INFORMATION FOR SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

OCTOBER 2023 FIRST-YEAR LAW STUDENTS’ EXAMINATION

Congratulations! The Committee of Bar Examiners is pleased to inform you that you passed the October 2023 First-Year Law Students' Exam.

The October 2023 First-Year Law Students’ Exam consisted of four essay questions and 100 multiple-choice questions testing Contracts, Criminal Law, and Torts. To pass the exam after one reading, an applicant must achieve a total scaled score of 560 or above. If the total scaled score is at least 540 but less than 560, the applicants’ answers are sent to reappraisal, where a member of the Exam Development and Grading Team reviews the entire exam and determines whether, taken as a whole, it merits a pass or fail. Because only a pass/fail decision is made in reappraisal, the scores reported to applicants whose exams were reappraised are the scores achieved after the initial reading.

Eligibility to take the General Bar Exam depends upon the completion of the educational requirements as set forth in Title 4, Division 1 of the Rules of the State Bar of California (Admissions Rules). You will be entitled to either one year or up to two years of law study credit depending on when you passed the exam and when you first qualified to take it. Please refer to the Admissions Rules as to the amount of law study credit granted toward eventually qualifying to take the General Bar Exam and how much more must be completed.

Essay Answers: Applicants’ essay answer files are posted to the Applicant Portal for four weeks (until January 5, 2024). Please print/save copies for your records.

Multiple-Choice Answers: You may inspect the multiple-choice portion of the exam, in a proctored situation, at the Office of Admissions - San Francisco or Los Angeles. One and a half hour appointments may be scheduled at 10:30 a.m. or at 1:30 p.m., December 18 through January 26, 2024. Appointments must be made in advance and will be made on a first-come, first-served basis. You are limited to a single appointment and note taking is not permitted. To make an appointment, please email the Office of Admissions at Admissions@calbar.ca.gov and a staff member will contact you to set an appointment. Please, specify which of the two State Bar offices you plan to visit, San Francisco or Los Angeles.

Credit for Law Study After Passing the First-Year Law Students’ Exam: An applicant who passes the exam within three consecutive administrations of first becoming eligible to take the exam, will receive credit for all law study completed to the date of the administration of the exam passed, subject to any restrictions otherwise covered by the Admission Rules. An applicant who does not pass the exam within three consecutive administrations of first becoming eligible to take the exam, but who subsequently passes the exam, will receive credit for their first year of law study only. If any of the first three administrations of
the First-Year Law Students’ Exam includes the June 2020 administration, that exam shall not be counted towards the requirements above.