

NEWS RELEASE

Arizona Supreme Court
Administrative Office of the Courts



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July 1, 2020

Arizona Supreme Court Announces Bar Exam Options

PHOENIX – After considering numerous options, the Arizona Supreme Court has decided to offer bar exam applicants several choices for achieving exam-based certification to practice law in Arizona. Demonstrating competency through an examination is one step the Court requires for applicants to provide quality legal services to Arizonans. The Court has expanded the time and resources available to help both law graduates and those who receive legal services during these challenging times. Personal choice and community safety are maintained by the options the Court announces today.

Applicants who have registered for the July 28 and 29 exam may attend the in-person exam as scheduled. The exam space is designed to comply with current health protocols to protect against the spread of the coronavirus, including one test taker per six-foot table, mask requirements, and health screening. No new applications are being accepted for the July in-person exam and no further action is needed by those who intend to take the in-person exam in July.

Applicants who are registered for the July in-person exam and those who requested a refund or who transferred their July application to the February 2021 in-person exam, may choose to take an online-only exam on October 5 and 6, 2020 instead. The results of that test from the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE) **will only be valid for practicing in Arizona.** Applicants who achieve a passing score on July's in-person uniform bar exam (UBE) will be eligible to transfer those scores to other jurisdictions that accept the UBE score. The October test score will not transfer. However, applicants who sit for the October NCBE exam may choose to sit for a UBE exam in the future to achieve a score that can be transferred to other jurisdictions that accept the UBE score.

Applicants registered for the July exam may choose the July or October testing options, but may not sit for both. Individuals who want to transfer their July application to the October

online-only NCBE exam must do so by 5:00 pm on Friday, July 10, 2020. In addition, individuals who did not apply for the July exam may apply for the October online-only exam. New applications for the October online-only exam will be accepted starting August 3, 2020 and must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 7, 2020.

Applicants registered for the July in-person exam who do not transfer their registration before the deadline will remain registered for the July in-person exam. Additionally, applicants may transfer their July in-person registration to the February in-person exam at no additional cost by completing the Attorney Admissions department's requirements.

July's in-person bar exam will be as safe an environment as it can be and promotes social distancing and safety protocols that are not available in most places of public accommodation. An in-person exam option in July or an online exam option in October are available. Individual test takers must exercise their personal choice based on the available options.

If the July bar exam is cancelled for reasons outside the Court's control, it will not be rescheduled, and registered applicants will be contacted by email with further information, including an option to take the online-only exam in October. The October online examination will continue as scheduled. The in-person bar exam scheduled for February 23 and 24, 2021 is subject to change, depending on the circumstances at the time. The Court will provide updated information as that date draws nearer.

For more information, including details on the online-only option in October, see the Attorney Admissions website at <https://www.azcourts.gov/cld/Attorney-Admissions>. Graduates who work under the supervision of a licensed attorney may continue doing so under Arizona Supreme Court [Administrative Order 2020-80](#).

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