**General Questions**

**What content will be tested by the remote bar examination?**

The content tested by the remote bar examination will be the same as the content of the Uniform Bar Examination (UBE). You should study the same topic areas that you would if you were preparing to take the UBE.

**What is the format of the remote bar examination?**

The remote bar examination will consist of four, 90-minute test sessions administered over two days, October 5th and 6th, 2020. On October 5th, one session will consist of one Multistate Performance Test (MPT) item; and the other session will consist of three Multistate Essay Examination (MEE) questions. The two other sessions, on October 6th, will each consist of 50 Multistate Bar Examination (MBE) questions.

**What is the schedule for the remote bar examination?**

- **The exam will be administered on Eastern Standard Time.**
  
  October 5: 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM - One MPT
  
  30-minute break
  
  2:00 PM – 3:30 PM - Three MEE
  
  October 6: 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM – MBE
  
  30-minute break
  
  2:00 PM – 3:30 PM - MBE

**What is the cut score? Will there be a regrade process?**

The cut score is 270. Any examinee whose total examination score after scaling falls within two points below the minimum passing score will be eligible for an automatic regrade. The Office of Bar Admissions is working with psychometrician for scoring and scaling for this exam. Scores will be reported on the same 400-point scale as used for a UBE score and the written component will be scaled to the MBE score. The Admissions Assessment components will be weighted as follows: MBE – 50%, MPT – 20%, and MEE – 30%.

**Is the remote bar examination being administered on Oct. 5th and 6th, 2020 a Uniform Bar Examination (UBE)?**

Although this remote bar examination is comprised of testing materials provided by the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE) and tests the same substantive content as the Uniform Bar Exam (UBE), it is not a full UBE and does not render a portable UBE score.

**Is the remote bar examination score portable?**

The remote exam does not render a portal UBE score. Ohio has entered into Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with other jurisdictions who are administering the same remote examination. You will have to earn a score on the October exam that meets or exceeds the other jurisdiction’s passing score to be considered for reciprocity. At this time, Ohio has entered into a MOU with the following jurisdictions: Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Oregon, Tennessee, Vermont, and Washington D.C.
How does reciprocity work?

Within five days of the release of results for the remotely-administered exam for admission, the Board of Bar Examiners will provide the exam results for all examinees to each of the jurisdictions with which agreements for reciprocity were reached. Ohio examinees may opt out of having their results shared with other jurisdictions by completing the Opt-Out Form and submitting it by October 9, 2020. Please note that by completing and submitting the opt-out form, examinees are opting out of the transfer of exam results to all reciprocal jurisdictions. Your score will either be sent to all reciprocal jurisdictions or will not be sent to any jurisdictions if you opt out.

Does the administration of a remote bar examination have any impact on the character and fitness process?

No. Character and fitness will not be impacted by the administration of a remote bar examination. Examinees must still receive final character and fitness approval by the Board of Commissioners on Character and Fitness.

I have already submitted my examination application and paid the application fee. Will I receive a refund for the MPT items?

Yes, all applicants that submitted $358 will receive a refund for the $28 MPT items. Please allow up to 30 days for processing.

I am registered to take the September 2020 bar examination and I want to sit for the remote October 2020 exam. What do I need to do?

All applicants for the September 2020, who have not already withdrawn from the September exam, will automatically be rolled over to the remote October 2020 exam.

I already submitted my September 2020 bar examination application and paid the application fee, but I do not want to take the October 2020 remote bar examination. What do I do?

If you already submitted your September 2020 bar examination application and paid the application fee, but you do not want to take the October 2020 remote bar examination, you may do one of the following:

- Submit a request to withdraw your application to baradmissions@sc.ohio.gov. You will receive a refund for your application fee.
- Submit a request to transfer your examination application to the February 2021 examination. Please include your name, date, NCBE #, and reason for application transfer. Although you will receive a refund for the MPT item, you must submit payment for the UBE components as outline in Gov. Bar R. I, Sec. 3(B)(5).

Please note this decision must be made by September 28, 2020. If you do not submit a request by this date and do not sit for the remote exam, no refund will be issued and you will not be permitted to transfer your application the February 2021, although you will be able to submit a new application for the February 2021 exam.

Can I sit for the UBE in another jurisdiction and also take the remote October 2020 examination?

Candidates are permitted to sit for only one bar exam of those administered in July, September, or October 2020. The Office of Bar Admissions will cross check examinee rosters from bar exams administered in other jurisdictions. Candidates found to have taken a bar exam in another jurisdiction will not be permitted to sit for the remote exam.
I have already requested to withdraw my application for the September 2020 bar examination. Can I register for the October 2020 remote bar examination?

Yes, if you withdrew from the September 2020 exam and now wish to sit for the October 2020 remote bar examination, you will need to submit a signed letter stating so. We ask that you contact the Office of Bar Admissions to discuss this option prior to submitting your request. You will be required to re-submit the $330 examination fee only, not the $28 MPT items fee.

I have not yet submitted an application for the September 2020 examination. I would like to apply for the October 2020 remote exam.

The Court has determined that the Office of Bar Admissions will not accept any further applications for the remote exam.

Is the Ohio Law Component (OLC) included as part of the remote exam?

No, examinees are not permitted to take the OLC until after the administration of the remote October exam. You will receive an email notice from the Office of Bar Admissions after the exam with information on accessing the OLC. Applicants who are being admitted via reciprocity agreement will be required to take the OLC. Upon receipt of the application for reciprocity of an October 2020 remote score, applicants will receive an email notice from the Office of Bar Admissions.

How will temporary PPA be affected?

If an applicant who has received a certificate for PPA decides to transfer their bar examination application to the February 2021 examination, their PPA certificate will remain in effect until the results of that exam are released (or upon any of the other terminating events outlined in the May 14, 2020 Order). If at any time a PPA applicant withdraws from the October 2020 or February 2021 examination, their PPA certificate will expire.

Exam Administration Questions

What are the minimum system requirements?

Minimum-System-Requirements-Windows
Minimum-System-Requirements-Mac-OS

What are the computer requirements?

All applicants taking the October 2020 remote bar examination must meet the following computer requirements:

- Register with ExamSoft (instructions will be provided at a later date for those planning to take the remote bar examination),
- Have a computer with webcam and microphone to take the examination. This will be used for remote proctoring during each testing session.
- The location must have Wi-Fi access to begin the exam and at the close of the exam,
- Download the remote examination software to your computer (instructions will be provided at a later date), and
- Conduct a test of the new software.
The Office of Bar Admissions is working with ExamSoft and more information regarding the security and technology for taking the remote examination will be forthcoming.

What will the examinees be able to do within the exam software?

All examinees will be required to complete a mock exam prior to the October administration.

Examinees will be able to:

- Cut and paste or drag and drop text within their response.
- View the question and their response at the same time. For the MPT, examinees will be able to open the MPT library attachments and view both the attachment and the exam response on the screen.
- Highlight within the questions.
- Use virtual scratch paper to outline their responses

Examinees will not be able to:

- Cut and paste or drag and drop text from the question to their response.
- Use more than one monitor.
- Underline or cross out within the questions or the MPT materials.
- Use scratch paper, notes, or any other physical reference materials. Examinees determined to have used paper scratch or note paper at any time during the exam will be investigated for cheating, resulting in a potential negative impact on character and fitness for admission.

What testing conditions will be required?

Examinees will need a quiet, private testing location. Examinees will also need to remain in front of their computer screen with your face fully visible to the camera at all times.

I have been granted accommodations for the September 2020 examination. How will the remote October 2020 exam affect my accommodations?

There is no need to reapply for accommodations. The specific logistics regarding how you will take the exam will be communicated to you on an individual basis by the Office of Bar Admissions.

I am in need of a special arrangement in order to take the remote examination. What do I need to do?

You must complete and submit the [Special Arrangement Request form](mailto:baradmissions@sc.ohio.gov) by August 14, 2020. You may email the form to baradmissions@sc.ohio.gov.

How does remote proctoring work?

Examinees must remain at their computer, with their face visible to their webcam, for the entirety of each 90-minute test session. When you submit your exam responses, this video is analyzed by ExamSoft’s artificial intelligence (AI) program that will flag any unusual behaviors, movements, or audio. All flagged footage is then reviewed by at least one human proctor to determine whether further analysis as to potential cheating is necessary. For example, a dog barking in the background may be initially flagged by AI, but cleared upon review. These proctors reviewing exam footage will not have access to any personally-identifying information for examinees; all exam materials, including exam footage, are connected only to an examinee ID number.
Post Examination Questions

When will results be available?
The Board of Bar Examiners expects to release results by early December, 2020.

Will there be an in-person Admissions Ceremony?
Due to the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, this has not yet been determined. The Office of Bar Admissions will update this information when it is available.

Additional FAQ’s will be supplemented and are subject to revision.