

## COVID-19 PROTOCOLS FOR JULY 2022 EXAMINATION

The Maine Board of Bar Examiners requires *all* July 2022 Uniform Bar Examination applicants to submit proof that they have:

1. Been vaccinated, including a booster, if eligible, as described below; or
2. Received a negative COVID-19 test result, as described below; or
3. Verification of resolution of recent COVID illness if within the previous 90 days (if applicable)

### COVID-19 Vaccination (Plus booster, only if eligible):

1. An applicant is considered *fully vaccinated* 2 weeks following completion of vaccine regime. Based on this timeline a *recently vaccinated* applicant has completed initial vaccination regime by July 11, 2022.
2. A *boosted* applicant has completed an initial vaccination regimen and received a booster. Applicants who are required to and are eligible to receive a booster if initial vaccine regime is greater than six months from the time of completion.
3. If you have received your initial vaccine regime prior to January 25, 2022, and have chosen not to receive a booster, you must a negative COVID-19 test result is required.

Negative COVID-19 Test Result: While PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) tests are preferred, an applicant may submit either a PCR test or a lab or telehealth observed rapid test with certified test result from the provider in order to be permitted to sit for the bar examination. The test must be conducted on or after Wednesday, July 20, 2022. Test results must be provided to the medical professionals prior to registration on July 26, 2022.

### Recent (within 90 days of July 26, 2022) COVID-19:

The applicant may provide documentation of resolution of recent (within 90 days) COVID-19 if the applicant has recovered and is without symptoms. In order to use this option, the following documents must accompany the applicant:

1. Submission of the positive PCR test verified/confirmed by the laboratory or pharmacy where the applicant received the positive PCR results. A home test will not be accepted.
2. A letter from the applicant's physician/provider on professional letterhead with contact information, date of positive COVID-19 test confirming minimal of 14 days from the PCR test and that the applicant is now free and cleared to sit for the exam.

If an applicant has had recent COVID-19, there is a slight but feasible possibility of a continued positive test in the absence of symptoms. This does not eliminate admission to the exam. If the applicant's medical provider is unable to provide supporting PCR documentation, the onsite medical professionals will review Covid status, dates of testing confirmation, conduct a rapid test

and determine if admission to exam is medically safe to do so. Since few people are contagious after 14 days from the date of initial onset of symptoms the medical professionals will determine if the applicant is able to sit for the exam. If the applicant has a fever they will be tested and **asked to leave regardless of their COVID-19 status.**

#### Submission of Proofs:

Unfortunately, we are currently unable to assure privacy of health documents uploaded to our website. Applicants **must** bring a copy of their vaccine card, negative test results as described above and/or recent COVID-19 positive test with documentation from their medical provider. These copies will be kept and may be referenced if there are any concerns following exam.

In addition, the Maine Board of Bar Examiners will be requiring the following COVID-19 protocols at the examination:

1. The Board will be providing N95 masks that all applicants will be required to wear throughout the entirety of the examination;
2. Social distancing will be enforced throughout the examination. Seating will be arranged by the Executive Director; most applicants will be seated at the opposite ends of tables.
3. A physician and support staff will be on-site to oversee COVID-19 processes including conduct COVID screening questions, review documentation if needed, administer rapid on-site testing for individuals and who report or present with symptoms consistent with COVID-19. If the medical staff determines that the applicant does not pass the COVID-19 screening and/or the rapid on-site testing results are positive, the applicant will not be permitted to sit for the examination.
4. If an applicant declines to obtain a vaccination or to provide a negative test result, or otherwise fails to comply with the Board's COVID protocols, they will be administratively withdrawn from the July 2022 examination. In accordance with Maine Bar Admissions Rule 6(d), all fees paid to the Board are nonrefundable. If an applicant withdraws from the examination, the applicant will receive a letter from our office detailing the withdrawal process and detailed information regarding the credit process for a future examination.
5. As a public health measure, the medical staff on site reserves the right to decline admission to any applicant if there is concern for theirs or the public's health during the testing process. If any documentation is considered fraudulent the applicant will not be permitted to sit or complete the exam.

The Board will continue to closely monitor public health and safety guidelines related to the COVID-19 pandemic and will provide updates that may impact the administration of the bar examination, as necessary.