

# U.S. Bar Exam Foreign Law Graduates and Foreign Lawyers

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# Legal Education

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- Benefits of Foreign legal education
  - Based on common law why is this important?
  - LL.B v CPE or admission as lawyer
  - Do U.S. states recognize CPE?
  - Non-legal education i.e. BA in addition to legal education
  - Does legal experience count towards sitting for the bar exam? It depends
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# U.S. Bar Examination

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- ❑ Very hard exam do not underestimate it and its complexity. For example, foreign law graduates and foreign lawyers have a high failure rate on U.S. bar exams, simply because they do not understand how it is tested, be fully prepared for exam.
  - ❑ What does U.S. Bar Exam consist of?
  - ❑ MBE/ESSAYS/MPT/MPRE (UBE states)
  - ❑ Some states Apprenticeship i.e. New York
  - ❑ Character & Fitness
  - ❑ Advantages transferability UBE
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# The Most Important Questions?

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- Do I meet the requirements for sitting for the bar exam?
  - Who makes the decision?
  - NCBE/State Board of Law Examiners or State Supreme Court? It depends
  - What if I am denied permission? Alternative options?
  - Can I supplement my British legal education with U.S. legal education? And how? i.e. LL.M.
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# UBE Uniform Bar Exam

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- ❑ What is UBE?
  - ❑ Administered by the NCBE – NCBE grade MBE & states grade MEE/MPT
  - ❑ Requirements
  - ❑ Advantages v Disadvantages
  - ❑ Consists of MBE/MEE/MPT/MPRE
  - ❑ First state to adopt the UBE was Missouri in April 2010 and at least 25 states have adopted the UBE
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# MBE – Multistate Bar Exam

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- ❑ Consists of 7 subjects 200 questions weight 50% administered last Wednesday usually second day of bar exam – 100 questions morning 3 hour session and 100 questions 3 hour afternoon session
  - ❑ **Contracts** including Sales UCC Art 2
  - ❑ **Civil Procedure** – Fed Rules of Civil Procedure
  - ❑ **Criminal Law & Criminal Procedure**
  - ❑ **Evidence** – Federal Rules of Evidence
  - ❑ **Real Property**
  - ❑ **Torts**
  - ❑ **Constitutional Law**
  - ❑ Louisiana does not administer MBE
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# Bar Exam - Essays

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- ❑ Each state varies on the amount of essays and scoring formula
  - ❑ Some states adopted uniform bar exam  
MEE Multistate Essay Exam – 6 30 minute questions – weight is 30%
  - ❑ MEE national exam not state specific
  - ❑ Very few states allow an appeal of bar exam results, cannot appeal MBE machine graded, but some states allow bar exam appeal which can increase chances of passing e.g. Michigan
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# MPT

## Multistate Performance Test

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- ❑ What is Multistate Performance Test? It consists of 2 / 90 minute items the materials for the MPT consist of file and a library. It is in essence is testing your practical abilities it is not a test of substantive law. 20% weight generally.
  - ❑ The MPT might require a memorandum to a supervising attorney, a letter to a client, a persuasive memorandum or brief, a statement of facts, a contract provision, a will, a counseling plan, a proposal for settlement or agreement, a discovery plan, a witness examination plan, or a closing argument.
  - ❑ Who administers MPT?
  - ❑ MPT is part of the UBE
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# MPRE

## Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam

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- ❑ MPRE is part of bar exam in reality professional conduct/ethic questions
  - ❑ Most states require it with some exceptions
  - ❑ Administered 3 times a year by the NCBE
  - ❑ Passing scores vary from 70% upwards
  - ❑ Some states require it to be completed before admission and some states may allow you to take within a specified time after passing the bar exam
  - ❑ Consist of 60 multiple choice questions – 50 scored and 10 un-scored pre-test questions
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# Character & Fitness

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- ❑ Cannot be admitted without C&F character & fitness clearance
  - ❑ No exceptions – you can still pass the bar exam and be denied admission because of a C&F issue
  - ❑ If you have issue contact an attorney to discuss your options who can also represent you
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# Immigration Issues

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- Do you need U.S. immigration approval to sit for the bar exam?**
  - NO...! Visa waiver program
  - Are there occasions that you may need U.S. immigration approval?  
If so and for what?**
  - Yes...! i.e. studying in U.S. or employment in U.S.
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# More Comprehensive Publication

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- The following publication is a more comprehensive guide to this subject, which will be in bookstores within the next couple of months entitled and available through Amazon books

## **U.S. Bar Admissions For Foreign Law Graduates And Foreign Lawyers 2017**

By Kulwant Singh Boora, Esq.

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# Our Services

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- Provide Personal Consultation
  - Provide Strategies Navigating System
  - Provide Counseling & Guidance
  - Review Documentation
  - Provide Recommendations
  - Provide full Bar Review Course
  - Provide full Bar Exam Appeals
  - Fees varies depending on services
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# Consultation

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- To discuss your particular needs or schedule a consultation contact Attorney Kulwant Singh Boora
  - Scheduling appointments are usually one hour in length
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# CONTACT

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