

SUPREME COURT OF LOUISIANA

O R D E R

Acting under the authority of Article V, Section 1 of Constitution of 1974, and the inherent power of this Court, and considering continuing need to modify the administration of the Louisiana Bar Examination in light of the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19),

WHEREAS, the Court previously issued Orders dated May 13, 2020 amending Part I of the written examination required by Section 7 of Supreme Court Rule XVII and July 22, 2020 providing for two remote administrations of the previously announced 1-day Bar Examination: August 24, 2020 and October 10, 2020;

WHEREAS, the Committee on Bar Admissions has advised that it is not feasible to administer the remote bar examinations utilizing the current software vendor;

WHEREAS, the Court further finds that the pandemic conditions continue to prevent a large-scale in-person examination of all applicants currently registered for the exam and does not wish to delay the examination any further.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The August 24, 2020 and October 10, 2020 remote bar examinations will be in open-book format, with no live monitoring or proctoring. Applicants will receive the exam questions by email and submit responses by email, to an address established by the Louisiana Supreme Court Committee on Bar Admissions.

2. Applicants will receive the exam questions and submit responses on a schedule to be published by the Louisiana Supreme Court Committee on Bar Admissions.
3. Applicants may use outside materials to complete the exam but are prohibited from seeking or accepting assistance from any other individual during the exam.
4. Applicants who violate Paragraph 3 of this Order shall fail the exam and will be prohibited from sitting for any future Louisiana bar examination for a period of five years, and will be subject to other potential sanctions including, but not limited to, being found in contempt of this Court or facing discipline under Louisiana's Rules for Lawyer Disciplinary Enforcement.
5. Applicants must still complete all other requirements for admission as set forth in Louisiana Supreme Court Rule XVII, including satisfying character and fitness requirements and passing the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination.
6. The Louisiana Supreme Court Committee on Bar Admissions is directed to administer the exam in the manner set forth in this Order and provide applicants with instructions on receiving questions and submitting responses not later than (i) Monday, August 17, 2020 for the August 24, 2020 examination, and (ii) Friday, October 2, 2020 for the October 10, 2020 examination.

Given under our hands and seal this 12th day of August

A. D., 2020, New Orleans, Louisiana.

FOR THE COURT:


Chief Justice Bernette J. Johnson