examination in another state. If applicant graduates from law school in a state where the law school's graduates may take the bar examination, applicant may qualify for West Virginia examination by completing 3 years of law office study in West Virginia and getting certification of 2 West Virginia attorneys regarding knowledge, competence, and good moral character. Graduates of correspondence schools or online schools are not eligible under any circumstances.

**Wisconsin** Must have received first professional degree in law from a law school whose graduates are eligible to take the bar exam of the jurisdiction in which the school is located, and must have taken and passed the bar examination and been admitted to that or another U.S. jurisdiction.

**Wyoming** A combination of ABA-approved law school and time of study in the office of a member of the Wyoming State Bar (to total 3 years) may be permitted with prior approval by the Board of Law Examiners.

**Puerto Rico** The general rule requires that the applicant must have graduated from a law school approved by the ABA or the Court.

## CHART 4: Eligibility to Take the Bar Examination: Foreign Law School Graduates

Jurisdiction	Are graduates of foreign law schools eligible for admission?		If graduates of foreign law schools are eligible to take the bar examination under your rules, are any of the following required?					If graduates of foreign law schools are eligible for admission <i>without examination</i> under your rules, are any of the following also required?			Does your jurisdiction recognize with regularity the sufficiency of a legal education received at any particular foreign law school?		If a foreign law school graduate obtains an LL.M. or other graduate law degree from an ABA-approved school, is the graduate then eligible to take the bar exam?	
	Yes	No	Legal education in English common law	Additional education at an ABA-approved law school	Practice of law in home jurisdiction	Determination of educational equivalency	Admission in another U.S. jurisdiction	Admission in another U.S. jurisdiction	Determination of educational equivalency	Legal education in English common law	Yes	No	Yes	No
	Alabama	X		X	X	X	X	X				X		X
Alaska	X		X	X		X	X					X		X
Arizona		X										X		X
Arkansas		X										X		X
California	X			X	X	X	X					X	X	
Colorado	X		X		X							X		X
Connecticut		X										X		X
Delaware		X										X		X
District of Columbia	X			X				X				X		X
Florida	X						X					X		X
Georgia		X										X		X
Hawaii	X		X		X							X		X
Idaho		X										X		X
Illinois	X				X	X						X		X
Indiana		X										X		X
Iowa		X										X		X
Kansas		X										X		X
Kentucky	X				X	X						X		X
Louisiana	X					X						X		X
Maine	X				X	X						X		X
Maryland		X										X		X
Massachusetts	X			X		X		X	X		X			X
Michigan		X										X		X
Minnesota		X										X		X
Mississippi		X										X		X
Missouri	X			X	X		X					X		X
Montana		X										X		X
Nebraska		X										X		X
Nevada	X		X		X	X						X		X
New Hampshire	X		X		X	X		X	X	X		X	X	
New Jersey		X										X		X
New Mexico	X						X					X		X
New York	X			X		X						X	X	

## CHART 4: Eligibility to Take the Bar Examination: Foreign Law School Graduates *(continued)*

Jurisdiction	Are graduates of foreign law schools eligible for admission?		If graduates of foreign law schools are eligible to take the bar examination under your rules, are any of the following required?					If graduates of foreign law schools are eligible for admission <i>without examination</i> under your rules, are any of the following also required?			Does your jurisdiction recognize with regularity the sufficiency of a legal education received at any particular foreign law school?		If a foreign law school graduate obtains an LL.M. or other graduate law degree from an ABA-approved school, is the graduate then eligible to take the bar exam?	
	Yes	No	Legal education in English common law	Additional education at an ABA-approved law school	Practice of law in home jurisdiction	Determination of educational equivalency	Admission in another U.S. jurisdiction	Admission in another U.S. jurisdiction	Determination of educational equivalency	Legal education in English common law	Yes	No	Yes	No
	North Carolina		X										X	
North Dakota		X										X		X
Ohio	X			X		X		X	X			X		X
Oklahoma		X										X		X
Oregon	X		X			X		X	X	X		X		X
Pennsylvania	X			X	X							X		X
Rhode Island	X					X						X		X
South Carolina		X										X		X
South Dakota		X										X		X
Tennessee	X			X		X						X		X
Texas	X			X	X	X						X		X
Utah	X		X	X	X							X		X
Vermont	X		X		X	X		X				X		X
Virginia		X										X		X
Washington	X		X		X							X		X
West Virginia	X		X	X		X						X		X
Wisconsin	X							X				X		X
Wyoming		X										X		X
Guam		X										X		X
Northern Mariana Islands		X										X		X
Palau	X					X						X	X	
Puerto Rico		X										X		X
Virgin Islands	X						X	X				X		X

See supplemental remarks.

## CHART 4: Eligibility to Take the Bar Examination: Foreign Law School Graduates (Supplemental Remarks)

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### **If graduates of foreign law schools are eligible to take the bar examination under your rules, do other requirements apply?**

**Alaska** A graduate of a foreign law school in which the principles of English law are taught may be eligible to take the bar exam if he or she submits proof that 1) the law school from which he/she graduated meets the ABA's standards for approval; and 2) he/she has successfully completed 1 year at an ABA-approved law school, including successful completion of 1 course in U.S. Constitutional Law and 1 course in U.S. Civil Procedure, or is a member in good standing of the bar of 1 or more states, territories, or the District of Columbia and was admitted to the bar of that state, territory, or the District of Columbia after written examination.

**California** Foreign law school graduates must request individual evaluation to determine legal education equivalency. Graduates from foreign law schools may qualify to take the California bar exam if they obtain an LL.M. degree or complete an additional 1 year of law study at an ABA-approved or California-accredited law school which includes a certain number of credits in bar examination subject matter. Foreign-educated law students who did not graduate are not eligible to take the exam and are required to either graduate with a J.D. degree at an ABA-approved or California-accredited law school or complete 4 years of law study at a law school registered in California and pass the First-Year Law Students' Exam. Foreign law school graduates who are admitted to the active practice of law in good standing in their countries do not have to complete any additional law study to qualify to take the bar exam.

**Colorado** Must have practiced actively and substantially for 5 of the previous 7 years in jurisdiction where admitted.

**Connecticut** An applicant who otherwise does not meet the educational requirements may be eligible to sit for the exam if he/she meets certain conditions. Conditions include admission before the highest court of original jurisdiction in a U.S. state, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or a U.S. District Court for 10 or more years, good standing in such jurisdiction, active practice of law in that jurisdiction for 5 of the last 7 years, and an intention to actively practice law in Connecticut and to devote a majority of his/her work to such practice.

**District of Columbia** Applicant may be permitted to take bar examination upon successful completion of 26 semester hours of study at an ABA-approved law school; semester hours must be in subjects covered in the bar examination. All such 26 semester hours shall be earned in courses of study, each of which is substantially concentrated on a single tested subject.

**Florida** After 10 years' active practice in another jurisdiction (District of Columbia or other states in the United States or in federal courts in the United States or its territories, possessions, or protectorates) in which applicant has been duly admitted, the applicant may file a representative compilation of work product for evaluation by the Board.

**Hawaii** Applicant must be admitted to practice and be in good standing before the highest court in foreign country where English common law is the basis of jurisprudence and where English is the language of instruction and practice in the courts, and must have actively practiced for 5 of the past 6 years prior to filing the application for admission by examination.

**Illinois** Graduates of foreign law schools who are licensed and in good standing in country conferring law degree or in a U.S. jurisdiction, who have actively and continuously practiced under such license(s) for 5 of the 7 years immediately prior to making application in Illinois, having verifiably devoted an annual minimum of 1,000 hours of practice of law where licensed, and the quality of whose legal and other education has been determined acceptable by the Board may apply to take bar exam.

**Kentucky** An attorney who is a graduate of a foreign law school can apply for an education evaluation to determine if applicant's legal education is substantially equivalent to the Kentucky law school education. If the law school is approved, the applicant may sit for the bar exam if he/she has been actively and substantially engaged in the practice of law for 3 of the last 5 years.

**Louisiana** Foreign attorneys can apply to take the bar exam but must first have an educational equivalency evaluation conducted and complete 14 hours at an American law school.

**Maine** Must satisfy requirements of Regulation for Determining Equivalency of Foreign Legal Education and have practiced for 3 years in the jurisdiction where licensed.

## CHART 4: Eligibility to Take the Bar Examination: Foreign Law School Graduates (Supplemental Remarks, *continued*)

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**Maryland** A graduate of a foreign law school must first be admitted by exam in another U.S. jurisdiction to qualify to apply for a waiver to take the Maryland Bar Examination.

**Massachusetts** A graduate from a foreign law school (other than those Canadian law schools that are prequalified) may be permitted to sit for the bar exam after taking further legal studies designated by the Board at an ABA-approved law school or a Massachusetts-accredited law school. Foreign law school graduates must obtain a determination of their educational equivalency from the Board prior to making application.

**Missouri** Graduates who have passed the bar exam in another state and hold an active law license are eligible to take the bar exam with either (1) full-time practice for 3 of the 5 years preceding application or (2) completion of 24 credit hours in residence at an ABA-approved law school within the 3 years prior to application. Graduates who are not licensed in another state must be admitted to practice law in the foreign country where the foreign law degree was conferred and be in good standing with either (1) full-time practice for 3 of the 5 years preceding the application or (2) completion of 24 credit hours in residence at an ABA-approved law school within the 3 years prior to application.

**New Hampshire** Graduate must be legally trained in common law, and a determination of educational equivalency is required. Graduate must be a member in good standing in home jurisdiction. In addition, one of the following requirements must also be met: additional education at an ABA-approved law school or admission in another U.S. jurisdiction.

**New Mexico** Applicant may take the exam if he/she is licensed in another state of the United States and has practiced law there 4 of the 6 years prior to application.

**New York** Applicant must complete period of law study equivalent in duration and substance to that specified in New York rules in law school recognized by competent accrediting agency of the government of such foreign country. All applicants must have their transcripts evaluated by the Board of Law Examiners to determine if further study is required in the form of a qualifying LL.M. degree from an ABA-approved law school in the United States.

**North Carolina** The eligibility of foreign-trained applicants is limited to those who had an LL.M. conferred

prior to August 1, 2005, the date of the pertinent rule change.

**Ohio** If an applicant's legal education was not received in the United States, the education must be evaluated and approved by the Supreme Court as equivalent to ABA-approved law school education. For equivalency, an applicant must show successful completion of 30 credit hours at an ABA-approved law school in addition to a foreign law degree. The registration application may not be processed until the education is approved by the Supreme Court.

**Oregon** Applicant must be admitted to practice in a country where common law of England is the basis of its jurisprudence, and where requirements for admission to the bar are substantially equivalent to those of Oregon, and applicant must be a graduate of a law school determined by an Oregon equivalency panel to be equivalent to an ABA-approved law school.

**Pennsylvania** Applicant must have completed law study in a foreign law school, have been admitted and in good standing at the bar of a foreign jurisdiction, and have practiced in the jurisdiction for 5 out of the last 8 years. Applicant must also complete 30 credit hours taken in specified subjects at an ABA-approved law school.

**Rhode Island** Additional education at an ABA-approved law school may be required. Also, a foreign law school must be approved by a dean of an ABA-approved law school certifying that foreign degree is equivalent to that of an ABA-approved law school.

**Tennessee** Applicant must prove undergraduate and law school education are equivalent of that required by Tennessee rules.

**Texas** A graduate of a foreign non-correspondence law school accredited by its jurisdiction can take the exam if he/she holds a valid law license issued by that jurisdiction provided: he/she has 5 out of last 7 years of lawful practice in the foreign nation or elsewhere and either demonstrates that the law of the foreign nation or elsewhere is comparable to that of Texas or holds an LL.M. from an ABA-approved law school; or he/she has 3 out of last 5 years of lawful practice in the foreign nation or elsewhere, demonstrates that the law of the foreign nation is comparable to that of Texas, and holds an LL.M. from an ABA-approved law school. In all events, the applicant must demonstrate that he/she

## CHART 4: Eligibility to Take the Bar Examination: Foreign Law School Graduates (Supplemental Remarks, *continued*)

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holds the equivalent of a J.D. If licensed by another U.S. jurisdiction, refer to Chart 3 on pages 8–9.

**Utah** A foreign lawyer with a law degree from an English common-law jurisdiction may sit for the bar exam after practicing law for 2 years in a common-law jurisdiction and completing 24 semester hours at an ABA-approved law school.

**Vermont** Foreign law school graduates can be admitted on motion if admitted in another jurisdiction. Otherwise, if applicant has been admitted to practice before highest court of a foreign country which is a common-law jurisdiction, Board may allow credit for such study as it deems proper, and applicant must pursue the study of law in Vermont for at least 2 years immediately preceding examination under the supervision of an attorney who has practiced at least 3 years in Vermont.

**Washington** A foreign law school graduate must be admitted to practice by examination in an English common law jurisdiction and have active legal experience for at least 3 of 5 years immediately preceding the application.

**West Virginia** Applicant may sit for examination if a law school graduate from a foreign country where the common law of England forms basis of jurisprudence, if educational requirements for admission in said country are substantially the same as in West Virginia and applicant is admitted in good standing there, and if applicant successfully completes 30 credit hours of basic courses at an ABA-approved law school.

**Wisconsin** Applicants with foreign credentials are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and may qualify to take the bar exam.

**Puerto Rico** Applicant must validate his or her studies and obtain a law degree from a law school approved by the ABA and by the Supreme Court.

**Virgin Islands** Eligibility is limited to applicants who come in under special admission provisions as set forth in the rules.

**If graduates of foreign law schools are eligible for admission *without examination* under your rules, do other requirements also apply?**

**District of Columbia** The applicant has been a member in good standing for 5 years of a court of general jurisdiction of any U.S. state or territory.

**Massachusetts** The Board in its discretion may excuse applicants possessing degrees from law schools in foreign countries, providing they have met the following requirements: a) obtained prior Board approval of their educational sufficiency and work history, b) provided verification that they have been admitted and are in good standing in another state, district, or territory of the United States and have engaged in the practice of law for 5 out of the past 7 years before making application, c) passed the MPRE, and d) satisfied the Board as to their moral character and fitness.

**New Hampshire** Foreign law graduates are only eligible for admission without examination if they meet other requirements for reciprocal admission for lawyers licensed in other states.

**Ohio** If an applicant's legal education was not received in the United States, the education must be evaluated and approved by the Supreme Court as equivalent to ABA-approved law school education. For equivalency, an applicant must show successful completion of 30 credit hours at an ABA-approved law school in addition to a foreign law degree. The application for admission without examination may not be processed until the education is approved.

**Vermont** If the law school is approved by Court, each request is reviewed individually first by the Board.

**Wisconsin** If eligible for admission on proof of practice elsewhere, having first been admitted to a reciprocal U.S. jurisdiction.

**Does your jurisdiction recognize with regularity the sufficiency of a legal education received at any particular foreign law school?**

**Massachusetts** Canadian Law Schools: University of Alberta; University of British Columbia; University of Calgary; Dalhousie University; University of Manitoba; McGill University; University of New Brunswick; University of Ottawa; Queen's University; University of Toronto; University of Victoria; University of Western Ontario; University of Windsor; York University (Osgood Hall Law School); University of Saskatchewan.

## CHART 4: Eligibility to Take the Bar Examination: Foreign Law School Graduates (Supplemental Remarks, *continued*)

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**If a foreign law school graduate obtains an LL.M. or other graduate law degree from an ABA-approved law school, is the graduate then eligible to take the bar examination?**

**California** Applicant must have graduated and be eligible to take the admission exam in his/her foreign country and obtain an additional year of law study in certain courses at an ABA-approved or California-accredited law school in order to qualify to take the California Bar Exam.

**Kentucky** Applicant must still submit to education evaluation but additional degree has bearing on Board decision.

**Maine** Applicant's total education must be found to be substantially equivalent.

**Massachusetts** Not automatically, but depends on content (course of study) as well as other facts.

**New Hampshire** Not automatically. Applicant must meet other requirements for foreign law school graduates.

**New York** In most cases, but there are other factors.

**Tennessee** Applicant's total education must be found to be substantially equivalent and applicant must complete 24 hours at an ABA-approved law school or one-third credits needed at a Tennessee-approved law school.

**Texas** A graduate of a foreign non-correspondence law school accredited by its jurisdiction can take the exam if he/she holds a valid law license issued by that jurisdiction provided: he/she has 5 out of last 7 years of lawful practice in the foreign nation or elsewhere and either demonstrates that the law of the foreign nation is comparable to that of Texas or holds an LL.M. from an ABA-approved law school; or he/she has 3 out of last 5 years of lawful practice in the foreign nation or elsewhere, demonstrates that the law of the foreign nation is comparable to that of Texas, and holds an LL.M. from an ABA-approved law school. In all events, the applicant must demonstrate that he/she holds the equivalent of a J.D.

**Palau** A graduate of a foreign law school accredited in that country is eligible with or without a graduate law degree from an ABA-approved law school.

## CHART 5: Eligibility for Initial Admission to the Bar: Additional Requirements

Jurisdiction	For initial admission to the bar, do you require completion of certain courses or skills training?			
	During law school		After law school	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Alabama		X		X
Alaska		X	X	
Arizona		X	X	
Arkansas		X		X
California		X		X
Colorado		X	X	
Connecticut		X		X
Delaware		X	X	
District of Columbia		X	X	
Florida		X	X	
Georgia		X	X	
Hawaii		X	X	
Idaho		X	X	
Illinois		X	X	
Indiana	X		X	
Iowa		X	X	
Kansas		X		X
Kentucky		X		X
Louisiana		X		X
Maine		X		X
Maryland		X	X	
Massachusetts		X		X
Michigan		X		X
Minnesota		X		X
Mississippi		X		X
Missouri		X		X
Montana		X		X
Nebraska		X		X
Nevada		X	X	
New Hampshire		X	X	
New Jersey	X		X	
New Mexico		X		X
New York		X		X
North Carolina		X		X
North Dakota		X		X
Ohio	X		X	
Oklahoma		X		X
Oregon		X	X	
Pennsylvania		X		X
Rhode Island		X	X	
South Carolina		X	X	
South Dakota		X		X
Tennessee		X		X
Texas		X	X	
Utah		X	X	
Vermont		X	X	
Virginia		X		X
Washington		X	X	
West Virginia		X	X	
Wisconsin		X		X
Wyoming		X	X	
Guam		X		X
Northern Mariana Islands		X		X
Palau		X		X
Puerto Rico		X		X
Virgin Islands		X		X

See supplemental remarks.



## CHART 5: Eligibility for Initial Admission to the Bar: Additional Requirements (Supplemental Remarks)

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### **For initial admission to the bar, do you require completion of certain courses or skills training during law school?**

**Indiana** Rule requires completion of 2 semester hours of legal ethics or professional responsibility in an approved law school.

**New Jersey** Applicants must present evidence of satisfactory performance in a law school course on ethics. In lieu thereof, New Jersey will accept a score of 75 or better on the MPRE.

**Ohio** Applicants seeking admission by exam must receive at least 10 classroom hours of instruction on legal ethics and at least 1 hour on substance abuse.

### **For initial admission to the bar, do you require completion of certain courses or skills training after law school?**

**Alaska** Applicant must attend presentation on attorney ethics as prescribed by the Board, currently a 1½-hour video course offered by the bar association.

**Arizona** Completion of State Bar's professionalism course within the first year of admission. Effective with the first Uniform Bar Examination (UBE) administration in July 2012, a course on Arizona law, to be taken either in person or online, must be completed prior to admission. Details to be determined.

**Colorado** Exam applicants must complete the Colorado Supreme Court's mandatory Course on Professionalism.

**Delaware** Five-month clerkship and pre-admission session conducted by the Supreme Court and Board of Bar Examiners.

**District of Columbia** Completion of course on D.C. Rules of Conduct and D.C. practice within 12 months of admission.

**Florida** Mandatory basic skills course, including instruction on discipline, ethics, and responsibility to the public, must be completed within 12 months of admission, and may be completed 12 months prior to admission.

**Georgia** Mandatory Transition into Law Practice Program must be completed in the year of admission or in the next calendar year. Program requires that newly admitted lawyers are subject to State Bar mandatory mentoring program for their first year of practice and must complete continuing legal education component. Certain classes of new lawyers are exempt (e.g., judicial law clerks).

**Hawaii** Completion of State Bar's professionalism course no later than December 31 of the year following the year of election of active status.

**Idaho** Within 12 months of admission, each lawyer is required to complete a practical skills seminar.

**Illinois** Every Illinois attorney admitted to practice must complete a 6-hour Basic Skills Course and at least 9 additional hours of MCLE credit. These requirements, however, do not apply to attorneys who are admitted in Illinois before October 1, 2011, and after practicing law in other states for a period of 1 year or more.

**Indiana** New admittees must complete 6 hours of applied professionalism in the first 3 years.

**Iowa** Lawyers admitted by examination must complete a basic skills course on Iowa law within 1 year of admission. The course may be completed after the last day of the bar examination that resulted in admission. The course must cover a minimum of 8 hours of instructional time and at least 8 topic areas, including 1 hour of legal ethics.

**Maryland** Rule requires a course in professionalism presented by the Professionalism Commission under the authority of the Court of Appeals between the time applicants pass exam and when they are admitted.

**Nevada** Mandatory new lawyer training program during first year of admission.

**New Hampshire** Practical skills course given by the State Bar must be completed during first 2 years of practice.

**New Jersey** Newly admitted lawyers must obtain 15 credit hours in 5 of 9 subject areas during first compliance period. The compliance period is deferred until January 1 of the year immediately following admission to the New Jersey Bar.

**Ohio** New admittees must comply with New Lawyer Training requirements.

**Oregon** Fifteen credits in the first reporting period, including 10 practical skills, 1 legal ethics, 1 child abuse reporting, and 1 elimination of bias. All newly admitted attorneys are subject to the State Bar's New Lawyer Mentoring Program for their first year of practice.

**Rhode Island** Completion of training course sponsored by the bar association and approved by the Supreme Court within 1 year of admission.

## CHART 5: Eligibility for Initial Admission to the Bar: Additional Requirements (Supplemental Remarks, *continued*)

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**South Carolina** Must complete a bridge-the-gap program prior to being admitted.

**Texas** Mandatory seminar within 1 year of admission.

**Utah** Active, new admittees with less than 2 years of legal practice must complete mandatory mentoring program within the first year of practice.

**Vermont** Three-month law office study to be accomplished any time after completion of the first year of law school.

**Washington** Qualified applicants must complete a 4-hour course. Available live or online.

**West Virginia** Within 1 year of admission, must complete bridge-the-gap seminar.

**Wyoming** New admittees must complete the State Bar's 4-hour professionalism course within 12 months of admission.

## CHART 6: Length of Examination, Application Dates, and the UBE

Jurisdiction	Length of exam (days)	How soon prior to the first day of the bar exam must an applicant submit a completed application?		How many times may an applicant take the exam without special permission?	The Uniform Bar Examination (UBE)*					
		February	July		Are you a UBE jurisdiction?		Do you require completion of a jurisdiction-specific component <sup>†</sup> before admission?		Do you currently accept UBE scores from other jurisdictions? <sup>‡</sup>	
					Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Alabama	2.5	Oct. 1	Feb. 1	no limit	X		X		X	
Alaska	2.5	Dec. 1	May 1	no limit		X				X
Arizona	2	Aug. 15	Jan. 15	3	X (July 2012)		X		X	
Arkansas	2	Nov. 15	April 1	no limit		X				X
California	3	Nov. 1	April 1	no limit		X				X
Colorado	2	Dec. 1	May 1	no limit	X			X	X	
Connecticut	2	Nov. 30	April 30	no limit		X				X
Delaware	2.5	no Feb. exam	May 15	no limit		X				X
Dist. of Columbia	2	Dec. 15	May 3	no limit		X				X
Florida	2	Nov. 15	May 1	no limit		X				X
Georgia	2	first Fri. in Jan.	first Fri. in June	no limit		X				X
Hawaii	2	Nov. 1	April 1	no limit		X				X
Idaho	2	Oct. 1	March 1	6	X			X	X	
Illinois	2	Sept. 1	Feb. 15	no limit		X				X
Indiana	2	Nov. 15	April 1	no limit		X				X
Iowa	2	Nov. 1	April 1	2		X				X
Kansas	2	Oct. 15	March 15	4		X				X
Kentucky	2	Oct. 1	Feb. 1	5		X				X
Louisiana	3	Nov. 1	Feb. 1	5		X				X
Maine	2	Dec. 20	May 20	no limit		X				X
Maryland	2	Sept. 15	Jan. 16	3		X				X
Massachusetts	2	75 days	75 days	no limit		X				X
Michigan	2	Nov. 1	March 1	no limit		X				X
Minnesota	2	Oct. 15	March 15	no limit		X				X
Mississippi	2	Sept. 1	Feb. 1	no limit		X				X
Missouri	2	Oct. 1	March 1	no limit	X		X		X	
Montana	2.5	Oct. 1	March 1	3	See remark					X
Nebraska	1.5	Nov. 1	April 1	no limit	X (Feb. 2013)			X	X	
Nevada	2.5	Dec. 1	May 15	no limit		X				X
New Hampshire	2	Dec. 1	May 1	4		X				X
New Jersey	2	Nov. 1	April 1	no limit		X				X
New Mexico	2	Sept. 10	Jan. 10	no limit		X				X
New York	2	Nov. 30	April 30	no limit		X				X
North Carolina	2	first Tues. in Nov.	first Tues. in Mar.	no limit		X				X
North Dakota	2	Dec. 1	March 1	no limit	X			X	X	
Ohio	2.5	Nov. 1	April 1	no limit		X				X
Oklahoma	2	Sept. 1	Feb. 1	no limit		X				X
Oregon	2	Nov. 15	April 15	no limit		X				X
Pennsylvania	2	Oct. 30	April 15	no limit		X				X
Rhode Island	2	Dec. 1	May 1	5		X				X
South Carolina	3	Aug. 1	Dec. 1	3		X				X
South Dakota	2	Nov. 1	April 1	3		X				X
Tennessee	2	Nov. 15	April 15	3		X				X
Texas	2.5	Aug. 30	Jan. 30	5		X				X
Utah	2	Oct. 1	March 1	6		X				X
Vermont	2	Dec. 1	May 1	4		X				X
Virginia	2	Dec. 15	May 10	5		X				X
Washington	2.5	120 days	120 days	no limit	X (July 2013)		X			X
West Virginia	2	Nov. 1	April 1	4		X				X
Wisconsin	2	Dec. 1	May 1	no limit		X				X
Wyoming	1.5	Oct. 1	March 1	4		X				X
Guam	2	Dec. 1	May 1	no limit		X				X
Northern Mariana Islands	2	60 days	60 days	no limit		X				X
Palau	3	no Feb. exam	45 days	no limit		X				X
Puerto Rico	2	45 days	45 days	6		X				X
Virgin Islands	2	30 days	30 days	3		X				X

\*See Chart 10, page 35, for information on admission based on transferred UBE score.

See supplemental remarks.

<sup>†</sup> A *jurisdiction-specific component* is a separate test, course, or some combination of the two that is administered by a UBE jurisdiction to assess candidate knowledge of jurisdiction-specific law. The component can be offered live or online.

<sup>‡</sup> UBE jurisdictions must accept transferred UBE scores, but each jurisdiction may set its own time limit for accepting UBE score transfers. Jurisdictions may accept transferred UBE scores prior to their date of first UBE administration.

## CHART 6: Length of Examination, Application Dates, and the UBE (Supplemental Remarks)

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### How soon prior to the first day of the bar examination must an applicant submit a completed application?

**Alaska** Late filing allowed up to January 15 and June 15 with additional fee.

**Arizona** Late filing is allowed up to November 30 and April 30 with additional fee.

**California** Applications may be filed late with an additional fee, but no later than January 15 and June 15.

**Colorado** Late filing allowed (up to 30 days after deadline) but with an additional fee.

**Delaware** No applications are accepted after May 15.

**District of Columbia** Late filing allowed up to December 30 and May 18 but with additional fee.

**Florida** Late filing allowed up to January 15 and June 15 with additional escalating fee.

**Georgia** In no event may one apply prior to having received Certification of Fitness to Practice Law from the Board to Determine Fitness of Bar Applicants. Late filing allowed on payment of \$400 late fee.

**Idaho** Late filing allowed up to April 15 and November 15 with late fee.

**Illinois** Late filing allowed with an additional escalating fee, but no later than a May 31 postmark for the July examination and a December 31 postmark for the February examination.

**Indiana** Late filing for first-time takers is permitted until November 30 and April 15. Repeaters have separate deadlines.

**Iowa** These are final deadlines and cannot be waived.

**Kansas** Late applications are allowed until April 15 and November 15.

**Kentucky** Late filing allowed up to November 10 and March 10, but with late fee. There is an extended late filing permitted up to December 10 and May 10 upon filing of additional fees.

**Louisiana** Late filing allowed until May 15 and December 15 with late filing fee.

**Maine** Applications are accepted up to 14 days after deadline with added late fee.

**Maryland** Character and fitness application is due as shown; bar exam application, a separate document, is due December 20 for the February exam and May 20 for the July exam. Late character and fitness filings are permitted on payment of a late fee until the bar exam application due date.

**Minnesota** Late applications with added late fee accepted until December 1 for February exam and May 1 for July exam.

**Missouri** Late filing with added fee.

**Nevada** Late applications with added penalty fees are accepted until May 15 and December 1.

**New Jersey** Specific fee and time schedules, including those for late filings, are dependent on when materials are submitted. These schedules are set by the Board of Bar Examiners and the Supreme Court.

**New Mexico** Deadlines apply to first-time applicants.

**New York** Applications must be received between November 1 and 30 for February exam and between April 1 and 30 for July exam.

**North Carolina** For February exam, application must be received by first Tuesday in November; for July exam, by first Tuesday in March. These are final deadlines.

**North Dakota** Late filing allowed up to January 1 and June 1 with additional fee.

**Oklahoma** Late filing permitted for 2 months after initial deadline but with an additional fee if filed during the first month and another fee if filed during the second month after the deadline.

**Oregon** Late filing allowed (December 30 or May 30) but with an additional fee.

**Pennsylvania** Three additional late filing deadlines with escalating fees accepted until May 30 and December 15.

**Washington** Applications must be received 120 days prior to exam or 90 days prior to exam with payment of late filing fee.

**West Virginia** Late fee must accompany all applications filed between November 1 and December 1 preceding February exam, or April 1 to May 1 preceding July exam.

## CHART 6: Length of Examination, Application Dates, and the UBE (Supplemental Remarks, *continued*)

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**Wisconsin** Applications are accepted 1 additional month on payment of a late fee.

**Guam** Late filing allowed by January 2 for the February exam and June 1 for the July exam with additional fee of \$250.

**Puerto Rico** Exam dates are in March and September.

**Virgin Islands** No applications are accepted after the 30-day deadline.

### How many times may an applicant take the exam without special permission?

**New Hampshire** Applicant who has failed examination 4 times may not retake it.

**Rhode Island** Limited to 5 failed examinations in Rhode Island or any other state.

**South Carolina** There is no limit on the number of times but additional study is required after the third failure, making it impossible to sit but 1 time each year.

**West Virginia** Limited to 4 failed examinations in West Virginia or any other state before special permission from the Board is required.

**Wyoming** An applicant who fails 4 Wyoming Bar Exams over any period of time must wait 35 months before taking a subsequent Wyoming Bar Exam.

### Are you a UBE jurisdiction?

**Montana** On November 29, 2011, the Montana Supreme Court granted conditional approval of the Montana Board of Bar Examiners' petition to adopt the UBE. Final approval is subject to review of an implementation plan to be prepared by the Board. An effective date has not been set.

### Do you require completion of a jurisdiction-specific component before admission?

**Alabama** Yes, the Alabama Essay Examination (AEE), which is a three-hour examination administered the day prior to the UBE.

**Arizona** Effective with the first UBE administration in July 2012, a course on Arizona law, to be taken either in person or online, must be completed prior to admission. Details to be determined.

**Missouri** Rules require an open-book online test, the Missouri Educational Component Test (MECT), for all exam applicants to complete as a condition of licensure. Review materials are posted to assist bar applicants.

**Montana** As of publication date, it is unknown whether a jurisdiction-specific component will be required.

**Washington** Online multiple-choice test. Washington-specific study materials available online to review prior to test. Details to be determined.

### Do you currently accept UBE scores from other jurisdictions?

**Nebraska** An applicant who has passed an examination equivalent to the examination administered in Nebraska may be admitted if the applicant is admitted to, active, and in good standing in the bar of another U.S. jurisdiction; meets certain educational requirements; and has passed the MPRE.

**Washington** Will begin accepting UBE scores in July 2013.

## CHART 7: Bar Examination Application Fees

Note: For admission by transferred UBE score, see Chart 10, page 35. For admission on motion, see Chart 11, page 37. For other licenses and registrations, see Chart 13, page 42.

Jurisdiction	Law student registration fee, if any (timely filing)	Full Bar Exam (Timely Filing Fees)			Attorneys' Exam fee
		Bar exam fee for non-attorneys	Bar exam fee for attorneys	Bar exam fee for repeaters	
Alabama	\$0-\$250	\$475	\$750 <sup>†</sup>	\$475	
Alaska		\$800	\$800	\$500	
Arizona		\$580 <sup>‡</sup>	\$580 <sup>‡</sup>	\$580	
Arkansas		\$400	\$400	\$400	
California	\$108	\$614 <sup>‡</sup>	\$892 <sup>‡</sup>	\$614 / \$892	\$892 <sup>‡</sup>
Colorado		\$475	\$500	\$475	
Connecticut		\$600	\$600	\$600	
Delaware		\$700-\$1,400	\$800-\$1,600	\$700-\$1,600	
District of Columbia		\$100* + \$42 (MEE + MPT) + \$54 (MBE)	\$100* + \$42 (MEE + MPT) + \$54 (MBE)	\$100* + \$42 (MEE + MPT) + \$54 (MBE)	
Florida	\$100-\$400	\$1,000	\$1,600-\$3,000	\$450	
Georgia		\$350 + \$54 (Feb. MBE) / \$58 (July MBE) + \$24 (MPT)	\$350 + \$24 (MPT)	\$350 + \$54 (Feb. MBE) / \$58 (July MBE) + \$24 (MPT)	\$350 + \$24 (MPT)
Hawaii		\$300*	\$300*	\$300*	
Idaho		\$500	\$690	\$200 / \$300	
Illinois	\$100	\$400 <sup>‡</sup>	\$400 <sup>‡</sup>	\$300	
Indiana		\$250	\$250	\$250	
Iowa	\$25	\$325	\$325	\$325	
Kansas		\$400	\$400	\$400	
Kentucky		\$625	\$675	\$250	
Louisiana	\$25*	\$550*	\$550*	\$550*	
Maine		\$450	\$500*	same as initial fee	\$500*
Maryland		\$475	\$475	\$250	\$700*
Massachusetts		\$815	\$815	\$815	
Michigan		\$340 <sup>‡</sup>	\$340 <sup>‡</sup>	\$240	
Minnesota		\$500	\$950	\$500	
Mississippi	\$100	\$525 / \$825	\$825*	\$550	
Missouri	\$200	\$485 / \$910	\$485 / \$910	\$285 / \$385	
Montana		\$600	\$850	\$450 <sup>‡</sup>	
Nebraska		\$515	\$515	\$250	
Nevada		\$700	\$1,000	same as initial fee	
New Hampshire		\$550	\$550	\$550	
New Jersey		\$475	\$475	\$475	
New Mexico		\$450 <sup>‡</sup>	\$800 <sup>‡</sup>	\$100 <sup>‡</sup>	
New York		\$250 / \$750	\$250 / \$750	\$250 / \$750	
North Carolina		\$700	\$1,500	\$400	
North Dakota	\$150 <sup>†</sup>	\$150*	\$150*	\$150*	
Ohio	\$75*	\$354	\$354	\$354	
Oklahoma	\$125*	\$300	\$1,000*	\$300	
Oregon		\$625	\$625 <sup>‡</sup>	\$625	
Pennsylvania		\$500	\$500	\$250	
Rhode Island		\$450	\$850 <sup>†</sup>	\$450*	\$850 <sup>†</sup>
South Carolina		\$400	\$400 <sup>‡</sup>	\$400 <sup>‡</sup>	
South Dakota	\$50 <sup>‡</sup>	\$300 <sup>‡</sup>	\$300 <sup>‡</sup>	\$175 <sup>‡</sup>	
Tennessee		\$300 <sup>‡</sup>	\$300 <sup>‡</sup>	\$200	
Texas	\$190	\$300 / \$415	\$1,040 / \$1,140	\$300	
Utah		\$550	\$850	same as initial fee	\$850
Vermont		\$240*	\$240*	\$240*	
Virginia		\$375 <sup>‡</sup>	\$375 <sup>‡</sup>	\$375 <sup>‡</sup>	
Washington		\$585	\$920 / \$1,220 <sup>†</sup>	same as initial fee	
West Virginia		\$375*	\$500*	same as initial fee	
Wisconsin		\$450	\$450	\$450	
Wyoming		\$600*	\$600*	2 for \$600*	
Guam		\$625 <sup>†</sup>	\$625 <sup>†</sup>	\$625 <sup>†</sup>	\$1,075
Northern Mariana Islands		\$350 <sup>‡</sup>	\$450 <sup>‡</sup>	same as initial fee	\$450 <sup>‡</sup>
Palau		\$300	\$300	\$300	
Puerto Rico		\$250	\$250	\$250	
Virgin Islands		\$350 <sup>‡</sup>	\$350 <sup>‡</sup>	\$200 / \$200	

\*Plus NCBE report fee †Includes NCBE report fee ‡Plus other fees (such as for separate character and fitness applications and/or investigations) See supplemental remarks.

## CHART 7: Bar Examination Application Fees (Supplemental Remarks)

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**Alabama** No fee shall be required for law student registration if the registration form is filed within the first 60 days following the commencement of the study of law. After 60 days the fee is \$50, after 180 days the fee is \$100, and after 390 days the fee is \$250.

**Arizona** The fee of \$580 is for timely filing. An additional \$100 is assessed during the last 30 days of filing period. An additional fee of \$300 for character investigation is required for exam applicants testing in Arizona.

**California** Bar exam fee for repeaters is \$614 for non-attorneys and \$892 for attorneys. Moral character determination application fee is \$500.

**Delaware** For applications filed on or before April 1: \$700 for applicants not admitted in another jurisdiction and for repeaters; \$800 for applicants admitted in another jurisdiction. For applications filed after April 1 but on or before May 15: \$1,400 for applicants not admitted in another jurisdiction; \$1,600 for applicants admitted in another jurisdiction and for repeaters.

**Florida** The law student registration fee is \$400. Discounted early law student registration fees are available: \$100 for those who commence in August or September and file by January 15; \$350 for those who commence in August or September and file by March 15. Law students also pay a \$600 fee to convert the student registration to an application in the final year of law school. Bar exam fee for attorneys is \$1,600 for those admitted more than 1 year but less than 5 years; \$2,000 for those admitted 5 or more years but less than 10 years; \$2,400 for those admitted 10 or more years but less than 15 years; \$3,000 for those admitted 15 or more years.

**Idaho** Bar exam fee for repeaters is \$200 for the first 3 exams; \$300 for each subsequent one.

**Mississippi** Bar exam fee for non-attorneys is \$525 if applicant filed a law student registration and \$825 if applicant did not file a law student registration.

**Missouri** Bar exam fee for non-attorneys and attorneys is \$485 if never previously registered for a bar examination in Missouri but did apply for a character and fitness report as a 1L or 2L law student; \$910 if never previously registered for a bar examination in Missouri and did not apply for a character and fitness report as a 1L or 2L law student. Bar exam fee for repeaters is \$285 if applicant failed the most recent bar examination in Missouri; \$385 if applicant failed a bar examination in Missouri other than the most recent exam or failed to appear at the exam for which applicant was registered.

**Nebraska** Admission on motion filing fee is \$950. A modified filing fee of \$700 is available to applicants who have been admitted, after passing a Nebraska equivalent examination in another jurisdiction, within the 12 months of their first admission in any state preceding the filing of the Nebraska application, so long as the qualifying jurisdiction has conducted a suitable background investigation preceding the applicant's admission in the qualifying jurisdiction.

**New York** The bar exam fee for non-attorneys is \$250 for applicants qualifying on the basis of a first degree in law from an ABA-approved law school, law office study, or a combination of a first degree in law from an unapproved law school in the United States and practice; the fee is \$750 for applicants qualifying on the basis of a foreign law school study.

**Rhode Island** A fee of \$450 is required for all retakes. Applicants can defer to the next bar examination upon payment of a \$225 deferral fee. MBE scores will be transferred upon payment of \$25.

**Texas** Bar exam fee for non-attorneys is \$300 for Texas law student; \$415 for out-of-state law student. Bar exam fee for attorneys is \$1,040 for attorneys licensed in another state; \$1,140 for foreign attorneys.

**Washington** Bar exam fee is \$920 for U.S. attorneys and \$1,220 for foreign attorneys.

**Virgin Islands** Bar exam fee for repeaters is \$200 for each examination (MBE or local law essay) that the applicant previously took in the Virgin Islands but failed. If an applicant elects to retake one exam, the fee is \$200. If an applicant elects to retake both exams, the fee is \$400.

## CHART 8: MBE, MEE, MPT, and MPRE Requirements

Jurisdiction	Tests Administered				Score Transfers					
					MBE				MPRE	
	Multistate Bar Examination (MBE)	Multistate Essay Examination (MEE)	Multistate Performance Test (MPT)	Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE)	Do you accept MBE scores transferred from other jurisdictions?		Do you admit an applicant solely on the basis of an MBE score taken in another jurisdiction?		Do you have a time limit for accepting an MPRE score?	
					Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Alabama	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	
Alaska	X		X	X		X		X		X
Arizona	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	
Arkansas	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	
California	X			X		X		X		X
Colorado	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	
Connecticut	X	X	X (Feb. 2014)	X	X			X	X	
Delaware	X		X	X		X		X	X	
Dist. of Columbia	X	X	X	X	X		X			X
Florida	X			X		X		X	X	
Georgia	X		X	X		X		X		X
Hawaii	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	
Idaho	X	X	X	X	X			X		X
Illinois	X	X	X	X	X			X		X
Indiana	X		X	X	X			X	X	
Iowa	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	
Kansas	X			X	X			X	X	
Kentucky	X	X		X	X			X		X
Louisiana				X		X		X	X	
Maine	X		X	X	X			X		X
Maryland	X		X		X			X		
Massachusetts	X			X	X			X		X
Michigan	X			X	X			X		X
Minnesota	X		X	X	X		X			X
Mississippi	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	
Missouri	X	X	X	X	X			X		X
Montana	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	
Nebraska	X	X		X		X		X	X	
Nevada	X		X	X		X		X	X	
New Hampshire	X	X	X	X	X			X		X
New Jersey	X			X	X			X	X	
New Mexico	X	X	X	X	X			X		X
New York	X		X	X	X			X	X	
North Carolina	X			X		X		X	X	
North Dakota	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	
Ohio	X		X	X		X		X		X
Oklahoma	X			X	X			X		X
Oregon	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	
Pennsylvania	X			X		X		X		X
Rhode Island	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	
South Carolina	X			X	X			X	X	
South Dakota	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	
Tennessee	X		X	X		X		X	X	
Texas	X		X	X		X		X		X
Utah	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	
Vermont	X		X	X	X			X	X	
Virginia	X			X		X		X	X	
Washington	X (July 2013)	X (July 2013)	X (July 2013)	X (July 2013)		X		X		
West Virginia	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	
Wisconsin	X	X	X		X			X		
Wyoming	X			X	X			X	X	
Guam	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	
Northern Mariana Islands	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	
Palau	X	X		X	X			X	X	
Puerto Rico						X		X		
Virgin Islands	X			X	X			X	X	

See supplemental remarks.



## CHART 8: MBE, MEE, MPT, and MPRE Requirements (Supplemental Remarks)

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### Do you accept MBE scores transferred from other jurisdictions?

**Alabama** For 20 months from time of taking if admitted to the transferring jurisdiction. Must achieve a scaled score of 140 or better.

**Arizona** Concurrent examinations only; actual scaled score.

**Arkansas** For immediately succeeding examination, will accept MBE scaled score of at least 135 from any jurisdiction.

**Connecticut** Concurrent or 3 prior administrations; actual scaled score.

**District of Columbia** Accepts MBE scaled score of 133 or more transferred from another jurisdiction if taken within the preceding 25 months.

**Idaho** Applicants may transfer any scaled score from another jurisdiction if taken within the last 37 months from date of exam, but it is recommended that a scaled score of less than 140 not be transferred.

**Illinois** Accepts MBE from 2 prior exams. Applicant must have passed exam in other jurisdiction with MBE scaled score of at least 140.

**Indiana** Concurrent examinations only; actual scaled score.

**Iowa** Applicants may transfer any MBE actual scaled score received from 1 of the last 4 administrations of the MBE immediately preceding the deadline for filing an application for the Iowa examination.

**Kansas** In concurrent examination or in a prior examination conducted within 13 months of the current examination, if a scaled score of 120 or above and passed the entire exam in one sitting in the transferring jurisdiction.

**Kentucky** A scaled score of 132 or higher may be accepted if that score was obtained within 3 years of the date of the exam to be taken.

**Maine** Applicants may transfer any scaled score.

**Maryland** Concurrent examinations only; actual scaled score.

**Massachusetts** Concurrent examinations only; actual scaled score.

**Michigan** Within 3 years of the bar exam, foreign jurisdiction must certify date MBE was taken, that applicant passed entire bar exam of which the MBE was part, the MBE actual scaled score applicant achieved and that the jurisdiction which administered the MBE affords reciprocal transfer right to Michigan attorneys seeking admission to that jurisdiction.

**Minnesota** A scaled score of 145 or higher is accepted if achieved as a part of and at the same time as the essay or written bar exam, was obtained within 24

months of date of the qualifying exam, and applicant passed the exam and was admitted in that jurisdiction.

**Mississippi** Actual scaled score; must have attained the score within 20 months of the exam.

**Missouri** Transferred score must have been earned within 19 months of the exam, applicant must have passed entire exam in the transferring jurisdiction, and applicant cannot have previously failed the Missouri exam.

**Montana** Montana accepts a scaled MBE score of 130 or better within 3 years to the date an applicant sits for the Montana exam.

**New Hampshire** Concurrent examinations only.

**New Jersey** Concurrent examinations only; actual scaled score.

**New Mexico** Concurrent examinations only; actual scaled score.

**New York** Accepts concurrent examinations only.

**North Dakota** An actual scaled score of 150 or higher is accepted if achieved in a non-UBE state as a part of and at the same time as the essay or written bar exam, was obtained within 24 months of date of the qualifying exam, and applicant passed the exam.

**Oklahoma** Concurrent examinations only; actual scaled score.

**Rhode Island** Concurrent examinations only.

**South Carolina** Concurrent examinations only; actual scaled score.

**South Dakota** Board may accept MBE scores if taken within 25 months prior to next scheduled exam and if score equals or exceeds South Dakota passing score (scaled score of 130 or more) as of date of acceptance of application and if applicant passed other jurisdiction's exam.

**Utah** Concurrent examinations only.

**Vermont** Accepts scores from 4 prior administrations; scaled score of 135 or more.

**West Virginia** Actual scaled score if taken within 13 months of present exam and part of a successful exam. Applicant who has previously failed West Virginia bar examination may not transfer an MBE score.

**Wisconsin** A scaled score of 135 or more if taken within 37 months of present exam and part of a successful exam.

**Wyoming** A scaled score of 130 or more within 3 years of present exam.

**Northern Mariana Islands** If MBE taken within 3 years of exam for which applicant applies and attains scaled score of at least 130.

## CHART 8: MBE, MEE, MPT, and MPRE Requirements (Supplemental Remarks, *continued*)

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**Palau** Will accept a scaled score of 120 or more if taken within 5 years preceding present exam.

**Virgin Islands** Will accept a scaled score of 133 or more if taken within 5 years of present exam.

### **Do you admit an applicant on the basis of an MBE score from an exam taken in another jurisdiction without requiring the applicant to take and pass your essay exam?**

**District of Columbia** May be eligible for admission without written examination, upon proof of admission in another jurisdiction and proof applicant received scaled score of 133 or more on MBE taken as a part of and at the same time as essay or other written exam given by other jurisdiction and proof of MPRE passing score of at least 75. Must be a graduate of an ABA-approved law school.

**Minnesota** May be eligible for admission without taking the Minnesota Bar Examination, upon proof of admission in another jurisdiction and proof applicant has received a scaled score of 145 or more on MBE taken as part of and at the same time as essay or other written exam given by other jurisdiction. Completed application and evidence of score must be received within 2 years of date of exam.

**North Dakota** May be eligible for admission without written examination, upon proof of admission in another jurisdiction and proof applicant received scaled score of 150 or more on MBE taken as a part of and at the same time as essay or other written exam given by other jurisdiction and proof of MPRE passing score of at least 85. Petition for Admission and proof of eligibility must be filed with the Board within 2 years of date of exam in jurisdiction of admission.

### **Do you have a time limit for accepting an MPRE score?**

**Alabama** Successful passage of the MPRE by an applicant at any time within the 12-month period before the taking of the bar examination will be accepted, and such successful completion may be carried over for a period of 20 months from time the first bar examination is taken.

**Arizona** Within 2 years before the successful bar examination or within 5 years of the successful bar examination.

**Arkansas** 3 years before exam or 1 year after.

**Colorado** MPRE scores must be earned no more than 2 years prior to filing application. MPRE need not be completed prior to filing an application.

**Connecticut** Within 4 years before or within 1 year after the date the applicant files his/her application for admission to the Connecticut Bar.

**Delaware** Within 4 years preceding the year in which the applicant passes the Delaware Bar Examination.

**Florida** Within 25 months of the date of the administration of any part of the examination that is passed.

**Hawaii** Within 2 years prior to or 1 year after date of notification of passing the Hawaii Bar Examination.

**Illinois** Although there is no time limit for accepting an MPRE score, an MPRE score of a non-attorney applicant will not be accepted unless it was achieved after the applicant's successful completion of the lesser of 60 credit hours or two-thirds of the academic requirements for the J.D. degree. An applicant who is licensed in another jurisdiction, having passed the MPRE in that jurisdiction, will be considered to have satisfied the MPRE requirement. An applicant who is licensed in another jurisdiction without having passed the MPRE in that jurisdiction must take and pass the MPRE in Illinois.

**Indiana** Within 2 years before or after the date the applicant successfully takes the Indiana 2-day essay bar examination.

**Iowa** 3 years from when MPRE was taken.

**Kansas** Within 180 days following the examination.

**Louisiana** A passing MPRE score is valid for 5 years from the date of the examination. However, an applicant who has been admitted to the bar of another state, passed the MPRE in fulfillment of the bar admissions requirement(s) of the applicant's state(s) of admission, and complied with the continuing legal education requirements of the applicant's state(s) of admission will be considered to have satisfied the requirement.

**Massachusetts** The MPRE score report is a filing requirement and therefore it must be taken and passed prior to applying for admission.

**Mississippi** Within 24 months before or within 12 months after the date of administration of the Mississippi Bar Examination at which the applicant receives a passing result.

**Montana** MPRE scores of 80 or better are good for 3 years.

**Nebraska** 18 months.

**Nevada** MPRE scores will not be accepted earlier than 3 years preceding the year in which an applicant passes the examination and not later than 3 years after the year in which an applicant passes the bar examination.

**New Jersey** 30 days after scores are released.

**New York** Applicants must take and pass the MPRE within 3 years either before or after passing the

## CHART 8: MBE, MEE, MPT, and MPRE Requirements (Supplemental Remarks, *continued*)

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New York Bar Examination, measured from the date the applicant sat for each exam.

**North Carolina** 2 years before exam, 1 year after.

**North Dakota** Within 5 years of filing an application.

**Oregon** Within 24 months of passing the Oregon Bar Exam.

**Rhode Island** 2 years.

**South Carolina** MPRE must have been taken within 4 years of date on which application is filed.

**South Dakota** Within 25 months prior to next scheduled exam.

**Tennessee** Within 2 years of first Tennessee exam.

**Utah** Within 2 years of the date of the bar exam.

**Vermont** 7 years.

**Virginia** Within 2 calendar years prior to or after passing the Virginia Bar Examination.

**Washington** Beginning with the July 2013 exam, Washington will administer the UBE and will require the MPRE. Time limit for acceptance of MPRE score to be determined.

**West Virginia** 25 months from successful bar examination or from application for admission on motion.

**Wyoming** Within 3 years of present exam.

**Guam** Within 2 years before or after the test date.

**Northern Mariana Islands** Within 3 years prior to or 1 year after taking the bar examination.

**Palau** 5 years.

**Virgin Islands** MPRE scores obtained in another jurisdiction may be accepted provided that the scores certified are no more than 5 years old.

## CHART 9: Grading and Scoring

Jurisdiction	What is your average grading/reporting period? (February/July exams)	Do you administer both the MBE and a written component?		Do you scale the written component to the MBE?		Are your MBE and written component scores combined?		Combined Score Weights				Minimum Passing Standards		
		Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Overall component		Written subcomponent		Total bar exam score		MPRE
								% MBE	% Written	% MEE and/or local essay	% MPT and/or local PT	Reported score scale	200-point scale*	
		Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No							
Alabama	both 9 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	30	20	256	128	75
Alaska	both 10–12 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	37.5	12.5	140	140	80
Arizona	both 9 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	30	20	273	136.5	85
Arkansas	both 5 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	60	40	270	135	85
California	13 wks./17 wks.	X		X		X		35	65	39	26	1,440	144	86
Colorado	both approx. 9 wks.	X		X		X		50	50	30	20	276	138	85
Connecticut	10 wks./9 wks.	X		X		X		50	50	50		264	132	80
Delaware	11 weeks	X		X		X		40	60	40	20	145	145	85
District of Columbia	both 9–10 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	25	25	266	133	75
Florida	both 6–8 weeks	X		X		X		50	50 <sup>†</sup>	50 <sup>†</sup>		136	136	80
Georgia	both 13 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	28.6	21.4	270	135	75
Hawaii	both 10–12 weeks	X		X		X		50	50 <sup>†</sup>	35	10	134	134	85
Idaho	both 6 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	30	20	280	140	85
Illinois	both 7 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	43	7	264	132	80
Indiana	both 8–9 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	30	20	264	132	80
Iowa	both 6 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	30	20	266	133	80
Kansas	both 6 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	50		133	133	80
Kentucky	both 9 weeks	X			X <sup>‡</sup>		X	—	—	—	—	—	—	75
Louisiana	5–6 wks./8–9 wks.		X					—	—	—	—	—	—	80
Maine	both 8–10 weeks	X		X		X		36	64	54.5	9	138	138	80
Maryland	8–9 wks./13–14 wks.	X		X		X		33	67	58	8.7	406	135.3	
Massachusetts	8–9 wks./13–14 wks.	X		X		X		50	50	50		270	135	85
Michigan	May 15/Nov. 15	X		X		X		50	50	50		135	135	85
Minnesota	6 wks./10 wks.	X		X		X		50	50	30	20	260	130	85
Mississippi	both 7–8 weeks	X		X		X		40	60	45	15	132	132	75
Missouri	both 7 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	30	20	260	130	80
Montana	both 7–8 weeks	X		X		X		35	65	50	15	130	130	80
Nebraska	both 5–6 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	50		135	135	85
Nevada	both 8 weeks	X		X		X		33	67	56.1	15.8	75	140	85
New Hampshire	both 10 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	30	20	270	135	79
New Jersey	in May/in Nov.	X		X		X		50	50	50		133	133	75
New Mexico	both 6–8 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	33.3	16.7	130	130	80
New York	in May/in Nov.	X		X		X		40	60 <sup>†</sup>	40	10	665	133	85
North Carolina	both 4 weeks	X		X		X		40	60	60		346	138.4	80

## CHART 9: Grading and Scoring (continued)

Jurisdiction	What is your average grading/reporting period? (February/July exams)	Do you administer both the MBE and a written component?		Do you scale the written component to the MBE?		Are your MBE and written component scores combined?		Combined Score Weights				Minimum Passing Standards		
		Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Overall component		Written subcomponent		Total bar exam score		MPRE
								% MBE	% Written	% MEE and/or local essay	% MPT and/or local PT	Reported score scale	200-point scale*	
		North Dakota	both 7 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	30	20	260
Ohio	9 wks./12 wks.	X		X		X		33	67	53.3	13.3	405	135	85
Oklahoma	both 7 weeks	X			X	X		50	50	50		2,400	135	75
Oregon	both 6 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	30	20	284	142	85
Pennsylvania	5 wks./9 wks.	X		X		X		45	55	—	—	272	136	75
Rhode Island	both 10 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	41	9	276	138	80
South Carolina	8 wks./12 wks.	X			X <sup>‡</sup>		X	—	—	—	—	—	—	77
South Dakota	both 12 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	30	20	130	130	75
Tennessee	6 wks./9 wks.	X		X		X		50	50	37.5	12.5	270	135	75
Texas	10 wks./14 wks.	X		X		X		40	60 <sup>†</sup>	40	10	675	135	85
Utah	both 8 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	33.3	16.7	270	135	86
Vermont	both 8–10 wks.	X		X		X <sup>‡</sup>		—	—	—	—	—	—	80
Virginia	both 9 weeks	X		X		X		40	60	60		140	140	85
Washington	both 10 weeks		X		‡			—	—	—	—	—	—	TBD
West Virginia	both 7 weeks	X		X		X		50	50	30	20	270	135	75
Wisconsin	both 6 weeks	X		X		X		50	50 <sup>‡</sup>	—	—	258	129	
Wyoming	both 8–10 wks.	X			X <sup>‡</sup>		X	—	—	—	—	—	—	75
Guam	both 6–8 wks.	X		X		X		50	50	38.9	11.1	132.5	132.5	80
Northern Mariana Islands	both 8–9 wks.	X		X		X		50	50	30	20	282	—	80
Palau	5 weeks	X			X <sup>‡</sup>		X	—	—	—	—	—	—	75
Puerto Rico	both 8–9 wks.		X		‡			—	—	—	—	—	—	
Virgin Islands	both 8–10 wks.	X			X	X		50	50	50		70	—	75

\*Each value is a rough approximation of the score on a 200-point scale that would be required to meet the jurisdiction's minimum passing standard. Please note that this value is not applicable to individual bar examination components, nor is it used to determine actual pass/fail outcome. In addition, local grading policies, bar exam characteristics, and other statistical factors may lead to fluctuations in these values and may affect the comparability of these scores across jurisdictions.

See supplemental remarks.

<sup>†</sup>Includes a local multiple-choice or short-answer component.

<sup>‡</sup>See supplemental remarks for scoring details.

## CHART 9: Grading and Scoring (Supplemental Remarks)

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**Alabama** The raw scores on the Alabama Essay Examination (AEE) shall be scaled to the MBE, and the scaled score shall be multiplied by two to express the AEE score on the same scale as the UBE score (0–400). The UBE score shall be weighted 80% and the AEE score shall be weighted 20% to determine an examinee’s combined score on the Academic Bar Examination. An applicant who achieves a combined score of 256 or above passes the Academic Bar Examination.

**Arizona** The chart shows the minimum passing score for the July 2012 exam. For the February 2012 exam, the minimum passing score was 410 on a 600-point scale.

**Florida** The total score includes performance on a locally developed multiple-choice component.

**Hawaii** The written score includes performance on a locally developed multiple-choice component that is weighted 5% and assesses Hawaii rules of professional responsibility.

**Kentucky** The examination includes both the MBE and a written component that consists of equally weighted performance on the MEE and locally developed essay questions. There is a separate minimum passing standard on each component. To pass the examination, an applicant must achieve a score of 132 or greater on the MBE and an average score of 75 or greater on the written component.

**Louisiana** The examination is composed of a written component that consists of performance on 9 locally developed sections.

**Nevada** In order to pass, applicants must also earn a scaled score of 75 or higher on at least 3 written essay questions.

**New York** The total score includes performance on a locally developed multiple-choice component that is weighted 10%.

**Oregon** The written subcomponent composition and weighing differed by administration. The chart shows the weights used for the July 2012 exam. The February 2012 values were 37.5% MEE/local essay and 12.5% MPT.

**Rhode Island** The examination includes both the MBE and a written component that consists of performance on the MPT, locally developed essay questions, and the MEE. To pass the examination, an applicant must achieve an MBE score of 130 or greater and a combined total score of 276 or greater.

**South Carolina** The examination includes both the MBE and a written component that consists of performance on 6 locally developed essay sections. There are separate minimum passing standards for the MBE and essay sections—a score of 125 or

greater on the MBE and a score of 70 or greater on each essay section. To pass the examination, an applicant must meet the minimum passing standards on 6 of 7 sections (the MBE is considered a section). A score of 110 or less on the MBE results in automatic failure.

**Texas** The total score includes performance on a locally developed short-answer component that is weighted 10% and assesses Texas and/or federal rules related to Procedure and Evidence.

**Vermont** The examination includes both the MBE and a written component that consists of performance on the MPT and locally developed essay questions. There is a separate minimum passing standard for each component. To pass the examination, an applicant must achieve a score of 135 or greater on the MBE and a score of 135 or greater on the written component. An applicant who achieves a score of 130–134 on either component can still pass if the other component score exceeds 135 by 2 points for each point by which the lower score is below 135.

**Washington** The examination is a written exam consisting of 24 locally developed essay questions. The passing score is 70% or higher. Beginning with the July 2013 exam, Washington will administer the UBE and will require the MPRE.

**Wisconsin** The written component of the examination may include performance on the MPT, the MEE, and/or locally developed essay questions. The composition and weight of these written subcomponents may vary by administration.

**Wyoming** The examination includes both the MBE and a written component consisting of performance on 10 locally developed essay questions. There is a separate minimum passing standard for each component. To pass the examination, an applicant must achieve a score of 130 or greater on the MBE and an average score of 70 or higher on the written component (and achieve 70 or greater on at least 6 out of 10 essays).

**Northern Mariana Islands** The examination includes both the MBE and a written component that consists of the MPT, the MEE, and locally developed essay questions.

**Palau** The exam includes both the MBE and a written component that consists of performance on locally developed essay questions. There is a separate minimum passing standard for each component. To pass the exam, an applicant must achieve a score of 120 or greater on the MBE and an average score of 65% or greater on the written component.

**Puerto Rico** The combined passing score is 596 points out of 1,000. Exam dates are in March and September.

## CHART 10: Admission by Transferred UBE Score/Fees\*

UBE Jurisdiction	Date of first Uniform Bar Examination (UBE) administration	What is your time limit for accepting a UBE score (i.e., maximum age of the UBE score)?	What is the minimum passing UBE score?	Do you require completion of a jurisdiction-specific component† before admission?		Do you require passage of the MPRE?		Are applicants who are transferring UBE scores required to apply within your exam filing deadlines?		What is the application fee for admission by transferred UBE score?
				Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Alabama	July 2011	20 months	See remark	X		X		X		\$750
Arizona	July 2012	5 years	273	X		X			X	\$675
Colorado	February 2012	2 years	276		X	X			X	\$800
Idaho	February 2012	37 months	280		X	X			X	\$500–\$690
Missouri	February 2011	24 months	260	X		X			X	\$1,240
Nebraska‡	February 2013	TBD	TBD		X	X		X		TBD
North Dakota	February 2011	2 years	260		X	X			X	\$400**
Washington	July 2013	TBD	TBD	X		X			X	TBD

See supplemental remarks.

\*Jurisdictions may accept transferred UBE scores prior to their date of first UBE administration. See Chart 6, page 23, for which jurisdictions currently accept UBE scores from other jurisdictions.

†A *jurisdiction-specific component* is a separate test, course, or some combination of the two that is administered by a UBE jurisdiction to assess candidate knowledge of jurisdiction-specific law. The component can be offered live or online.

‡Some of the requirements for admission by transferred UBE score in Nebraska are to be determined. See supplemental remark to Chart 6 on page 25 for admission on the basis of passing an examination equivalent to the examination administered in Nebraska.

\*\*Plus NCBE report fee

## CHART 10: Admission by Transferred UBE Score/Fees (Supplemental Remarks)

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### What is your time limit for accepting a UBE score (i.e., maximum age of the UBE score)?

**Alabama** The transferred UBE score will be valid for a period of 20 months after taking the UBE in which the transferred score was earned.

**Arizona** 5 years prior to taking oath in Arizona.

**Colorado** Applicants with scores older than 2 years may apply for admission based on the UBE score plus a period of full-time law practice in a jurisdiction that allows admission on motion to Colorado attorneys. For UBE scores earned more than 2 years but less than 3 years ago, law practice requirement is at least 1 year; for UBE scores earned more than 2 years but less than 4 years ago, law practice requirement is at least 2 years; for UBE scores earned more than 3 years but less than 5 years ago, law practice requirement is at least 3 years.

**Missouri** 24 months preceding date of the application.

**North Dakota** 2 years from the date of the exam in the jurisdiction of admission.

### What is the minimum passing UBE score?

**Alabama** The transferred UBE score will be combined with the applicant's scaled written score on the Alabama Essay Examination (AEE). The UBE score shall be weighted 80% and the AEE shall be weighted 20% to determine the combined score. An applicant must achieve at least a 256 combined score.

**North Dakota** Applicants must have been admitted to the bar of the jurisdiction in which the UBE exam was taken.

### Do you require completion of a jurisdiction-specific component before admission?

**Alabama** Yes, the Alabama Essay Examination (AEE), which is a three-hour examination administered the day prior to the UBE.

**Arizona** Effective with the first UBE administration in July 2012, a course on Arizona law, to be taken either in person or online, must be completed prior to admission. Details to be determined.

**Missouri** Rules require an open-book online test, the Missouri Educational Component Test (MECT), for applicants to complete as a condition of licensure. Review materials are posted to assist applicants.

**Washington** Online multiple-choice test. Washington-specific study materials available online to review prior to test. Details to be determined.

### Are there any time parameters within which an MPRE score must be earned or achieved?

**Alabama** Applicant must successfully complete the MPRE no earlier than 12 months before the UBE was taken in the transferring jurisdiction and no later than 20 months from time the first Alabama Essay Examination (local component) is taken.

**Arizona** Within 2 years before the successful bar examination or within 5 years of a UBE in which the applicant earned the minimum passing score required by Arizona.

**Colorado** MPRE scores must be earned no more than 2 years prior to filing application. MPRE need not be completed prior to filing an application.

**Idaho** No time limit.

**Missouri** No time limit.

**Nebraska** 18 months.

**North Dakota** Within 5 years of filing an application.

**Washington** Time limit for acceptance of MPRE score to be determined.

### What is the application fee for admission by transferred UBE score?

**Idaho** \$500 if not admitted as attorney in another jurisdiction; \$690 if admitted as attorney in another jurisdiction.



## CHART 11: Admission on Motion/Fees

Note: As used in this chart, "on motion" denotes admission without any additional testing except, where required, the MPRE.

Jurisdiction	Do your rules provide for admission on motion?		What is the number of years of practice required for admission on motion?	Your definition of practice for purposes of admission on motion includes:					Must an applicant for admission on motion be a graduate of an ABA-approved law school?		Admission on motion fee
	Yes	No		Law teaching	Gov't agency	Military	In-house corporate	Judicial court of record	Yes	No	
Alabama	X		5 of past 6	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$1,300
Alaska	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$1,500
Arizona	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X	X		X		\$1,800
Arkansas	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$1,500
California		X									
Colorado	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$800
Connecticut	X		5 of past 10	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$1,800
Delaware		X									
Dist. of Columbia	X		None							X	\$400**
Florida		X									
Georgia	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$600†
Hawaii		X*		X					X		
Idaho	X		Varies	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$800
Illinois	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$1,250
Indiana	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$800†
Iowa	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$625
Kansas	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$1,250
Kentucky	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$1,200
Louisiana		X									
Maine	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$600**
Maryland		X									
Massachusetts	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$1,015**
Michigan	X		3 of past 5	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$600**
Minnesota	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$950
Mississippi	X		5	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$1,500**
Missouri	X		5 of past 10	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$1,240
Montana		X									
Nebraska	X		Varies	X	X	X	X		X		\$700 / \$950
Nevada		X									
New Hampshire	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$1,000
New Jersey		X*		X			X		X		
New Mexico		X									
New York	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$400
North Carolina	X		4 of past 6	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$2,000
North Dakota	X		4 of past 5	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$400**
Ohio	X		5 of past 10	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$1,250**
Oklahoma	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$1,500**
Oregon	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$625†
Pennsylvania	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$1,000
Rhode Island		X									
South Carolina		X*		X					X		\$400
South Dakota	X		Past 5		X	X	X	X	X		\$450†
Tennessee	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$800†
Texas	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$890
Utah	X		Varies	X	X	X	X	X	X		\$850
Vermont	X		5 of past 10		X	X	X			X	\$600**
Virginia	X		5 of past 7		X	X	X	X	X		\$1,500
Washington	X		Varies	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$920†
West Virginia	X		5 of past 7	X	X	X		X		X	\$1,000**
Wisconsin	X		3 of past 5	X	X	X	X	X		X	\$850
Wyoming	X		5 of past 7	X	X		X	X	X		\$600**
Guam		X*			X				X		\$325†
Northern Mariana Islands		X									
Palau		X*			X						
Puerto Rico		X									
Virgin Islands		X*			X					X	none

\*Although admission on motion is generally unavailable, it is permitted on a limited basis.

\*\*Plus NCBE report fee † Includes NCBE report fee

‡ Plus other fees (such as for separate character and fitness applications and/or investigations)

See supplemental remarks.

## CHART 11: Admission on Motion/Fees (Supplemental Remarks)

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### Do your rules provide for admission on motion?

**Alabama** Effective in September 2006, a lawyer who actively practiced 5 of the past 6 years who becomes a permanent resident or certifies the intention to maintain and conduct the primary practice of law may be admitted without examination.

**Arizona** Arizona began admission on motion in 2011. Must have actively practiced 5 of past 7 years, at least 1,000 hours each year, and held an active law license in good standing for that duration. Professorship recognition requires full-time law school professorship. Active practice cannot have constituted unauthorized practice where it occurred. Applicant must have been admitted by bar examination in a reciprocal jurisdiction to qualify. Applicant may not have failed the bar examination in Arizona within past 5 years. Prior members of the State Bar of Arizona are not eligible for admission on motion.

**District of Columbia** Attorney who has been a member in good standing of the bar for 5 years; or attorney, with J.D. from ABA-approved law school, admitted by examination in jurisdiction, having attained 133 scaled MBE score and 75 scaled MPRE score, can be admitted without examination.

**Hawaii** Full-time faculty members at the University of Hawaii Law School who graduated from an ABA-approved law school and who have been admitted to practice in another U.S. jurisdiction are eligible. In addition, full-time active-duty uniformed-service judge advocates may apply for limited admission without examination to represent, without additional compensation, certain active-duty enlisted military personnel and their dependents. Attorneys who are graduates of ABA-accredited law schools, actively licensed to practice law in another U.S. jurisdiction, and employed by a civil legal service provider recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that is eligible to receive funds from the Indigent Legal Assistance Fund may apply for limited admission.

**Iowa** Applicants who have failed 5 or more bar examinations are not eligible for admission on motion.

**Nevada** Admission on motion is unavailable. Admission by certification is allowed for faculty of the National Judicial College, Boyd Law School, in-house corporate, and some government agencies.

**New Jersey** Law professors who have taught law full-time for the previous 5 years at 1 of the 3 New Jersey law schools can be admitted on motion. In addition, the law professor must have a J.D. or LL.B. degree from an ABA-approved law

school and be admitted by examination in at least 1 other U.S. jurisdiction. In-house counsel applicants should refer to rule pertaining to admission to practice.

**North Dakota** If application is based on MBE scaled score of 150 or above or UBE scaled score of 260 or above and admitted in the jurisdiction of examination, active practice not required. Evidence of MBE score or UBE score and completed application must be received within 2 years of the exam date.

**Pennsylvania** An applicant must have graduated from a law school that was approved by the ABA at the time of the applicant's matriculation or graduation.

**South Carolina** Admission on motion only for dean or a tenured professor of the University of South Carolina School of Law or the Charleston School of Law.

**Virginia** An applicant must intend, promptly after being admitted to practice in Virginia without examination, to establish his or her office in Virginia and to practice full-time from such Virginia office.

**Washington** All motion applicants are admitted based on the same rules and conditions as those of the jurisdiction from which they are applying.

**Guam** Only government attorneys may be admitted temporarily without written examination and only for the purposes of government employment. Government attorneys applying for temporary admission must still undergo a character and fitness investigation. Attorneys admitted under this rule are only granted temporary admission for a maximum of 5 years.

**Northern Mariana Islands** Government attorneys may be admitted temporarily without written examination and only for the purposes of government employment. Government attorneys applying for temporary admission must still undergo a character and fitness investigation. Attorneys admitted under this rule are only granted temporary admission for a maximum of 4 years.

**Virgin Islands** On motion of authorized departments or agencies, an attorney may be specially admitted to practice law before the VI Supreme Court and the Superior Court, without written examination and as an employee of the department or agency. Once admitted, the specially admitted government attorney must take the Virgin Islands Bar Exam within 2 years and pass within 3 years; otherwise the special admission automatically expires.

## CHART 11: Admission on Motion/Fees (Supplemental Remarks, *continued*)

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### What is the number of years of practice required for admission on motion?

**Idaho** Motion applicants must have been substantially engaged in the active practice of law for length required in originating jurisdiction but no less than 3 of the past 5 years.

**Maine** Lawyers from New Hampshire and Vermont may be admitted after 3 years of practice; all other lawyers must have practiced 5 of past 7 years.

**Massachusetts** Board requires proof that the applicant has been actively engaged in the practice of law for 5 out of the past 7 years immediately preceding the application.

**Minnesota** Applicant must have been lawfully engaged in the practice of law for at least 60 of the 84 months immediately preceding the application. The practice of law professors, military lawyers, and federal government lawyers which takes place outside a state where licensed is considered the lawful practice of law. Practice which occurs outside of a jurisdiction where licensed is also considered the lawful practice of law so long as such practice is authorized by the jurisdiction in which the practice takes place.

**Mississippi** Practice requirement is determined by the applicant's originating jurisdiction with a minimum of 5 years of active practice in the originating jurisdiction in which the applicant was licensed and in good standing.

**Nebraska** Admission without examination if applicant has actively practiced law 5 of 7 years preceding application, and has received his/her first professional degree from an ABA-approved law school. Or admission without examination if applicant has passed a bar examination equivalent to Nebraska exam, was admitted to practice, and has first degree from an ABA-approved law school.

**New Hampshire** Lawyers from Maine and Vermont may be admitted after 3 years of practice; all other lawyers must have practiced 5 of past 7 years.

**Utah** Practice requirement is determined by the applicant's originating jurisdiction with a minimum of 3 years of practice in the originating jurisdiction during the 4 years preceding the filing of the application.

**Vermont** Lawyers from New Hampshire and Maine may be admitted after 3 years of practice; all other lawyers must have practiced 5 of the past 10 years unless current jurisdiction requires fewer than 5 years.

**Washington** Both the length of active practice and the type of practice permitted are determined by the requirements of the applicant's originating jurisdiction. Motion applicants must show that they have the same length and type of practice that would be required of applicants from Washington who seek admission in the originating jurisdiction.

**West Virginia** Rules are silent as to whether in-house corporate experience qualifies as active practice of law.

**Wisconsin** Applicants who failed the Wisconsin bar exam are not eligible for admission on motion.

**Wyoming** Has engaged in the active, authorized practice of law for a minimum of 300 hours per year for 5 of 7 years immediately preceding the date of the application.

### Must an applicant for admission on motion be a graduate of an ABA-approved law school?

**Connecticut** Must be a graduate of a law school approved by bar examining committee.

**Indiana** Effective January 1, 2009, graduation from an ABA-accredited law school is no longer required of applicants for a Business Counsel License. Graduation from an ABA-accredited law school is still required of applicants for a Provisional License.

**Maine** If the applicant graduated from a law school in the United States, that law school must be ABA-approved. Applicants who graduated from law schools in other English-speaking common-law countries may be eligible if they pursued a course of study substantially equivalent to that of a law school approved by the ABA.

**Massachusetts** Must be ABA-approved or authorized by a state statute to grant the degree of bachelor of laws or J.D. at the time of graduation.

**Michigan** Applicant must have a J.D. from a reputable and qualified law school. Law schools fully or provisionally approved by the ABA on the date the applicant's degree is conferred are considered to be reputable and qualified.

**Mississippi** Applicant must have a J.D. from an ABA-approved law school unless applicant comes from a reciprocal jurisdiction that does not require it.

**New Hampshire** Foreign law school graduates who meet other requirements and who are licensed in another state are eligible for admission on motion. Graduates of 2 non-ABA-approved schools in Massachusetts are also eligible.

**West Virginia** Must be ABA-approved or its equivalent.

## CHART 12: Reciprocity, Comity, and Attorneys' Exams

Jurisdiction	Is admission on motion based on reciprocity (that is, is it limited to candidates from some or all jurisdictions offering admission on motion)?		If state of initial admission requires examination of all applicants, do you require examination of attorney applicants?		Is an attorney initially admitted by diploma privilege eligible for admission on motion?		Attorneys' Exams			
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Does your jurisdiction offer an Attorneys' Exam?		To qualify for the Attorneys' Exam, must an applicant be a graduate of an ABA-approved school?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Alabama	X		X			X		X		
Alaska	X		X			X		X		
Arizona	X					X		X		
Arkansas	X			X	X			X		
California							X			X
Colorado	X		X		X			X		
Connecticut	X		X		X			X		
Delaware								X		
District of Columbia		X		X	X			X		
Florida								X		
Georgia	X			X		X	X		X	
Hawaii								X		
Idaho	X			X		X		X		
Illinois		X		X	X			X		
Indiana		X		X	X			X		
Iowa		X		X	X			X		
Kansas	X		X			X		X		
Kentucky	X		X		X			X		
Louisiana								X		
Maine	X		X		X		X			X
Maryland							X			X
Massachusetts		X		X	X			X		
Michigan		X		X	X			X		
Minnesota		X		X	X			X		
Mississippi	X		X		X			X		
Missouri	X			X	X			X		
Montana								X		
Nebraska		X		X	X			X		
Nevada								X		
New Hampshire	X		X			X		X		
New Jersey		X	X			X		X		
New Mexico								X		
New York	X			X	X			X		
North Carolina	X		X		X			X		
North Dakota		X		X	X			X		
Ohio		X		X		X		X		
Oklahoma	X		X		X			X		
Oregon	X			X		X		X		
Pennsylvania	X			X	X			X		
Rhode Island							X			X
South Carolina						X		X		
South Dakota	X		X		X			X		
Tennessee		X		X	X			X		
Texas		X		X	X			X		
Utah	X		X			X	X			X
Vermont		X		X	X			X		
Virginia	X		X			X		X		
Washington	X		X		X			X		
West Virginia	X		X		X			X		
Wisconsin		X		X	X			X		
Wyoming	X		X			X		X		
Guam					X		X		X	
Northern Mariana Islands							X		X	
Palau								X		
Puerto Rico								X		
Virgin Islands								X		

See supplemental remarks.

## CHART 12: Reciprocity, Comity, and Attorneys' Exams (Supplemental Remarks)

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### Is admission on motion based on reciprocity (that is, is it limited to candidates from some or all jurisdictions offering admission on motion)?

**Georgia** If the applicant's "sending" jurisdiction's admission on motion rule is more restrictive than Georgia's, then the applicant's admission in Georgia would be governed by the same requirements that apply to an applicant from Georgia seeking admission in the applicant's jurisdiction.

**Mississippi** Provided that the laws from the state from which the applicant comes grant similar privileges to attorney applicants from Mississippi.

**Oregon** Provided that the laws from the state from which the applicant comes grant similar privileges to attorney applicants from Oregon. Attorneys who are licensed in Washington, Idaho, Utah, or Alaska and apply for admission on motion on or before December 31, 2015, need only demonstrate active, substantial, and continuous practice of law for 3 of the preceding 5 years prior to filing the application. For all other states, attorneys must have lawfully engaged in practice for 5 of 7 years preceding application.

**Vermont** New Hampshire and Maine attorneys may be admitted after 3 years of practice.

**Wyoming** Admission on motion is limited to jurisdictions that would admit a Wyoming attorney on motion without any additional examination, including, but not limited to, the MPRE.

### If state of initial admission requires examination of all applicants, do you require examination of attorney applicants?

**California** Attorney applicants who have been admitted as active members in good standing 4 or more years may qualify to take the Attorneys' Exam, which is the written portion of the general bar exam (2 days out of 3). All other attorney applicants must take the general bar exam.

**Georgia** Attorney from a nonreciprocal state may sit for the Attorneys' Exam.

**Maine** Attorney from a nonreciprocal state may be eligible to sit for the Attorneys' (modified) exam.

**Rhode Island** Must sit for 3 local questions, 1 MPT question, and 6 MEE questions.

### Is an attorney initially admitted by diploma privilege eligible for admission on motion?

**Arkansas** Provided the applicant is a graduate of an ABA-approved law school.

**Connecticut** Provided the applicant is a graduate of an ABA- or committee-approved law school.

**Mississippi** Provided that the laws from the state from which the applicant comes grant similar privileges to attorney applicants from Mississippi.

**Ohio** Applicant who has been admitted in another jurisdiction by diploma privilege is eligible for admission without examination only if applicant has also taken and passed the bar examination and been admitted as an attorney-at-law in the highest court of another state or the District of Columbia.

**Tennessee** Must file a petition with the Board setting forth reasons why he/she should be admitted; a hearing is held in response.

### To qualify for the Attorneys' Exam, must an applicant be a graduate of an ABA-approved law school?

**Maine** If applicant is not a graduate of an ABA-approved law school, the applicant must have engaged in the practice of law for 3 years in the U.S. jurisdiction where admitted.

**Maryland** If the attorney applicant has practiced law for 10 years, or 5 years in the immediate past 10 years, following admission by examination in another jurisdiction, applicant is eligible for special attorney exam and need not be a graduate of an ABA-approved law school.

**Rhode Island** Applicants who have not graduated from an ABA-approved law school may sit for the Attorneys' Examination provided they have been engaged in the active practice of law for 5 out of the 10 years immediately preceding the filing of the bar application.

**Utah** May sit for the Attorneys' Exam if applicant is a graduate of an ABA-approved law school, has been licensed for 5 years, and has been in active practice for 4 of the 5 years preceding application. Applicant from a non-ABA-approved law school may sit for the Attorneys' Exam if he or she meets all requirements including having been licensed for 10 years and in active practice for 10 of the 11 years preceding the filing of the application.

## CHART 13: Other Licenses and Registrations/Fees

Jurisdiction	Does your jurisdiction license, register, or certify the following on a special basis (that is, other than via the regular examination or motion process)?											
	Foreign legal consultants			Corporate counsel not admitted in-state			Legal service lawyers			Pro bono lawyers		
	Yes	No	Application Fee	Yes	No	Application Fee	Yes	No	Application Fee	Yes	No	Application Fee
Alabama		X		X		\$300		X			X	
Alaska	X		\$1,000		X		X		\$0		X	
Arizona	X		\$525†	X		\$345	X		\$0	X		\$0
Arkansas		X			X			X			X	
California	X		\$370	X		\$1,244	X		\$1,244		X	
Colorado		X		X		\$725		X		X		\$50
Connecticut	X		\$500	X		\$1,000		X			X	
Delaware	X		\$100	X		\$80	X		\$90–\$150		X	
Dist. of Columbia	X		\$450*		X			X			X	
Florida	X		\$500*	X		\$1,300	X		\$1,600–\$3,000		X	
Georgia	X		\$1,000		X			X			X	
Hawaii	X		\$300		X			X			X	
Idaho	X		\$690	X		\$690		X			X	
Illinois	X		\$800	X		\$1,250	X		\$100		X	
Indiana	X		\$800		X			X			X	
Iowa	X		\$1,000	X		\$200		X			X	
Kansas		X		X		\$1,250		X			X	
Kentucky		X		X		\$1,000	X		\$100	X		\$100
Louisiana	X		\$175	X		\$300		X			X	
Maine		X			X			X			X	
Maryland		X		X		\$175	X		\$10		X	
Massachusetts	X		\$510	X		\$220–\$300		X			X	
Michigan	X		\$600*		X			X			X	
Minnesota	X		\$1,200	X		\$700–\$950	X		\$75		X	
Mississippi		X			X			X			X	
Missouri	X		\$1,400		X			X			X	
Montana		X			X			X			X	
Nebraska		X		X		\$700		X			X	
Nevada		X		X		\$250	X		\$250	X		\$250
New Hampshire		X			X			X			X	
New Jersey	X		\$475	X		\$750	X		\$0	X		\$0
New Mexico	X		\$800		X		X		\$0		X	
New York	X		\$0	X		\$0	X				X	
North Carolina	X		\$1,500		X			X			X	
North Dakota	X		\$380	X		\$380	X		\$380		X	
Ohio	X		\$550	X		\$350	X		\$300		X	
Oklahoma		X		X		\$750*		X			X	
Oregon	X		\$850	X		\$850		X		X		\$250
Pennsylvania	X		\$650	X		\$650	X		\$200		X	
Rhode Island		X		X		\$200	X		\$200		X	
South Carolina	X		\$1,000	X		\$400	X		\$0	X		\$0
South Dakota		X			X		X		\$300–\$450		X	
Tennessee		X		X		\$750		X			X	
Texas	X		\$950†		X			X			X	
Utah	X		\$850	X		\$850		X			X	
Vermont		X			X			X			X	
Virginia	X		\$600*	X		\$150		X			X	
Washington	X		\$1,220		X			X		X		\$300
West Virginia		X			X		X		\$0*		X	
Wisconsin		X		X		\$250		X			X	
Wyoming		X			X			X			X	
Guam		X			X			X			X	
N. Mariana Islands		X			X		X		\$200		X	
Palau		X			X		X				X	
Puerto Rico		X			X			X			X	
Virgin Islands		X			X			X			X	

\*Plus NCBE report fee †Plus other fees

See supplemental remarks.

## CHART 13: Other Licenses and Registrations/Fees (Supplemental Remarks)

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### Does your jurisdiction license, register, or certify any categories of practitioners on a special basis (that is, other than via the regular examination or motion process)?

**Alaska** A person who is admitted and in good standing in another state may work for Alaska Legal Services indefinitely if he/she has not failed the Alaska bar exam.

**Arizona** Corporate counsel must register with the State Bar of Arizona; registration process does not constitute licensure for practice of law in Arizona. Pursuant to Arizona Supreme Court Rule 38(d), (e), and (f), limited practice in law school clinical programs, legal services organizations, and pro bono legal services organizations is allowed through registration with the Clerk of the Supreme Court. These programs do not constitute licensure to practice law in Arizona.

**California** The State Bar of California's Multijurisdictional Practice program permits qualified non-California attorneys to practice a limited scope of law in California. An attorney who is licensed to practice law in a U.S. jurisdiction may apply to be registered in the In-House Counsel Program or the Legal Services Attorney Program. Attorneys registered in these programs are not required to take the California bar exam but must submit an application for a moral character determination.

**Colorado** Corporate Counsel must register with the Office of Attorney Regulation.

**Delaware** Active attorneys may register as private legal service lawyers or government/corporate counsel. Private legal service lawyer fees are graduated based on years of admission elsewhere.

**Florida** There is not a separate fee, but authorized legal aid practitioners must file a bar application and make arrangements, including payment of applicable fees, to take the next available Florida Bar Examination. The graduated bar examination fee for attorneys is based on years of admission elsewhere.

**Indiana** Offers a "Business Counsel License."

**Iowa** Any attorney not admitted in Iowa, but who maintains an office or a systematic and continuous presence in the state for the practice of law as house counsel, must register with the Supreme Court.

**Kansas** Temporary admission on motion without examination of attorneys performing restricted legal services for single employers.

**Kentucky** Legal service and pro bono admissions are limited to certain employees of an organized public defender or legal services program in Kentucky. The license is limited to a period of 18 months.

**Maryland** Special license for attorneys who are associated with an organized legal services program that is sponsored or approved by Legal Aid Bureau, Inc., enabling them to practice law in Maryland for a period not to exceed 2 years. Corporate counsel may advise their employers without admission.

**Minnesota** A temporary legal services license may be applied for when an applicant has accepted employment in Minnesota with a legal services program. The license authorizes practice solely on behalf of the indigent clients of the designated legal services program and is valid for a period of 15 months. A house counsel license may be applied for on a temporary or permanent basis. A house counsel license is limited as to duration and scope of practice. Applicant must have been actively and lawfully engaged in the practice of law for at least 3 of the previous 5 years.

**Nevada** Must be employed by a legal aid bureau, public defender, or district attorney agency on a full-time basis, or employed as in-house counsel.

**New Jersey** An attorney who is in good standing in another jurisdiction may practice law in New Jersey for up to 2½ years with an approved legal services program. In-house counsel not admitted to the bar of New Jersey are required to obtain a limited license to practice law. Legal Services employment rule permits house counsel working in New Jersey to provide pro bono representation under the supervision of Legal Services of New Jersey, Inc.

**New Mexico** Supreme Court has approved a 1-year limited license for government attorneys and a limited license for legal services attorneys.

**New York** An attorney who has not failed the New York bar exam may be admitted for up to a period of 18 months if employed by a government agency or legal services program to appear solely on behalf of clients of the program.

**Oklahoma** Must be admitted in a reciprocal state; permit renewed each year through state bar.

**Rhode Island** The Rhode Island Supreme Court rules allow out-of-state attorneys to practice law in Rhode Island as in-house counsel upon registering with the Court. In-house counsel attorneys may only practice law in Rhode Island on behalf of the corporation and cannot appear in court or in agency or

## CHART 13: Other Licenses and Registrations/Fees (Supplemental Remarks, *continued*)

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municipal proceedings on behalf of the corporation without first obtaining pro hac vice admission.

**South Carolina** Limited licenses for in-house counsel, law school clinic program teachers. Limited license for retired or inactive lawyers to participate in the provision of legal services by approved legal services organizations or the pro bono program of the South Carolina Bar.

**South Dakota** Must be employed by a bar association, sponsored or governmentally funded legal aid bureau, or public defender agency. Admission is effective until the earliest of (1) failure to sit for first bar exam subsequent to order of admission, (2) announcement of bar exam results, (3) termination of employment, or (4) termination of admission by the Supreme Court.

**Tennessee** As of January 1, 2011, Tennessee will permit registration of in-house counsel only (MJP).

**Washington** Permits house counsel practice without registration if admitted to practice in another U.S. jurisdiction. Permits limited license for indigent representation (temporary, while awaiting exam and results), emeritus/pro bono (volunteers with legal services organizations), law school clinic faculty, military lawyers, and foreign house counsel.

**West Virginia** An indigent legal services or public defender program attorney may be admitted for up to 36 months without taking the bar examination or qualifying for admission on motion upon showing good moral character and fitness and admission in good standing in another jurisdiction.

**Wisconsin** Counsel not admitted in Wisconsin, but admitted in any other jurisdiction, must register with the Board within 60 days of hire as in-house/corporate counsel. After 3 years from date of registration, the attorney is eligible for admission on proof of practice. For attorneys who filed within 90 days of the effective date of the rule (January 1, 2009), all prior service may be counted for admission based on proof of practice.

**Northern Mariana Islands** Attorneys employed by the government or by Micronesian Legal Services are admitted on a limited basis without written examination. Limited admission carries a term of 4 years.

**Palau** An attorney employed on salary by national government or any state government of Palau or by Micronesian Legal Services may practice law for a period of up to 4 years without taking the bar exam.



## CHART 14: Mandatory Continuing Legal Education

Jurisdiction	Does your jurisdiction have a mandatory Continuing Legal Education (CLE) requirement?		
	Yes	No	Description
Alabama	X		12 hours per year.
Alaska	X		3 hours of ethics per year; mandatory reporting of completion of ethics requirement and whether member has completed 9 or more additional CLE credits.
Arizona	X		15 hours per year, including 2 hours of professional responsibility including ethics, professionalism, malpractice prevention, substance abuse, attorney fees, client development, law office economics.
Arkansas	X		12 hours per year, which includes 1 hour of ethics.
California	X		25 hours per 3 years, including 4 hours in ethics, 1 hour in substance abuse prevention/detection and treatment, and 1 hour related to the elimination of bias in the legal profession.
Colorado	X		45 hours per 3 years, including 7 hours of ethics and professionalism. Newly admitted on motion must attend the Colorado Supreme Court's mandatory Course on Professionalism within the first 6 months of admission.
Connecticut		X	
Delaware	X		24 credit hours per 2 years, including at least 4 credit hours in Enhanced Ethics. Requirements may differ for senior attorneys, newly admitted attorneys, and attorneys resuming active practice after a period of inactivity.
District of Columbia		X	
Florida	X		30 hours per 3 years, including 5 hours of ethics, professionalism, substance abuse, or mental illness awareness.
Georgia	X		12 hours per year, including 1 hour of ethics and 1 hour of professionalism. The mandatory Transition into Law Practice Program course required for initial admission is included in the 12-hour requirement in the year of admission or in the next calendar year.
Hawaii	X		Active members of the bar shall complete at least 3 credit hours per year of approved Mandatory Continuing Professional Education.
Idaho	X		30 hours per 3 years, including 2 hours ethics. Practical skills seminar required within 6 months of admission for motion applicants.
Illinois	X		30 CLE activity hours, of which at least 6 must be in the area of professional responsibility, including professionalism, diversity issues, mental illness and addiction issues, civility, or legal ethics.
Indiana	X		36 hours per 3 years with a minimum of 6 hours per year; 3 hours of 36 shall be professional responsibility.
Iowa	X		15 hours per year; 2 hours of ethics per 2 years. Basic skills course for new lawyers applies to CLE requirement.
Kansas	X		12 hours per year, including 2 hours of ethics.
Kentucky	X		12.5 hours per year, including 2 hours of ethics.
Louisiana	X		12.5 hours per year, including 1 hour of ethics and 1 hour of professionalism.
Maine	X		11 hours per year with 1 hour covering ethics/professional responsibility.
Maryland		X	
Massachusetts		X	
Michigan		X	
Minnesota	X		45 hours per 3 years, including 3 hours of ethics and 2 hours of elimination of bias in the legal profession.
Mississippi	X		12 hours per year.
Missouri	X		Lawyers practicing in Missouri during an MCLE reporting year must complete 15 hours per year, including 2 hours of ethics, professionalism, or malpractice prevention every year. 2 hours of ethics required of all new admittees within 12 months of admission regardless of whether practicing in Missouri.
Montana	X		A minimum of 15 hours per year; 5 hours of ethics per 3 years.
Nebraska	X		10 hours per year, including 2 hours of ethics.
Nevada	X		10 hours per year; 2 hours of ethics.
New Hampshire	X		12 hours per year; 2 hours of ethics.
New Jersey	X		24 credit hours per 2 years, including at least 4 credits in ethics and/or professionalism.
New Mexico	X		12 hours per year, including 2 hours ethics/professionalism.
New York	X		24 hours per 2 years. Newly admitted lawyers must complete 32 hours within the first 2 years of admission to the bar.
North Carolina	X		12 hours per year. At least 2 hours must be devoted to professional responsibility (ethics and professional liability); special 3-hour block ethics requirement per 3 years; 1 hour on substance abuse or mental disability per 3 years.
North Dakota	X		45 hours per 3 years, of which 3 hours must be ethics course work.
Ohio	X		At least 2.5 of the 24 hours required per 2 years shall relate to professional conduct and include 30 minutes related to substance abuse, 60 minutes related to the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct, and 60 minutes related to professionalism.
Oklahoma	X		12 hours per year, including 1 hour of ethics.
Oregon	X		45 hours per 3 years, 5 legal ethics, 1 child abuse reporting, and 3 elimination of bias credits.

(continued on page 46)

## CHART 14: Mandatory Continuing Legal Education (*continued*)

Jurisdiction	Does your jurisdiction have a mandatory CLE requirement?		
	Yes	No	Description
Pennsylvania	X		12 hours per year, including 1 hour of ethics.
Rhode Island	X		10 hours per year; 2 hours of ethics.
South Carolina	X		14 hours per year; at least 2 shall be devoted to ethics/professional responsibility.
South Dakota		X	
Tennessee	X		12 hours per year plus 3 hours of ethics.
Texas	X		15 hours per year, including 3 hours of ethics.
Utah	X		24 hours per 2 years, including 2 hours of ethics and 1 hour of professionalism.
Vermont	X		20 hours per 2 years, including 2 hours of legal ethics.
Virginia	X		12 hours per year, including 2 hours of ethics.
Washington	X		45 hours per 3 years, of which 6 hours must be devoted to ethics. New admittees are exempt during the year admitted and for the following calendar year.
West Virginia	X		24 hours per 2 years. At least 3 of these hours must be in ethics or law office management, substance abuse, or elimination of bias in the legal profession.
Wisconsin	X		30 hours per 2 years, including 3 hours of ethics.
Wyoming	X		15 hours per year, including 1 hour of ethics.
Guam	X		10 hours per year, including 2 hours of ethics.
Northern Mariana Islands	X		20 hours per year.
Palau	X		15 hours per 2 years.
Puerto Rico	X		24 hours per 2 years, including 4 hours of ethics.
Virgin Islands	X		12 hours per year, including 2 hours in legal ethics or professionalism.

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### SOUTH CAROLINA

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## Directory of State Bar Admission Agencies

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### TEXAS

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### VIRGIN ISLANDS

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**National Conference  
of Bar Examiners**

[www.ncbex.org](http://www.ncbex.org)



**Section of Legal Education  
and Admissions to the Bar**

[www.americanbar.org/legaled](http://www.americanbar.org/legaled)

# Bar Admission Information

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