THE BAR EXAM IS COMING.

*EVEN IF IN THE FALL

You can do it!
**Bar Exam Dates**

- Texas: July 28-30, 2020

- New York (UBE), California and all UBE States: July 28-29, 2020
  - NY has a separate, state specific online course and online exam in addition to the two day UBE
    - Many states have this.
  - Application takes about 30 minutes; NY does character and fitness after the exam.
  - Check your jurisdiction’s rules to make sure that you are compliant.
Application Deadlines

Texas
- February 1 was on time
- Late deadline: April 1 ($150 late fee)
- Final Deadline: May 1 ($300 late fee)

New York
- April 1 – 30, 2020 (no provisions for late filing; however, due to July cancellation, this is all unclear right now)

California
- March 1-April 1 is on time
- Final Filing Deadline: June 1 ($250 late fee)

Other states:

Disability accommodations
Texas Bar Exam – 2.5 days

• Day One
  – 90 minute TX Civil and Criminal Procedure and Evidence (short answer)
  – 90 minute Multistate Performance Test (two MPTs on UBE)
    • Closed universe exam. Practice.

• Day Two
  – Multistate Bar Exam – two sessions, three hours each. All multiple choice. All jurisdictions except LA.
    • All 1L subjects (Con Law, Civ Pro, Contracts, Crim Law, Property and Torts) + Criminal Procedure and Evidence
    • 1.8 minutes per question

• Day Three
  – Twelve Texas Essays – two sessions, three hours each.
    • Each essay takes approximately 30 minutes.
    • Wills, BA, Family Law, UCC (Secured Credit, Comm Paper, Damages), Real Property (including Oil & Gas), Consumer Protection, Trusts/Guardianship
Uniform Bar Exam (UBE) 2 days

• Uniform Bar Exam
  – NY, NJ, MA, CO, WA, OR and 30 more
  – Day 1 - MBE
  – Day 2 - essays
    • 2 MPTs
    • Multistate Essay Exam (MEE)
      – Six 30-minute mixed subject essays
      – Not every subject appears every year.
      – 1L classes + BA, Conflict of Laws, Crim Pro, Evidence, Family Law, Real Property, Secured Transactions, Torts, & Trusts and Estates (Wills)
Other states

- California Bar Exam
  - Two days – Five 1 hour essays, one MPT, MBE
- All states, except Louisiana, give the MBE
Scoring

- **Texas**
  - Need 675 of 1000 to pass
    - MPT is 10%
    - Short answer is 10%
    - MBE is 40%
    - TX essays are 40%

- **UBE states**
  - MPT (2) is 20%
  - MEE is 30%
  - MBE is 50%
  - Cut scores for the UBE vary by state.
Let’s talk about the MBE.

• Beware older questions.
• PRACTICE.

Sample question*:
A young man suggested to his friend that they steal a large-screen TV from a neighbor’s house. The friend was angry with the young man and decided to use the opportunity to get even with him by having him arrested. The friend said he would help, and that night, he drove the young man to the neighbor’s house. The young man broke in while the friend remained outside. The friend called the police on his cell phone and then drove away. Police officers arrived at the scene just as the young man was carrying the TV out the back door.

The jurisdiction defines crimes as at common law.

Of what crime, if any, can the friend properly be convicted?

(A) No crime.
(B) Conspiracy.
(C) Burglary.
(D) Conspiracy and larceny.

*copyright NCBE
So what is my summer actually going to be like?*

• Typical bar course format
  – Time Spent
    • 33% lectures
    • 18% doing MC practice
    • 17% practice essays
    • 17% review notes/outlines

• What do you really have to do?
  – Simulated MBE midsummer: DO IT

• How long should I study?
  – Peak day is typically 8.5 hours
  – Less than 2-3 hours per day is the difference between passers and those unsuccessful
  – Weekends you take off (to begin). Still be you.

• Remember, you paid to do this.

*Statistics from BarBri
What to do NOW.

- Participate in Pre-Bar here at the law school
  - Next week, MBE. Final week, essay diagnostic.
- Buy your prep class
  - Funding available through employers, private loans.
  - Public interest focused students should ask for a discount.
  - Scholarships.
- Prepare your friends and family.
- Get everything in place for summer so you don’t have to worry about anything else.
  - Arrange for child care (if needed)
  - Decide where you will live/study
    - You should change it up in study spaces!
- Think carefully about toxic habits and/or people in your life.
  - Try to clean it up now.
Find your Fight Song.

- My favorites:
  - Lose Yourself (Eminem)
  - Survivor (Destiny’s Child)
  - Eye of the Tiger (Survivor)
  - Just a Test (Beastie Boys)
  - My Shot (Hamilton)
  - Whatever It Takes (Imagine Dragons)
  - Mama Said Knock You Out (LL Cool J)
  - Hustlin’ (Rick Ross)

More at:
https://open.spotify.com/playlist/7Hghcd3hnrg440w9LwEfVt (Attack the Bar Exam)
During Summer Prep

• Bar class will likely start after exams but before the Sunflower Ceremony (Themis and Kaplan do; BarBri likely).

• Do everything your bar prep company tells you to. SERIOUSLY.

• Start memorizing early.

• Give yourself work hours; be flexible.
  – Typical day includes lecture, review, practice essays, practice MBE

• Do questions under time restrictions; bar takers are often surprised by how quickly the time goes.

• Be a person.

• Stop by the law school for our bar study pizza lunches! HOPEFULLY.
Pass v. Fail

- Passers spent, on average, 433 hours studying.
- Those who failed spent 349 hours.
- Knowledge is power.
Passed

Passers did the following:
1. More time on lectures
2. Took mock MBE seriously
3. Spent much more time on MBE practice

Did not pass

This dip in read/review is a problem. This is the weekend before the exam.
Average Estimated Daily **TIME (IN HOURS)**
for **COMPLETED** Assignments by ‘Passed’ and ‘Did Not Pass’

**Difference (Passed to Did Not Pass)**
1 hour, 16 minutes a day
85 hours, 25 minutes for the course

Summer 2018
What about those supplemental courses?

• PMBR, Adaptibar, etc.
• Critical Pass flashcards
• Released questions from the NCBE (National Conference of Bar Examiners)
• Optional P&E session
Postponing the July Bar Exam

• As of today – three states
  – NY, MA, CT
• What about TX? NM?
• What do we do if our bar is postponed?*
  – Practically, we wait for instruction from the examiners.
  – Emotionally, we process. Not much else to do. BUT....
  – Don’t panic. It won’t help.
  – Remember that you’re not alone – 10,000 people take the bar in NY.
  – Don’t work contingency plans YET.
  – Look at that silver lining.
    • Everything is in upheaval mode. At least you don’t have to study for the bar on top of it.
• What about those widely published alternatives?

What about bar prep?

Finances?

• The three major bar prep companies plan to make their summer courses available as usual (April or May) and keep the course available through the Fall administration. Schedules will be adjusted.

• Bar loans

• Stimulus checks up to $1200 (as long as you filed taxes in 2018 or 2019 and are not a dependent on someone else’s). If you didn’t file taxes in those years, you can apply.

• If you’re working for a firm, you can ask for an advance to cover living expenses.
TEXAS LAW WILL BE WITH YOU EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.