

**BOARD OF BAR EXAMINERS
OF THE DELAWARE SUPREME COURT**
The Renaissance Centre
405 North King Street, Suite 500
Wilmington, DE 19801
ARMS_BBE@delaware.gov

**FORM B:
VISUAL DISABILITY VERIFICATION**

NOTICE TO APPLICANT AND AUTHORIZATION

You must complete this part of the form. The rest of the form must be completed by the qualified professional who is recommending testing accommodations on the Delaware Bar Examination for you on the basis of a visual disability (as defined in the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended). Read, complete, and sign below before submitting this form to the qualified professional for completion of the remainder of this form.

Full

Name:

Date of Birth:

I give permission to the qualified professional completing this form to release the information requested on the form, and I request the release of any additional information regarding my disability or accommodations previously granted that may be requested by the Board of Bar Examiners of the Delaware Supreme Court.

I hereby release, discharge, and exonerate (i) the Board of Bar Examiners of the Delaware Supreme Court and its agents and representatives, and (ii) the qualified professional and their agents and representatives completing this form, from any and all liability of every nature and kind arising out of the furnishing of information, or out of the investigation made by the Board of Bar Examiners of the Delaware Supreme Court.

I am not required to sign this form in order to receive treatment from the qualified professional. When my information is used or disclosed pursuant to this authorization, it may be subject to redisclosure by the recipient and may no longer be protected by the federal HIPAA Privacy Rule or state law. I have the right to revoke this authorization in writing except to the extent that the qualified professional has acted in reliance upon this authorization. My written revocation must be resubmitted to the privacy officer at the address of the qualified professional.

Date

Signature

NOTICE TO QUALIFIED PROFESSIONAL

The above-named person is requesting accommodations on the Delaware Bar Examination ("Bar Exam"). All such requests must be supported by a comprehensive evaluation report from the qualified professional who conducted an individualized assessment of the applicant and is recommending accommodations on the Bar Exam on the basis of a visual disability.

The Board of Bar Examiners of the Delaware Supreme Court (the "Board") also requires the qualified professional to complete this form. If any information requested in this form is fully addressed in a comprehensive evaluation report, you may respond by citing the specific page and paragraph where the answer can be found. Your assistance is appreciated.

The provision of reasonable accommodations is based on assessment of the current impact of the disability on the specific testing activities on the Bar Exam. The Board generally requires documentation from an evaluation conducted within the past year because of the changing manifestations of many visual disabilities. Older evaluation reports may suffice if supplemented by an update of the diagnosis, current level of functioning, and a rationale for each recommended accommodation or an explanation of why the report continues to be relevant in its entirety.

Confidentiality policies of the Board will be followed regarding its responsibility to maintain confidentiality of this form. No part of the form or the diagnostic report will be released without the applicant's written consent or under the compulsion of legal process. The Board is authorized to and may seek assistance from qualified professionals in reviewing the applicant's request for testing accommodations, and may forward or disclose information you provide to such professionals for their consideration.

Print or type your responses to the items below, and return this completed form, the comprehensive evaluation report, and relevant records to the applicant for submission to the Board. Thank you again for your assistance.

I. EVALUATOR/TREATING PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ **Fax:** _____

Email: _____

Occupation & Specialty: _____

NOTE: If the applicant (1) is legally blind, (2) will test exclusively with tactile or auditory input (e.g., Braille, reader, audio recording), and (3) will not use any visual material, you only need to complete Section II.

II. DIAGNOSIS – GENERAL

1. What is the current diagnosis for which the applicant requests testing accommodations? Please indicate whether the applicant's condition is stable or progressive.

2. What is the applicant's best corrected visual acuities for distance and near vision?

3. When was the applicant's visual disability first diagnosed?

4. Did you make the initial diagnosis?

Yes
No

If no, provide the name of the professional who made the initial diagnosis and when it was made, if known. Attach copies of any prior evaluation reports, test results, or other records related to the initial diagnosis that you reviewed.

5. When was your last complete evaluation of the applicant?

6. Is this a permanent disability?

- Yes
- No

If no, do you have an expectation, to a reasonable degree of medical certainty, as to when the disability is likely to abate?

- Yes
- No

If yes, when?

7. Does the severity of the condition/impairment fluctuate?

- Yes
- No

If yes, describe the settings or circumstances affecting severity that are relevant to taking the Bar Exam.

8. Have you attached a copy of the comprehensive evaluation report and all records and test results on which you relied in making the diagnosis and recommending accommodations for the Bar Exam?

- Yes
- No

III. DIAGNOSIS – SPECIFIC FINDINGS

If any of the following areas are relevant to your diagnosis with respect to applicant's vision, please describe your findings for each such area.

1. How is the applicant's eye health (both external and internal evaluations)?

2. **Visual Field:** threshold field, not confrontation (provide measurements and copies of reports)

3. **Binocular Evaluation:** eye deviation (provide measurements), diplopia, suppression, depth perception, convergence, etc. Specify whether difficulty with distance, near point, or both.

4. **Accommodative Skills:** at near point, with and without lenses (provide measurements)

5. **Ocularmotor Skills**: saccades, pursuits, tracking

IV. DIAGNOSIS – FUNCTIONAL LIMITATIONS

1. Describe the applicant's current functional limitations and explain how the limitations impact the applicant's reading ability and/or restrict the condition, manner, or duration under which the applicant can take the Bar Exam.

2. Briefly describe any treatment, including any prescribed medications, and the effectiveness of treatment in reducing or ameliorating the applicant's functional limitations.

V. RECOMMENDED ACCOMMODATIONS

The Bar Exam is a timed, written examination in two parts administered over the last Tuesday and Wednesday of February and July of each year.

- On Tuesday morning, applicants take the Multistate Performance Test (“MPT”) prepared and administered by the National Conference of Bar Examiners (“NCBE”), which contains two sections designed to test an applicant’s ability to complete certain fundamental tasks all new lawyers should be able to accomplish regardless of the area of law in which the tasks arise. The MPT requires applicants to perform tasks that will involve reading provided materials and drafting a short written document, and may also involve taking notes. Absent accommodations, the MPT is administered over a single three hour testing session and both items must be completed within that time.
- On Tuesday afternoon, applicants are given four essay questions designed to test their ability to take hypothetical fact patterns involving areas of law relevant to Delaware practice and identify, analyze, and explain the legal issues raised by those fact patterns. Absent testing accommodations, applicants receive a set of four essay questions and must respond to the essay questions in three hours. Most applicants use computer software called ExamSoft to input their essay answers on a keyboard and review on a computer screen, but a small number of applicants still write their essay answers out by hand in exam booklets.
- On Wednesday, applicants take the NCBE’s Multistate Bar Examination (“MBE”), a 200-question multiple choice test designed to test an applicant’s substantive knowledge of six areas of law. Applicants give their answers to the questions by filling in circles on a printed form that is then scanned by a machine for scoring. Absent accommodations, the MBE is divided into morning and afternoon sessions, each three hours in length and covering 100 questions.

Applicants are assigned seats. Absent accommodations, the only items applicants are allowed to bring with them into the testing room are their laptop computers (if they are using ExamSoft to input their essay answers), and water in a clear plastic bottle.

The Bar Exam is administered in a quiet environment. During a test session, applicants may leave the examination room only to use the restroom or drinking fountain, and they must do so within the time allotted for the test session. For test security purposes, only one applicant at a time may leave a particular examination room in order to use the restroom or drinking fountain.

Taking into consideration this description of the Bar Exam and the functional limitations currently experienced by the applicant, what testing accommodations (or accommodations, if more than one would be appropriate) do you believe, to a reasonable degree of medical certainty, are necessary in light of the applicant's disability? Please mark all that apply.

Examination Format

Braille

Audio CD or File

Large Print – Please specify font size _____

Other: _____

Physical Assistance

Reader; Screenreader

Typist or voice recognition computer for essays

Other: _____

Extended Time

Specify the amount of additional time requested for each session of the examination. Indicate why the additional specified time is needed (based on the diagnostic evaluation) and the rationale for recommending the amount of time for each portion of the examination. Breaks are included in the timed portion of the examination. The Board does not grant requests for unlimited time.

Essays

Standard Length: One full day, consisting of two 3-hour sessions.

Extended Time

Requested: _____

Rationale:

Multistate Bar Examination

Standard Length: One full day, consisting of two 3-hour sessions.

Extended Time Requested:

Rationale:

Other:

Are there any other accommodations:.

Rationale:

VI. CERTIFICATION

I have attached copies of all records, test results, or reports that I relied upon in making this diagnosis and completing this form, and I certify that the information on this form is true and correct based upon the information in my records.

Date

Signature of Qualified Professional