Bar Exam Updates & Next Steps

May 8, 2020
Topics to Discuss

• General State Update
• Open UBE Jurisdictions
• Transferring UBE Score
• Next Steps with Registrar's Office
• Q & A
July/September Bar Exam Status

UBE Jurisdictions Accepting Applications

- May 15
  - New Hampshire
- May 20
  - Maryland
  - Tennessee
- May 30
  - Missouri
  - Oregon
- June 1
  - Virgin Islands
- June 5
  - New Jersey
- June 15
  - Illinois

**May 18 – DC Bar Application opens**
Priority goes to 2019-2020 FT takers
Which states have state specific components in addition to the UBE?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UBE Pre-Admission Jurisdiction-Specific Law Component Requirements</th>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-admission component</td>
<td>Alabama, Arizona, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, Montana, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virgin Islands, Washington</td>
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http://www.ncbex.org/exams/ube/score-portability/local-components/
Transferring UBE scores to other jurisdictions

• Request an official UBE Score Transcript through your NCBE account

• Information Required:
  • Date and jurisdiction you took exam
  • Which jurisdiction to send the transcript

• Cost: $25 per transcript

• There is an unofficial transcript option if you want a copy ($25 per transcript)

**Jurisdictions may have different UBE transfer rules – Check the jurisdictions website before making any requests**

• For additional information: http://www.ncbex.org/ncbe-exam-score-services/ube-score-services/
Next Steps with the Registrar's Office

• Notify the Registrar's office if you are going to sit for a different state than originally planned (registrar@law.uchicago.edu)

• Update your Bar Authorization Form if necessary

• Send any state bar certification forms that we need to fill out on your behalf (registrar@law.uchicago.edu)

• Bar Certification forms will be mailed out to all states the Monday after graduation once your degree is officially conferred
Contact Information

• Form processing and bar exam related questions:
  • Office of the Registrar: registrar@law.uchicago.edu
  • Make an appointment with Sunny Sterba
  • Website: https://www.law.uchicago.edu/students/barinfo

• Career related questions:
  • Reach out to your OCS Advisor
  • Office of Career Services: career_services@law.uchicago.edu
Bar Prep Program with Patrick Barry:
The program is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19 at 12:15pm. Additional information to come from the Dean of Student Office.

Law School Advising:
Jesse Landstrom, Associate Director of Student Affairs and Academic Services is a great resource to talk about time management and to find which resources may be best for your individual needs.

UChicago Resource: ASAP:
This is a great campus resource that can help students with time management called the Academic Skills Assessment Program. They have some resources online, but students can also schedule individual appointments. https://wellness.uchicago.edu/mental-health/academic-skills-assessment-program/

Lawyers Assistance Program:
For general support with stress, mental health, or substance use concerns: https://illinoislap.org/mental-health-recovery-services/law-student-depression/
Q & A

Should I try to take the bar exam in a state that is still offering a July exam?

That is a decision only you can make. Keep in mind there is a chance the July states can postpone if there are continuing public health concerns.

Also, some employers have expressed they would prefer you wait to take the exam in their state rather than take it in a different jurisdiction.
What happens if you apply for a jurisdiction and you find out you didn't get a seat for the next exam?

Most jurisdictions have an estimated seat capacity and are closing their applications once that number is reached. If you are waitlisted, there is still a chance you can be seated if the social distancing restrictions are loosened. Check the jurisdiction's website for information on prioritization and waitlists.
Q & A

Pros/Cons to being admitted into multiple jurisdictions

Pros -
• Can make future moves easier
• Can be beneficial if employer has clients in both jurisdictions

Cons -
• Can be costly
• Responsible for continuing education requirements in each state
Is the Law School lobbying the IL Bar to add temporary licensure?

Dean Miles, together with the Illinois law deans, has advocated with the Illinois bar for a temporary licensure option and is continuing to do so. Dean Miles also joined in a letter with several other law school deans to the Chief Judge of New York.
Can we expect employers to adjust start dates until after the bar exam?

There will be a wide variety of employer approaches to start dates, some of which will tie to the bar exam schedule and some which will not.
Q & A

Have you heard of any firms cancelling or revoking the offers of some of the incoming associate class?

We have not heard any reports of this happening.
Do law firms seem committed to the incoming associate class?

Law firms seem very committed to the incoming associate class. Firms are approaching this in many different ways, but they are making decisions about how to bring that class on board in the most prudent way possible.
What is the best study option for clerks who are still scheduled to start in August but will be taking the bar in September?

Judges will vary in how they want clerks to handle this. The most common approach we are hearing so far is to do the majority of your bar prep pre-clerkship, to continue to study outside of work hours once you start clerking, and to take time off for the exam.

You will need to have a conversation with chambers in advance about the timing of the exam and how the judge wants you to handle this, including getting advanced permission for time off if you will be starting the clerkship before the exam dates.
What did firms do in 2008 with regards to the incoming associates?

The approach that many law firms took was to defer the start for the Class of 2009 and to contract the size of their summer classes going forward. The deferrals took different forms, but many were for up to a year with some funding, often with the graduate doing public service work during that time.

Given the different timing and nature of that situation, as well as lessons learned from that downturn, we expect to see some different responses this time around, focusing on bringing in the Class of 2020 as soon as it is possible to do so safely and practically. Some start dates are moving later or staying the same but with contingency planning for a possible remote start.