

Bar Information Session

Office of Registration Services



Columbia
Law School

TYPICAL BAR APPLICATION COMPONENTS/REQUIREMENTS

Bar Exam
Application

Certificate of
Attendance

Moral Character
and Fitness

Multistate
Professional
Responsibility
Exam (MPRE)

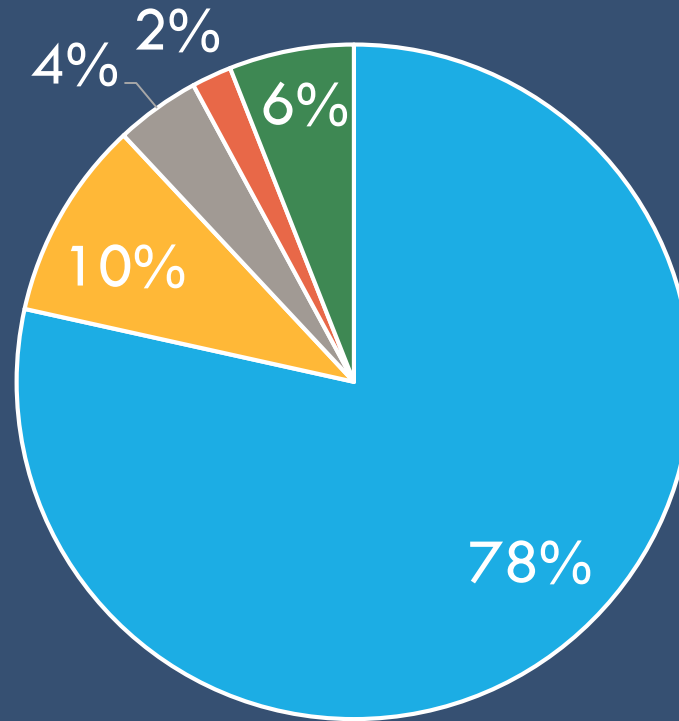
Official Transcripts

Fingerprinting

Handwriting
Sample

ADA Testing
Accommodations

2019 JD BAR EXAM CERTIFICATION



■ New York ■ California ■ District of Columbia ■ Massachusetts ■ Other*

*13 States

BAR EXAM APPLICATION DEADLINES JULY 2020

NY

- Opens: April 1
- Filing Deadline: April 30
- [Online application](#)

CA

- Opens: March 1
- Filing Deadline: April 1
- [Online application](#)

D.C.

- Opens: April
- Filing Deadline: Typically first week in May
- [Online application](#)

MA

- Opens: March
- Filing Deadline: Typically first Friday in May
- [Paper application](#)

UNIFORM BAR EXAMINATION (UBE)

- Over 30 States have adopted the UBE
- Minimum passing scores vary by State
- Jurisdiction-specific component may be required for admission

NY

- 266
- [NYLC](#)
- [NYLE](#)

D.C.

- 266

MA

- 270
- [MLC](#)

MULTISTATE PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY EXAM (MPRE)

75

Minimum Passing Scores Varies By Jurisdiction

86

NY

85

CA

86

D.C.

75

MA*

85

*Applicants must achieve a passing score on the MPRE before they may sit for the bar in Massachusetts.

MULTISTATE PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY EXAM (MPRE)

Changes beginning 2020

- Administered 3 times a year (March, August & November)
- Administered on two weekdays per administration
- Computer-based exam at Pearson VUE testing centers
- New Accommodations Process

2020 registration process and test day policies will be posted **in late November**

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

AKA Character & Fitness Application



APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

AKA Character & Fitness Application

NY

Paper Application

Start compiling your documents as early as your 1L summer employment

- Provide Affidavits of all law-related employment:
 - Summer Associate Employment
 - RA & TA Support for Faculty here at CLS
 - Externships & Clinics
 - Paid and Unpaid Internships

- Provide Affidavits for each pro bono project that satisfies the 50-hour requirement
- (2) original good moral character affirmations

Mail complete packet to appropriate Appellate Division

- Submit to Registration Services for certification*:
 - Skills Form Affidavit
 - Form Law School Certificate

*Documents will be mailed directly to Appellate Division

CA

Online Application

Start any time after registering as a law student but no later than the beginning of your last year of law study

D.C.

NCBE provides Character & Fitness services

Create an account to review application and deadlines

MA

Paper Application

Review application as early as your 3L year

July 2020 application available beginning early March

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

AKA Character & Fitness Application

Interactions with Law Enforcement

Have you ever, either as an adult or a juvenile....

- Been cited,
- Ticketed,
- Arrested,
- Taken into custody,
- Charged with,
- Indicted,
- Convicted or tried for,
- Or pleaded guilty to,

the commission of any felony or misdemeanor or the violation of any law, or been the subject of any juvenile delinquency or youthful offender proceeding?

- Traffic violations that occurred in the past 10 years
- Any alcohol or drug-related traffic violations

Need to amend your Law
School application?

Email: [Dean Yadira Ramos-Herbert](mailto:Dean.Yadira.Ramos-Herbert)

- Explain the incident
- Include dates
- Statement why it was omitted
- Attach supporting documentation

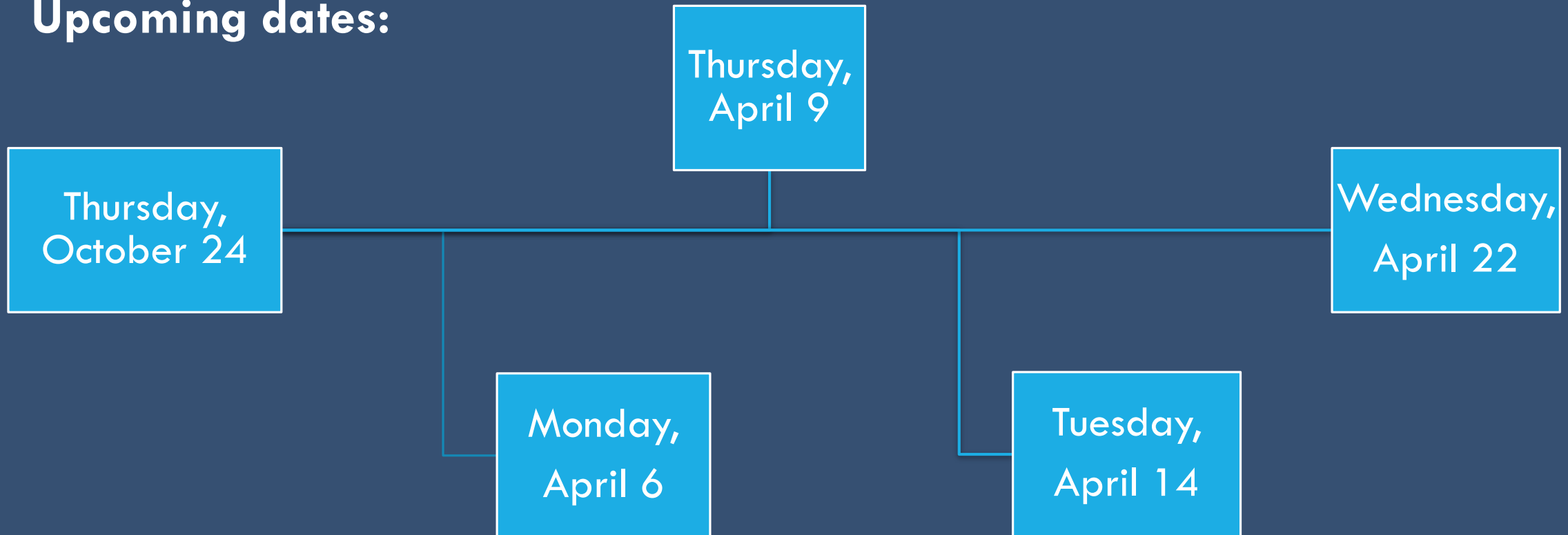
CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE (PROOF OF ELIGIBILITY)



HANDWRITING SAMPLES

Registration Services is authorized to certify handwriting samples for bar applications that have this requirement (e.g., New York State).

Upcoming dates:



OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS

- Registration Services is authorized to forward an official copy of your Columbia University transcript to the various state bar organizations.
- You do not need to make a separate request.

FINGERPRINTING

Some jurisdictions require applicants for admission to the bar to provide their fingerprints.

Check your state's bar requirements:

- Do they require it?
- What is the process? (e.g., fingerprint card)

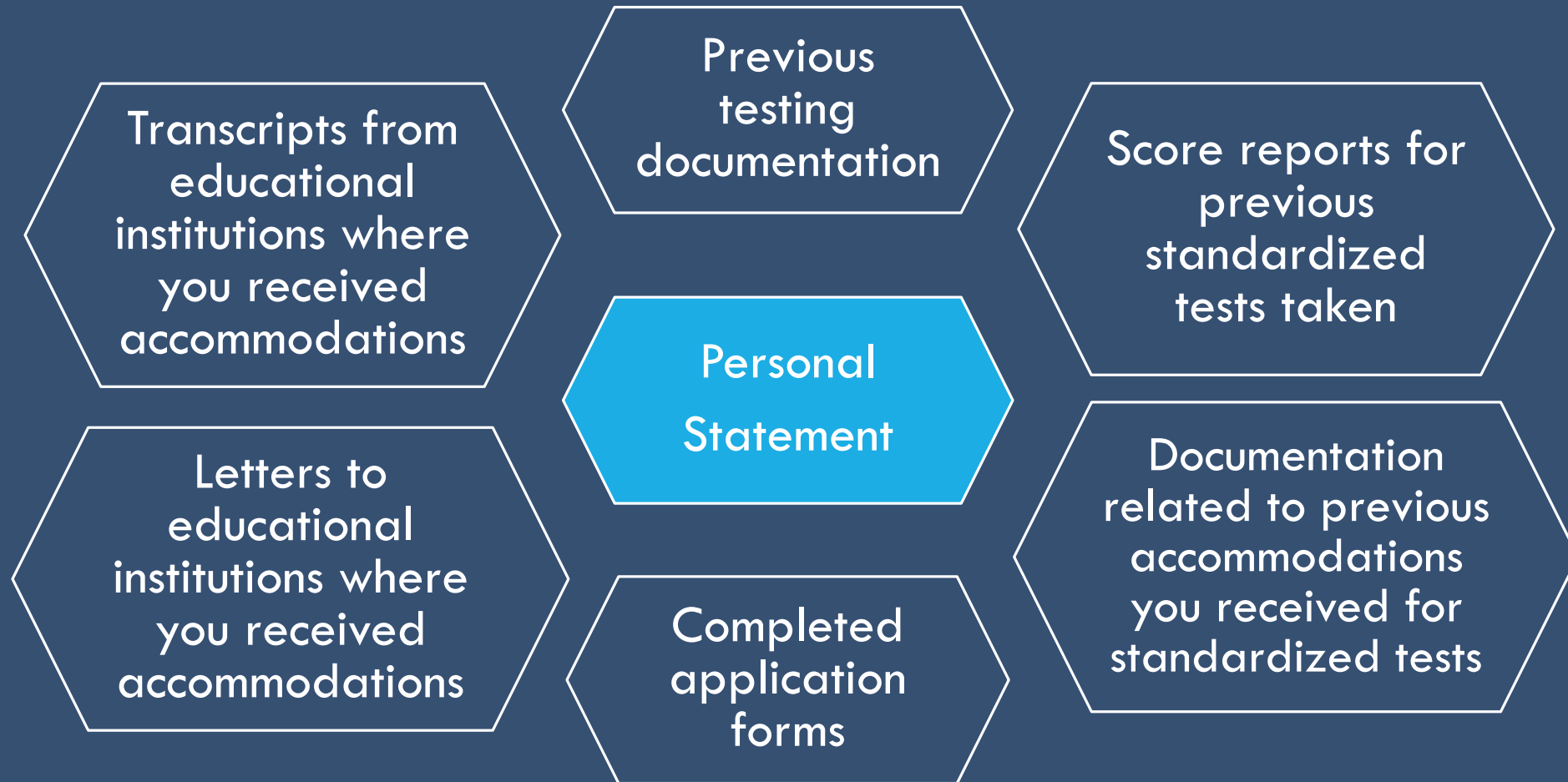
[Columbia's Department of Public Safety](#) can take your fingerprints.

Call (212) 854-2797 to arrange an appointment.



ADA TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS

Examples of Documentation



ADA TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS COMMON TESTS

NY (UBE)

Filing Deadline: April 30
Encouraged to file as early as 6 months prior to exam administration (February)

NYLE

Filing Deadline:
90 days prior to exam date

CA

Filing Deadline: April 1
Encouraged to file as early as possible

D.C.

Filing Deadline: May 3

MA

Filing Deadline: May 1
Encouraged to file as early as 6 months prior to exam administration (February)

MPRE

Must apply prior to registering for exam.
NCBE will begin accepting requests on October 21, 2019, for 2020 exam administrations.

NOTARY PUBLIC

Some bar documents may need to be notarized.

Appointments can be made by contacting one of the following offices:

Social Justice Initiatives (SJI)
Office of Career Services (OCS)

Rebecca Shepler
rs3828@Columbia.edu

Secretariat

Dean Lance
dl2193@Columbia.edu

HELPFUL LINKS

[National Conference of Bar Examiners \(NCBE\)](#)

[American Bar Association \(ABA\)](#)

[Law School Admissions Council \(LSAC\)](#)

[New York State Board of Law Examiners](#)

[The State Bar of California](#)

[District of Columbia Courts](#)

[Massachusetts Board of Bar Examiners](#)

[Registration Services](#)

[Columbia Disability Services](#)

Registrar@law.Columbia.edu

disability@columbia.edu

[NYS Lawyer Assistance Program](#)