BAR EXAMS SCHEDULED FOR THE JULY 28-29, 2020 and SEPTEMBER 9-10, 2020

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
(Updated and Revised 8/4/2020)

ADMISSION TEAM
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The Washington State Bar Association understands the significant impact that COVID-19 is having on the Summer Bar Exam applicants. The WSBA is working diligently to provide a safe and appropriate testing setting for every applicant. The purpose of this document is to provide additional guidance and to address issues related to the test administration. Details regarding exam day security procedures and policies will be provided as they are finalized. We will post any additional information as soon as it is available. We greatly appreciate your patience during this time.

Applicants will be required to sign a certification and answer questions about their current and recent health and exposure to COVID-19, in compliance with health guideline standards and directions at the exam, and to comply with administration requirements during exam administration, in order to help Admissions staff in trying to ensure safe and appropriate exam administrations. We will provide applicants with the certification soon; check back to your online application dashboard for more information.

1. **Will the deadline to register for the exam be extended for those who want to sit for the September 9-10, 2020 exam?** No. The Washington Supreme Court’s letter to the WSBA indicates that only applicants who applied for the July 2020 exam under existing deadlines are permitted to take the July or September bar exams. In addition, one of the reasons to administer a September bar exam is to create a smaller group of applicants that may allow for a safer exam environment.

2. **I registered to take the UBE in another state, but that UBE was cancelled or postponed, can I apply to take the July or September exam in Washington?** No, the deadlines have passed in Washington. However, you may want to contact other UBE jurisdictions who may have extended their application deadlines. Please visit [NCBEX.org](https://www.ncbex.org) for contact information for other jurisdictions.

3. **Will there be multiple venues for the July and September exams?** Yes. The July and September exams will be administered in both the Seattle/Tacoma/Everett area and the Spokane areas. For July, the exams will be administered in multiple rooms in the Greater Tacoma Convention Center, in Tacoma, and in multiple rooms in the Gonzaga Law School, in Spokane. For September, the Admissions team is continuing to work on contracting with venues and facilities and determining exam room layout and seating for all applicants, in order to provide safe and appropriate testing for every applicant.

4. **When will I know which venue I'll be at?** If you are taking the July exam, you have been assigned to a specific exam-testing location and given an arrival time and either a floor and seat number or a room and seat number. Please check your online dashboard for your personal information. Applicants taking the September exam will be assigned to a specific exam-testing venue as soon as we can get that accomplished. Admissions is continuing to work on contracting with venues and facilities, determining exam room layout and seating for all applicants taking the September exam, and we will notify you of your specific exam-testing venue, through your online dashboard, when the information is available.

5. **Will I be able to pick the specific exam-testing venue where I will sit for the exam?** No, the WSBA staff will assign you to a specific venue, based on venue locations and safe capacities.

6. **Will my refund include late fees if I paid them?** The deadline for receiving a full or partial refund has passed. Please contact Admissions staff if you need or want to withdraw, and to request a partial refund or other
options if an emergency, including one related to COVID infection or exposure close to the exam date, requires that you withdraw from the exam.

7. **Will the deadline to withdraw change for the September exam?** Yes, it did change, but the later deadline now has also passed. Please contact Admissions staff if you need or want to withdraw, and to request a partial refund or other options if an emergency, including one related COVID infection or exposure close to the exam date, requires that you withdraw from the exam.

8. **Can I sit for both the July and September exam?** No. The purpose of administering two exams is to allow WSBA Admissions to limit seating in each exam in order to assist with health guideline compliance. NOTE: Applicants who are unsuccessful on the July 2020 exam are not permitted to apply for the September exam.

9. **When will I receive approval to sit for the July and September examination?** You should have received an email reflecting your permission to sit. July exam takers should have received your personal seating card by separate email. Applicants registered for the September exam will receive their seating cards approximately one week prior to the exam. If you are registered for the July exam and you have not received these, please contact Admissions staff as soon as possible.

10. **If I have COVID-19 or am advised that I have been exposed to COVID-19 and am required to self-isolate during the dates of the examination I signed up for, will I be able to carry-over to the next examination?** Yes. Any applicant who has been exposed to COVID-19 and is currently required to self-isolate at the time of the exam administration may be permitted to transfer to the September exam administration and will be permitted to carry over their application to the February 2021 exam. All requests require supporting medical documentation.

11. **Will the July exam and the September exam be the same?** No. The NCBE will produce separate exams for each exam administration. Each examination will be separately scaled and equated by the NCBE in the same way as every other administration of the UBE.

12. **I applied for testing accommodations for the July 2020 exam. Do I need to submit a new request for testing accommodations if I am now assigned to the September 2020 exam?** No. Your exam accommodations request will carry over; however, July exam takers who requested exam accommodations will be reviewed first, followed by September exam takers.

13. **Can I take my medication into the exam room?** You may make a special request for medication up to 18 days prior to the first day of the exam. All requests must be supported (if applicable) by a doctor’s note.

14. **What safety measures will the WSBA implement for the July 2020 exam?** The WSBA has submitted a detailed health and safety plan to local and state health officials, which has been approved. If you are registered for the July exam, you should have received detailed information about the requirements imposed on you, as an examinee, and details about the specific plan in place at your testing site are being provided. Also, a May 13, 2020 letter from the Supreme Court identified specific health and safety requirements that could be in place for the exams. All applicants will be required to complete an Examinee Certification on their online account prior to arriving at the exam-testing venue.

More specific guidelines will be provided to all applicants taking the September exam as we get closer to the exam date. Be sure to check your online application dashboard frequently to stay informed as we move toward the exam dates.
15. **What measures can applicants take to further mitigate their risk of exposure to COVID-19 while taking the exam?** Applicants should assume significant personal responsibility for help to mitigate everyone’s risk while taking the exam, during the exam administration, and in general in the days leading up to the exam and in between testing days.

Please, for your own safety and the safety of others – Do not show up at the exam testing site if you are experiencing symptoms related to Covid19, or if you have been diagnosed with or exposed to someone who has been diagnosed with Covid19 within the 14 days prior to the exam; in this situation, please contact the Admissions staff as soon as possible to discuss your options.

At and during the exam, maintain a safe distance from others (at least six feet) and wear a proper facemask while at the exam testing venue, wash hands *often* with soap and water for at least 20 seconds at a time or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if you are not able to wash your hands, and avoid touching your nose, eyes, mouth and face.

16. **Will water, coffee, or food be provided at the exam sites?** No. We will not provide coffee, water, or food for applicants at any exam testing venues. You will, however, be able to bring clear water bottles and personal thermoses with no writing, labels or stickers on them (which you can access during the exam), and lunch (to be eaten *only* during the lunch break), into the testing rooms with you.

17. **If I take the July or September 2020 bar exam, will I have to wear a mask?** Yes, unless you are unable to wear a mask for medical or health reasons that are documented to and reviewed by Admissions staff 18 days before the exam dates. The Washington State Department of Health and the [Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)](https://www.cdc.gov) require that people wear cloth face coverings when they are in public settings. Your mask should cover your mouth and nose and ensure there are no gaps between your face and the mask. Homemade masks or bandanas are permitted.

18. **What if I do not have a mask?** All applicants are responsible to bring a mask. It is the applicant’s duty to obtain at least one facemask (you may want to have more than one) that meets the [Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)](https://www.cdc.gov) and [Washington State Department of Health](https://www.doh.wa.gov) guidelines. Failure to wear a proper mask will be grounds to exclude applicants or remove applicants from the exam site.

19. **If I must travel from out of state to take the July bar exam and I cannot make it because of travel restrictions, will my application be transferred to the September exam?** No. Restrictions on travel because of COVID-19 would be a basis to carry over your application to the February 2021 exam. Please make your plans accordingly.

20. **When will I need to pay for ILG Exam360?** If you are taking the exam in September, the deadline to pay for Exam360 is 8/24/2020. If you are taking the exam in September, you will receive instructions for payment on August 7, 2020; check your online admissions dashboard in August for instructions about payment.

21. **When will exam results be released?** Results for the July exam will be released on September 11, 2020. The results for the September exam will be released on October 16, 2020.

22. **Will I have a separate deadline to apply for the February 2021 exam if I fail the July or September exam?** Yes. You will have until November 5, 2020 to apply for the Winter 2021 exam.