

**MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF BAR EXAMINERS**  
**INFORMATION FOR BAR EXAM PETITIONERS**

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The Massachusetts Board of Bar Examiners administers the [Uniform Bar Examination \(UBE\)](#). The UBE is a uniformly administered, graded, and scored bar examination prepared by the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE), which results in a portable score that may be transferred to other UBE jurisdictions. The Massachusetts UBE passing score is 270. UBE scores earned in another jurisdiction may be transferred for admission in Massachusetts within 36 months of sitting for the exam.

The UBE consists of three components - the [Multistate Essay Examination \(MEE\)](#), [Multistate Performance Test \(MPT\)](#) and the [Multistate Bar Examination \(MBE\)](#). To obtain a UBE score that is transferrable for purposes of applying for bar admission in other UBE jurisdictions, petitioners are required to sit for all three components of the UBE (MPT, MEE, MBE) in one jurisdiction. The UBE is administered over two days on the last consecutive Tuesday and Wednesday of February and July. The MPT and MEE are administered on Tuesday and the MBE is administered on Wednesday.

Petitioners seeking admission in Massachusetts are also required to complete the [Massachusetts Law Component](#). The [Massachusetts Law Component](#) is an untimed, online, open-book, multiple-choice test covering the essential highlights and key distinctions of Massachusetts law and procedure, based on written materials provided online. All persons seeking admission to the Massachusetts bar are **required** to certify their successful completion of the **Massachusetts Law Component** Examination to the Board of Bar Examiners.

**UBE Grading Information**

The **Multistate Bar Exam (MBE)** contains two-hundred (200) multiple choice questions. Scores are based on the number of questions answered correctly. The total number of correct answers, adjusted statistically to account for variations in question difficulty in relation to previous MBE examinations, is an examinee's **MBE Scaled Score**. The MBE is weighted 50% in calculating the UBE Total Score. NCBE scores the MBE component.

The **Multistate Essay Examination (MEE)** contains six (6) questions and each question is graded on a scale of 1-7 points. The **Multistate Performance Test (MPT)** contains two (2) items and each item is graded on a scale of 1-7 points. The written-component scores (MEE and MPT) are scaled to the MBE. The MEE is weighted 30% and the MPT is weighted 20% in calculating the UBE Total Score. Massachusetts Bar Exam Graders grade the MEEs and MPTs.

NCBE performs scaling and combining of scores for all UBE jurisdictions to ensure consistency in how scores are calculated. The written-component (MEE and MPT) and MBE scaled scores are rounded to one decimal. The Written Scaled Score and the MBE Scaled Score are combined to calculate the UBE Total Score. UBE Total Scores are rounded to a whole number and are reported on a 400-point scale.

## Passing Score

A UBE Total Score of 270 or greater is the passing score on the Massachusetts bar examination.

## Examination Rereads

Before the results of the bar examination become final, the MEEs and MPTs of every examinee who achieved a **UBE Total Score of at least 265 but less than 270 will be re-read**. The final raw score for MEEs and the MPTs will be the average of the scores of the two readings. The resulting average after the re-read could be higher or lower than the original score. **No additional re-reads are permitted.**

## Amending your Petition for Bar Admission

Board of Bar Examiners Rule V.1.2 establishes a continuing duty to disclose promptly changes and updates to information provided on the petition for bar admission. This obligation remains in effect until the administration of the Oath of Attorney. Please call the Board of Bar Examiners office at (617) 482-4466 if you have questions regarding this requirement.

## Postal and Email Address Changes

Change of address forms are available at <https://www.mass.gov/bbe> and should be submitted to the Office of the Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County. Address changes, including an email address change, must be received by the Clerk's Office by the second week of September for the July examination, and by the second week of March for the February examination, in order to ensure proper and timely delivery of emailed examination results.

## Receiving your Exam Results

Bar exam results will be emailed to the email address of record submitted by the petitioner to the Office of the Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County. Exam results will not be provided by letter, telephone, or in person. While there is no predetermined date for release of bar examination results, as a general rule results will be delivered via email in April and October, respectively, for the preceding February and July exams. Examinees that have passed the written portion of the examination will be listed on the webpage of the Massachusetts Judicial Branch and the Board of Bar Examiners no later than **three days** after individual bar exam results have been emailed.

## Transferring Your Uniform Bar Exam (UBE) Score

The National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE) performs [UBE score services](#) for all UBE jurisdictions. All requests to have UBE scores sent to another jurisdiction should be submitted to NCBE. Please note that the Massachusetts Board of Bar Examiners **will not** transfer a UBE score to another jurisdiction.