

BOARD OF LAW EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

**NOTICE TO APPLICANTS REGARDING
COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS, PROTECTIVE MEASURES,
AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK FOR
JULY 2020 NORTH CAROLINA BAR EXAMINATION**

To promote the health, safety and welfare of all persons involved in the administration of the July 2020 North Carolina bar examination in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the North Carolina Board of Law Examiners (“the Board”) will require all applicants to adhere to the requirements outlined below.

The Board recognizes that the bar examination can be a source of significant stress for applicants and does not wish for these requirements to be an additional source of stress. The Board’s primary concern is to reasonably safeguard all persons involved with the administration of the examination, and to protect public health. This concern necessitates imposition of the following protocols.

COVID-19 APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS FOR JULY 2020 NC BAR EXAM

All applicants for the July 2020 North Carolina Bar Examination must comply with the following COVID-19 pandemic requirements:

1. Applicants must familiarize themselves with the Centers for Disease Control (“CDC”) guidance regarding best practices to protect themselves and others from COVID-19 and follow this guidance throughout the administration of the July 2020 North Carolina Bar Examination.
2. Applicants will be required to complete the following forms:
 - a. Declaration Acknowledging COVID-19 Requirements
 - b. July 2020 North Carolina Bar Examination Regulations and Code of Conduct
 - c. COVID-19 Screening Certification
 - d. Incomplete Application Declaration (if applicable)

These forms will be posted to applicants’ secure portal accounts on July 14, 2020. Applicants will be required to complete and upload all of these forms on or before 5:00 p.m. on July 21, 2020. If an applicant does not complete and upload these forms by that deadline, the applicant will not receive an Admission Ticket and will not be permitted to sit for the examination.

3. All applicants will have their temperature screened during the check-in process for the July 2020 North Carolina bar examination. If an applicant has a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, the applicant may request to wait ten (10) minutes and be re-screened. **If an applicant has a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher when re-screened, the applicant will not be permitted entry into the examination.**

4. Applicants must provide and wear a protective face covering that covers the Applicant's nose and mouth continuously throughout the administration of the exam, including check-in and check-out.
5. Applicants are responsible for providing their own hand-sanitizer, for their personal use only, during the administration of the July 2020 North Carolina Bar Examination.
6. Applicants must maintain social distancing (minimum of six feet) throughout the administration of the July 2020 North Carolina Bar Examination.
7. Applicants are strongly encouraged to avoid travel by airplane, train, or mass transit in traveling from home to the examination site and returning home after the July 2020 North Carolina Bar Examination.
8. Applicants must report to staff if the applicant develops symptoms of COVID-19 (including fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, and/or new loss of sense of taste or smell) during the administration of the exam, so that appropriate public health measures may be implemented.
9. If an Applicant becomes symptomatic while present at the examination site during the July 2020 North Carolina Bar Examination: the Applicant's examination will be ended; the Applicant will be moved to an isolation room; the Applicant's contacts will be traced; public health officials will be notified regarding the symptoms the Applicant is exhibiting; and, the Applicant will comply with any and all instructions conveyed by said public health officials.

COVID-19 PROTECTIVE MEASURES FOR JULY 2020 NC BAR EXAM AND APPLICANT ASSUMPTION OF RISK

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization. COVID-19 is contagious and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact.

The North Carolina Board of Law Examiners has put in place reasonable steps to safeguard applicants and staff and to reduce the spread of COVID-19 during the administration of the July 2020 North Carolina Bar Examination; however, the Board cannot guarantee that applicants will not be exposed to or become infected with COVID-19.

By proceeding to take the examination, each applicant acknowledges and voluntarily assumes all risk of exposure to or infection with COVID-19 by attending the July 2020 North Carolina bar examination, and the possibility that such exposure or infection may result in personal injury, illness, permanent disability, and death.

Check-In Process - Social Distancing; COVID-19 Screening Certification Required; Protective Equipment; Cleaning/Disinfection of Surfaces; CDC Notice Not to Enter if Sick and CDC Best Practices Signs at Each Venue

- All applicants will have their temperature screened during the check-in process for the July 2020 North Carolina bar examination. If an applicant has a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, the applicant may request to wait ten (10) minutes and be re-screened. **If an applicant has a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher when re-screened, the applicant will not be permitted entry into the examination.**
- The Board will ensure strict adherence to social distancing requirements during the check-in process, maintaining the recommended six-foot distance between applicants. Markers will be put in place indicating where applicants are to stand in the check-in line to ensure the proper minimum distance.
- To minimize hand-to-hand passage of documents between staff and applicants, applicants will be required to complete and upload the following documents prior to the examination: 1) COVID-19 Requirements Declaration Form; 2) Examination Regulations and Code of Conduct; 3) COVID-19 Screening Certification; and, 4) Incomplete Declaration (if applicable).
- Applicants will be required to bring an Admission Ticket to the check-in table and place it in the designated receptacle, for review by check-in staff.
- Applicants will present government-issued identification to check-in staff to view.
- Board staff, check-in staff, and proctors will be required to submit a COVID-19 Screening Certification to the Board prior to the exam.
- Board staff, check-in staff, and proctors will wear protective masks and gloves.
- All applicants will be required to wear protective masks, to be supplied by the applicant, continuously throughout the administration of the July 2020 North Carolina bar exam, including during check-in and check-out.
- All applicant tables and check-in tables will be disinfected before and after each exam session.
- Signs with CDC Notice Not to Enter if Sick will be posted at each venue entrance.
- Signs with CDC Best Practices will be posted at each venue.

Administration of Examination - Social Distancing; Protective Equipment; Cleaning/Disinfection of Surfaces; Isolation of Applicants who become ill during exam; Contact Tracing for those applicants and Notification of Health Officials

- Applicants will be seated in such a way as to ensure minimum six-foot social distance requirement.
- Board staff, check-in staff, and proctors will wear protective masks and gloves.
- All applicants will be required to wear protective masks, to be supplied by the applicant, continuously throughout the administration of the July 2020 North Carolina bar exam, including during check-in and check-out. The Board will have extra protective masks available.
- Applicant tables will be disinfected before and after each exam session.
- Isolation room will be available at each exam site to isolate applicant if applicant becomes ill.
- Board staff will trace applicant contacts (check-in staff, assigned proctor, other applicants in proximity, etc.) so that may provide names and information to public health authorities.

Check-Out Process - Social Distancing

- The Board will ensure strict adherence to social distancing requirements during the check-in process, maintaining the recommended six-foot distance between applicants.
- The check-out process will be staggered to reduce size of group dismissed at one time.
- To minimize hand-to-hand passage of documents, applicants will leave the completed Check-Out form at their seats before exiting the examination room.
- Once dismissed, applicants will be required to immediately exit the examination building and will not be permitted to re-enter.