

BAR APPLICATION AND PETITION PROCESS: MARYLAND HAS A TWO-STEP FILING PROCESS.

STEP ONE: APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

First, an applicant must file, all together, the application form, which is in two parts:

Part I is the Certificate of College (Pre-Legal) Education (the applicant's bachelor's degree or undergraduate course work). **THE APPLICANT MUST HAVE THE PART I CERTIFICATION EXECUTED BY THE COLLEGE AND SUBMIT THE EXECUTED PART I BY THE DEADLINE FILING DATE FOR THE APPLICATION. A PROPERLY EXECUTED PART I MUST BE SIGNED BY THE APPROPRIATE COLLEGE (OR LAW SCHOOL) OFFICIAL AND MUST BEAR THE SCHOOL SEAL.**

Part II is the Character Questionnaire.

Part I and Part II must be filed together with the application fee, and Part II must include a notarized release executed by the applicant. These forms permit the Character Committee to initiate the required character and fitness investigation of each applicant. Incomplete forms and forms received without fees will be returned.

STEP TWO: ORIGINAL PETITION TO TAKE MARYLAND BAR EXAMINATION

The *application for admission* must be filed *before* you file the *original petition* unless the original petition is filed simultaneously with the application. You must timely file the original petition with the proper fee to be eligible to sit for the bar examination. The original petition certifies that you will have graduated from a law school approved by the American Bar Association or that you will be unqualifiedly eligible to graduate prior to the first day of the bar examination you take. **Immediately after the bar examination, you must have your law school submit a final transcript to the State Board of Law Examiners reflecting the award of your Juris Doctor degree.**

DATES, DEADLINES, AND LOCATIONS FOR THE JULY 2008 EXAMINATION

The standard administration of the examination is scheduled to be held at the Baltimore Convention Center in Baltimore, Maryland.

The examination dates are **Tuesday (for the Written Test) and Wednesday (for the MBE), July 29 and 30, 2008.** The timely application filing deadline (\$175 fee) was Wednesday, January 16, 2008. **The late application filing deadline (\$225 fee) is Tuesday, May 20, 2008.**

In order to receive an examination seat number, you also must file the original petition with the \$150 examination fee not later than Tuesday, May 20, 2008. You must ensure that the Board receives an official copy of your final law school transcript by September 1, 2008.

DATES, DEADLINES, AND LOCATIONS FOR THE FEBRUARY 2009 EXAMINATION

The standard administration of the examination is scheduled to be held at the Baltimore Convention Center in Baltimore, Maryland.

The examination dates are **Tuesday (for the Written Test) and Wednesday (for the MBE), February 24 and 25, 2009.** The timely application filing deadline (\$175 fee) is Monday, September 15, 2008. **The late application filing deadline (\$225 fee) is Monday, December 22, 2008. Each filing deadline date is a RECEIVED date.**

In order to receive an examination seat number, you also must file the original petition with the \$150 examination fee not later than Monday, December 22, 2008. You must ensure that the Board receives an official copy of your final law school transcript by March 16, 2009.

CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT OF EXAMINATION FILINGS

PROVIDE A STAMPED, SELF-ADDRESSED POSTCARD IF YOU WISH THIS OFFICE TO CONFIRM RECEIPT OF ANY FILING YOU SUBMIT TO THIS OFFICE OR, ALTERNATIVELY, USE A DELIVERY SERVICE WHICH PROVIDES CONFIRMATION OF DELIVERY. **This office will NOT confirm receipt of a filing in response to a telephone call because Bar Admission Rule 19 deems application files to be confidential, and the sheer volume of filings (more than 2,500 per year) makes it impracticable.**