

Foreign Attorneys FAQ's

- [1. I have my law degree in a foreign jurisdiction and am graduating from an LLM program at a law school approved by the American Bar Association. What do I need to do to sit for the next exam?](#)
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1. I have my law degree in a foreign jurisdiction and am graduating from an LLM program. What do I need to do to sit for the next exam?

Prior to applying for admission to the Massachusetts bar, foreign educated attorneys are required by Board of Bar Examiners (BBE) [Rule VI](#) to obtain an educational sufficiency determination from the Board of Bar Examiners. This process is initiated by the foreign educated attorney's submission of **all** documentation required by BBE Rule VI.2 to the BBE.

Once **all** documentation required by Rule VI.2 has been submitted, the BBE will investigate and evaluate the educational background of the foreign educated attorney and will inform the attorney of what, if any, additional requirements must be met for that attorney to receive a determination of educational sufficiency.

It is strongly recommended that foreign educated attorneys carefully review all of BBE Rule VI to familiarize themselves with the requirements for admission prior to submitting any documentation to the BBE.

2. How long will it take for the Board to determine sufficiency?

The review and evaluation of educational sufficiency is initiated only after all documentation required by BBE Rule VI.2 is received and, once initiated, takes up to four (4) months to complete. In order to sit for the next scheduled exam, all documentation required by BBE Rule VI.2 must be received by the BBE at least four (4) months prior to the application deadline for that exam.

3. I have not received all my documents from my university, can I send in what I have for review?

The review and evaluation of educational sufficiency is initiated only after all documentation required by BBE Rule VI.2 is received.

4. I have an official transcript but it is open. Is this acceptable?

The official transcript from the school can be open and attached to the documentation.

5. My school does not have a course description in the transcript, what should I provide?

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Any documentation produced by the school that describes the content and subject matter covered by each course, such as a course catalogue, syllabus, or other description produced by the school, is acceptable.

6. My request for educational sufficiency has been denied. Will the BBE return my documentation?

As stated in [Rule VI. Foreign Law School Graduates](#) , documentation will not be returned to the foreign educated attorney.