

UBE/NYLE/MPRE Frequently Asked Questions
CUNY School of Law
Spring 2016

Q: When is the bar exam administered?

A: The last Tuesday and Wednesday of February and July. <http://www.nybarexam.org/>

Q: What is the composition of the NY Bar Examination?

A: As of July 2016 the NY Bar Exam will be composed of the **Uniform Bar Exam (UBE)** and the **New York Law Exam (NYLE)**. Candidates need to achieve a passing score on each of these exams in order to be certified for admission. In addition, unchanged is the requirement that candidates for admission to the bar pass the Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam (MPRE), administered on separate dates (see below).

Q: What is the Uniform Bar Exam (UBE)?

A: It is a uniformly administered bar examination that results in a PORTABLE SCORE that can be transferred to other UBE jurisdictions. It will be graded in NY.

Q: What does it mean to say that UBE scores are transferrable?

A: Right now, 17 states accept the UBE. It is expected that this number will increase in the near future. Jurisdictions vary on the time limit for accepting transferred scores. The variation right now is two years to five years. The passing score in NY will be 266. Passing scores in other states vary from 260 to 280.

Q: Who prepares the UBE?

A: The UBE is prepared and coordinated by the National Conference of Bar Examiners.
<http://www.ncbex.org>

Q: What are the components of the UBE and how are they weighted?

A: It is composed of the Multistate Essay Exam (MEE), two Multistate Performance Tests (MPT) tasks, and the Multistate Bar Exam (MBE). The MBE will be weighted 50%, the MEE 30%, and the MPT 20%.

Q: What is the MBE?

A: The MBE consists of 200 multiple-choice questions. According to the NCBE, "The purpose of the MBE is to assess the extent to which an examinee can apply fundamental legal principles and legal reasoning to analyze given fact patterns."

Q: What is the MEE?

A: The MEE includes six 30-minute essay questions testing a candidate's ability to apply rules of law to fact scenarios and reach a conclusion. They are to be answered using general principles of law.

Q: What are the two MPTs?

A: Each of the two MPTs is a 90-minute simulated client exercise in which students are given a case file, and a library of cases and statutes. Students are instructed to complete a task, which is usually to draft a memo, brief, or letter to a supervisor or client. According to the NCBE, “The MPT is designed to test an examinee’s ability to use fundamental lawyering skills in a realistic situation. Each test evaluates an examinee’s ability to complete a task that a beginning lawyer should be able to accomplish.”

Q: What will NY require as a passing score on the UBE?

A: New York will require a score of 266 out of 400 to pass the UBE

Q: What is the New York Law Exam (NYLE)?

A: The NYLE is a 50 item, two-hour multiple-choice test to be administered online four times per year. It will be written by the New York Board of Law Examiners (BOLE). Applicants will be required to complete a web course prior to sitting for the exam. The web course is projected to take 12-15 hours to complete.

Q: What will the NYLE Test?

A: It will test NY distinctions and important NY rules (see information about content below).

Q: What will be a passing score on the NYLE?

A: A passing score on the NYLE would be 30 out of 50 questions (60%).

Q: What if I pass the UBE but do not pass the NYLE, or vice versa?

A: A candidate who fails the NYLE but passes the UBE could re-take the NYLE. A candidate who passes the NYLE but fails the UBE would only need to retake the UBE. A candidate who fails both the UBE and the NYLE would re-take the NYLE with the next administration of the UBE.

Q: How are the days of the bar exam divided up?

A: The bar exam is administered over 2 days, with a morning and afternoon session each day.

- Day 1: 6 hours
 - Morning: 3 hours
 - Two MPTs, each 90 minutes
 - Afternoon: 3 Hours
 - MEE – six 30 minute essays
- Day 2: 6 hours
 - Morning: 3 Hours
 - 100 MBE questions, 3 hours
 - Afternoon: 3 Hours
 - 100 MBE questions, 3 hours

Q: What does the bar exam test?

A: The UBE will test the following:

- MBE subjects
 - Constitutional Law
 - Contracts/Sales
 - Criminal Law/Criminal Procedure
 - Evidence
 - Federal Civil Procedure
 - Real Property
 - Torts
- The MEE portion of the UBE will test the above plus additional subjects
 - Business Associations
 - Conflict of Laws
 - Constitutional Law
 - Contracts
 - Criminal Law & Procedure
 - Evidence
 - Family Law
 - Federal Civil Procedure
 - Real Property
 - Torts
 - Trusts & Estates
 - UCC Articles 2 & 9

The NYLE will test

- Administrative Law
- Business Relationships, including Corporations, LLCs, Partnerships
- NY Civil Practice and Procedure
- Conflict of laws
- Contracts and Contract Remedies
- Criminal Law and Procedure
- Evidence
- Matrimonial and Family Law
- Professional Responsibility
- Real Property
- Torts and Tort Damages
- Trusts, Wills, and Estates

Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination

Q: What is the MPRE?

A: The MPRE is a 60-question, two-hour-and-five-minute, multiple-choice examination. There are 50 scored and 10 non-scored pretest questions.

Q: What does the MPRE Cover?

A: The MPRE is based on the law governing the conduct of lawyers, including the disciplinary rules of professional conduct currently articulated in the American Bar Association (ABA) Model Rules of Professional Conduct (MRPC) and the ABA Model Code of Judicial Conduct (CJC), as well as controlling constitutional decisions and generally accepted principles established in leading federal and state cases and in procedural and evidentiary rules.

Q: What is a passing score on the MPRE?

A: NY requires a score of 85 to pass the MPRE.

Q: When is the MPRE administered?

A: The MPRE is administered in March, August, and November. We recommend that students take the exam in August, when they are not in the middle of classes. Preferably, we would advise students to take the exam the summer after their first year of law school. This gives them the opportunity to try out bar prep companies early on.