#### **EXAM DATES**

- SBLE will hold the standard administration of the **February 2026 Uniform Bar Examination** on:
  - o Tuesday, February 24, 2026 (Multistate Performance Tests and Multistate Essay Examination)
  - o Wednesday, February 25, 2026 (Multistate Bar Exam).
- SBLE will test Applicants requiring test accommodations under the ADA beginning Tuesday, February 24, 2026, on schedules that may vary by individual accommodation.

#### FILING DEADLINES

- SBLE expects to open the February 2026 UBE Notice of Intent filing period on **Saturday**, **November 1**, **2025**.
- The deadline to electronically submit the **Notice of Intent** to Take the February 2026 UBE in Maryland is **Monday, December 1, 2025.** 
  - Please take careful note that the Supreme Court of Maryland has entered an <u>ADMINISTRATIVE</u>
     ORDER limiting the total number of exam registrations for the February 2026 UBE in Maryland
     to <u>400</u>, and providing a registration priority for applicants retaking the UBE in Maryland. For
     more information, see the Update for October 27, 2026 on the front page of the <u>Board's website</u>.
- Applicants must submit a fully completed **Character Questionnaire** before or together with the Notice of Intent.
  - The Character Questionnaire may be submitted at any time, including prior to November 1, 2025.
    - For February 2026 only, SBLE asks that first time applicants wait until the week of October 27, 2025, to finalize and submit their Character Questionnaire via eBar. This will allow a paperless filing\*.
  - Applicants must file an official undergraduate (college) transcript prior to or together with their Character Questionnaire. See <u>Academic Transcript Requirements</u> on the Board's website.
  - Applicants filing a Notice of Intent to retake the exam or filing a Notice of Intent after a deferral from a prior UBE in Maryland are not required to file a Character Questionnaire unless an update is due pursuant to Rule 19-205(e).

## **FEES**

• Character Questionnaire: \$350

• Notice of Intent: \$400

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#### **EXAM LOCATION/FORMAT**

- SBLE will administer the February 2026 UBE in-person.
  - o The standard two-day administration of the February 2026 UBE in Maryland will be held at:
    - MARTIN'S WEST, 8617 Dogwood Road, Baltimore, MD 21244
    - MARTIN'S CROSSWINDS, 7400 Greenway Center Drive, Greenbelt, MD 20770.
      - SEATING ASSIGNMENTS AT MARTIN'S LOCATIONS WILL BE MADE AT RANDOM. After making initial seating assignments, SBLE may permit a limited number of seat location changes, for good cause, at SBLE's sole discretion.
  - Administrations of the UBE in Maryland for applicants receiving ADA test accommodations is expected to occur at the Maritime Conference Center, 692 Maritime Blvd. Linthicum, MD 21090.
- SBLE expects to utilize **paper exam materials** for all applicants taking the February 2026 UBE.
  - O SBLE wishing to type their answers to the Multistate Essay Examination and Multistate Performance Test items may indicate that intent on their Notice of Intent. SBLE will provide information on laptop registration approximately three (3) weeks prior to the exam dates. SBLE expects to utilize Extegrity, Inc. and its Exam4 security software for laptop-use on the February 2026 UBE in Maryland.
  - o SBLE expects to provide an option to handwrite the February 2026 UBE in Maryland.
  - o SBLE does **NOT** expect to offer any remote testing option for February 2026.

#### WHERE TO FILE

- BEGINNING WITH THE FEBRUARY 2026 UBE FILING PERIOD, ALL CHARACTER QUESTIONNAIRE AND NOTICE OF INTENT FILINGS WILL BE ONLINE ONLY VIA EBAR.
  - Filing instructions are below. A tip sheet for operating in an updated version of eBar will be made available in mid-October.

#### **ADA TEST ACCOMMODATIONS**

- Applicants seeking ADA test accommodations on the February 2026 UBE in Maryland must note that
  request on their Notice of Intent using the checkboxes/radio buttons on the second screen of their Notice
  of Intent in eBar.
- Applicants seeking ADA test accommodations on the February 2026 UBE in Maryland must ALSO file their separate Accommodations Request and all supporting documentation VIA EBAR on or before the Notice of Intent deadline (Monday, December 1, 2025).
  - O Applicants are strongly encouraged to file the Accommodations Request prior to filing their Notice of Intent. Early filing may allow SBLE to communicate with the applicant to cure any deficiencies in the Accommodations Request prior to the filing deadline. SBLE will reject ADA accommodation requests that are substantially incomplete at the applicable filing deadline.

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o Access information on requesting test accommodations and the Accommodations Request Form at the <u>ADA Test Accommodations</u> of the Board's website.

## **LAPTOP USE**

- All applicants should note their intention regarding use of a laptop on their Notice of Intent. (Use the checkboxes on the third page of the Notice of Intent in eBar.)
- Further information on Laptop Use is contained in the documents on the <u>Exam Day Information</u> page of SBLE's website.

ALL DEADLINES INCLUDED IN THIS DOCUMENT ARE "RECEIVED-BY" DATES.

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#### BAR APPLICATION FILING PROCESS FOR FIRST TIME APPLICANTS

#### **Step One:** Create an eBar account.

- Navigate to <a href="www.mdcourts.gov/ble">www.mdcourts.gov/ble</a> and click on the first link in the lefthand menu "eBar Account Login (All User Roles)."
- Follow the steps in the Tip Sheet for creating an account. [LINK]

<u>Step Two</u>: Cause SBLE to receive directly from your undergraduate college or university an OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE (COLLEGE) TRANSCRIPTshowing conferral of your bachelor's or equivalent degree.

\*Applicants are directed to carefully read SBLE's <u>Academic Transcript Requirements</u> for instructions on satisfying the requirements Md. Rules 19-201(a)(1) and (2) and 19-206(c). \*You must file your official college transcript or other eligibility document <u>before</u> or <u>together with</u> your Character Ouestionnaire and Notice of Intent.

• SBLE will record receipt of your transcript in your eBar account.

## **Step Three:** eBAR Electronic Character Questionnaire (CQ) and Notice of Intent (NOI)

- Complete electronically and submit electronically both the CQ and the NOI.
  - In the Character Questionnaire, the applicant will provide the required background information for SBLE and the Character Committees to investigate the applicant's character and fitness for admission to the bar.
  - The Character Questionnaire and Notice of Intent include several Affirmation statements and an Authorization and Release for character information, which must be signed in the appropriate places by the applicant.
  - o Gather and upload copies of all documents required to be attached to your Character Questionnaire as determined by your answers to the character questions. Refer to SBLE's online checklist of attachments, which is available as a <u>PDF</u> or <u>Word doc</u>.
- In the Notice of Intent, the applicant will select the exam session for which they intend to sit, whether they intend to use a laptop computer, and whether they seek test accommodations under the ADA.

#### **Step Four: PAY the applicable fees.**

- Following your online submission, SBLE will review your undergraduate transcript, Notice of Intent and CQ for completeness.
- Upon confirming that your online submissions are complete, SBLE will prompt you to pay your fees.
  - You will pay ONLINE VIA EBAR.
  - Payments will be accepted by CREDIT CARD ONLY, including via Apple Pay and Google Pay.

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# FILING PROCESS FOR THOSE RETAKING THE BAR EXAM IN MARYLAND OR FILING AFTER WITHDRAWING FROM A PRIOR EXAM

- **COMPLETE electronically and submit electronically** your Notice of Intent for the exam session that you intend to take.
  - Note that IF your Character Questionnaire has been on file with SBLE for 3 years or more at the time you seek to create a Notice of Intent in eBar, you will be required to create an updated Character Questionnaire before you create your Notice of Intent. Your updated Questionnaire and the update fee must be filed before or contemporaneously with your Notice of Intent.
- PAY the applicable fees ONLINE VIA EBAR when notified by SBLE to do so.

## **LATE FILING AND GOOD CAUSE REQUESTS**

• If your college transcript, Character Questionnaire, and/or Notice of Intent are received after the applicable deadline, or if any of your eligibility-related submissions are deficient and not corrected by the deadline, you must demonstrate good cause why SBLE should permit you to sit for the Bar Exam. (*Md. Rules 19-206(d); 19-210 (c)*), To show good cause, you must submit a good cause request, in letter form, addressed to: "Secretary, State Board of Law Examiners." A good cause request <u>must</u> address the four mandated factors listed in Board Rule 2, be signed with an original signature, and be supported with documentation. The Secretary will issue a written decision on your good cause request. Denials may be appealed to the Supreme Court of Maryland within five (5) days of the date of the denial letter.

## **CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT OF EXAMINATION FILINGS**

- View your "My Status" page in the eBar electronic filing system.
  - o "SUBMITTED" means that the Board has received your online submission but has not reviewed your materials for completeness. You are not yet assured a seat at the Bar exam.
  - o "APPROVED FOR PAYMENT" means that the Board has reviewed your online submissions and approved them for payment. You are not yet assured a seat at the Bar exam.
    - You must make your payment online via eBar by 11:59pm on the fifth day after you are approved for payment.
    - Applications that are submitted on or before the filing deadline, but that are not processed until after the deadline are considered timely if they were complete at the deadline and if payment is timely.
    - Applications that are submitted on or before the filing deadline, but that are found upon review to be deficient are not marked "Approved for Payment" until all deficiencies are corrected. SBLE notifies applicants of deficiencies in their submissions by email on the date they are reviewed. Unless all deficiencies are corrected by the filing deadline, the submission is NOT timely.
  - o "Accepted" means that the Board has accepted your filing and that you have timely paid your filing fee(s). You will receive a seat for the Bar Exam.
- SBLE will NOT confirm receipt of a filing in response to a telephone call or e-mail. Check your eBar account to verify.

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