



**FROM DIPLOMA TO LICENSE**  
**The ISBA Guide to Admission to the Illinois Bar**  
**and the Federal Courts in Illinois**

*What animal walks on four legs in the morning,  
two legs at noon and three legs in the evening?*

Oedipus, on his way into Thebes, knew the Sphinx would eat him if he failed to correctly answer her mysterious riddle. Confronting the reality of the bar exam and other admissions requirements, one is apt to imagine the same fate. Fear not! The bar exam is not a riddle, and the admissions procedures can be mastered. The key is preparation and information. The preparation is up to you. The following information regarding admissions procedures and testing and the requirements for practice before the federal courts with jurisdiction over Illinois comes to you courtesy of the Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA).

**WHO GOVERNS THE PRACTICE OF LAW?** The practice of law in Illinois is governed by the Illinois Supreme Court pursuant to grants of authority in Article VI of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, Chapter 705 of the Illinois Compiled Statutes, Supreme Court Rules and the long-established and judicially recognized inherent authority of a state's Supreme Court to govern and control the practice of law.

The Illinois Supreme Court exercises this authority through: 1) Clerk of the Supreme Court; 2) Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission; 3) Board of Admissions to the Bar; 4) Committee on Character and Fitness; and 5) Administrative Office of the Illinois Courts. The first four are involved in the admissions process.

**PREREQUISITES AND ELIGIBILITY.** Supreme Court Rules 701 and 703, delineate the prerequisites for applicants. While these Rules should be read fully (See <http://www.state.il.us/court/SupremeCourt/Rules>), in a nutshell, applicants must: 1) be at least 21 years of age; 2) have graduated from a four-year high school or other preparatory school whose graduates are admitted on diploma to the freshman class of any college or university having admission requirements equivalent to those of the University of Illinois; 3) complete 90 semester hours in attendance at a qualified university; and 4) successfully

attend and graduate from a law school\* accredited by the American Bar Association (See <http://www.abanet.org/legaled/approvedlawschools/approved.html>). (Under the Rules, various waivers and adjustments may apply to individual situations.) Having met these requirements, the applicant must be of good moral character and general fitness to practice law, pass the bar exam and the Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam (MPRE), register, and be sworn in.

\**A note about law school:* During the second year of undergraduate college, one should contact the Pre-Law advisor at the college to discuss the admission to law school. The two key factors in one's admission are undergraduate grade point average and the score on the Law School Assessment Test (LSAT). The LSAT is offered four times a year at a location near every university. Unlike other graduate school admissions tests, the LSAT is not a test of possessed knowledge, but a test about how well one can take the LSAT. Like the old joke of the tourist asking the musician on the streets of New York, "How do you get to Carnegie Hall?" the answer to "How do you do well on the LSAT?" is the same, "Practice! Practice! Practice!" The LSAT is about mastering the LSAT techniques and being able to execute them under time and emotional pressure.

The best way to practice is by reviewing and taking past tests, which are widely available. LSAT is a standardized evaluative exam measuring reading comprehension, and analytical and logical reasoning. The LSAT is 5 sections in length (4 sections graded, 1 experimental), and is based upon a 120-180 scale, the latter being the highest possible score. A short writing sample also accompanies the exam; it is not graded, but is sent to law schools for their evaluation. Registration for the LSAT and application for most law schools is now done online through the Law School Admissions Council <http://www.lsac.org/>

CHARACTER AND FITNESS. When Illinois gained statehood, an admittee was required to obtain a "certificate from the court of some county of his good moral character." While the reference to "his" is outdated [see, *In re Bradwell*, 55 Ill. 535 (1869), *aff'd* 83 U.S. (16 Wall.) 130 (1872), which held that a married woman could constitutionally be denied a license to practice law in Illinois], the underlying concept survives. Supreme Court Rule 708 establishes the Committee on Character and Fitness to determine whether an applicant is of "good moral character and general fitness to practice law."

CHARACTER AND FITNESS REGISTRATION APPLICATION. Pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 706, every applicant for the Illinois bar examination must file both a character and fitness registration application and a separate application to take the bar examination. The character and fitness registration application must be filed with the Board of Admissions to the Bar on or before March 1st of your first year in law school (July 1, if you begin law school in January or February). Applicants with serious matters of character and fitness

may request an expeditious determination from the Character and Fitness Committee.

Rule 706 further states that character and fitness registration applications filed on or before the applicable deadline must be accompanied by a nonrefundable fee of \$100. The nonrefundable fee for registration applications filed after the established deadline is \$450.

Character and fitness registration applications and separate applications to take the bar examination can be obtained from the Board of Admissions to the Bar at its website at [www.ibaby.org](http://www.ibaby.org). Further contact information is listed on the last page of this pamphlet

The questionnaire is comprehensive and elicits the applicant's complete educational background, places of residence for the preceding 10 years, work records, any criminal record (including traffic violations), and the names and addresses of a specific number of unrelated persons known by the applicant.

The Board of Admissions then conducts an investigation of each applicant that includes items such as verification of school attendance and degree(s), verification and evaluation of employment, reference inquiries, credit checks, police inquiries, etc. Applications containing matters of concern are forwarded to a member of the Committee on Character and Fitness for review, evaluation and in some instances a personal interview. Some of these files require further consideration by an inquiry panel, and a small percentage proceed to a due process hearing.

The recommendations of the Committee on Character and Fitness are forwarded to the Board of Admissions. Most applicants are found fit—probably because the very thorough process of investigation and review discourages the potentially unfit from applying.

This does not mean that you should be discouraged from applying because, for example, a past indiscretion has given you a police record. If your subsequent record is excellent and includes positive social contributions and other evidence of rehabilitation, these factors will be considered as well. *Most Important:* Be completely open and honest throughout the application process.

The following *must* receive approval from the Character and Fitness Committee PRIOR to sitting for an Illinois bar examination:

- applicants previously convicted of a felony or a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude
- applicants against whom are now pending indictments, criminal informations, or criminal complaints charging felonies or misdemeanors involving moral turpitude

- applicants who have been rejected, or who have pending hearings in another jurisdiction on a ground related to character and fitness
- applicants admitted to practice in another jurisdiction who have been reprimanded, censured, disciplined, suspended or disbarred in such other jurisdiction
- applicants against whom there are pending disciplinary charges or proceedings in another jurisdiction.

APPLICATION TO TAKE THE BAR EXAMINATION. In addition to filing a character and fitness registration application under Rule 706, an applicant must complete and file a separate application to take the bar examination, along with the appropriate filing fee, current authorization and release forms, and a supplemental character and fitness questionnaire.

The regular filing deadlines for the July and February bar examinations are February 1st and September 1st, respectively; the late filing deadlines for the examinations are April 1st and November 1st, respectively; and the final late filing deadlines are May 31st and December 1st, respectively. Filing fees for applications to take the bar examination are \$250 for applications postmarked on or before the regular filing deadlines, \$500 for applications postmarked after the regular filing deadline but on or before the late filing deadlines, and \$1,000 for applications filed after the late filing deadlines but on or before the final filing deadlines. As provided by Supreme Court Rule 706(d), the Board of Admissions shall not consider requests for late filing of applications after the final bar examination filing deadlines.

Rule 706(c) also provides the deadlines and fees for one seeking to retake the February bar examination.

(1) \$150 for applications postmarked on or before the regular reexamination filing deadline of November 1st;

(2) \$500 for applications postmarked after November 1st but on or before the final late filing deadline of December 31st.

The fees and deadlines for filing applications for reexamination at a July bar examination are as follows:

(1) \$150 for applications postmarked on or before the regular reexamination filing deadline of May 1st;

(2) \$500 for applications postmarked after April 1st but on or before the final late filing deadline of May 31st.

Applicants must “make proof” of their legal completion of legal study and receipt of degree in such a manner as the Board shall require.

Many applicants choose to enroll in one of the commercial bar review courses. This is not required. Information on these courses is available through various legal publications and law school representatives.

Most character and fitness registration applications are submitted during the first year of law school; however, applicants undaunted by the higher fee may instead file the character and fitness registration application along with the application to take the bar examination during the last year of law school.

**HISTORY OF THE BAR EXAMINATION.** The requirement that one pass a qualifying examination to be licensed to practice law in the State of Illinois has existed as long as the state has. From 1818 to 1858, the examination was oral and conducted by the full Supreme Court, or one or more of the justices. From 1858 to 1897, various systems and structures were tried involving committees, boards, the Supreme Court, and the appellate courts. In 1897, the Board of Admissions to the Bar as we know it was constituted. At this time, written bar examinations were first introduced in Illinois.

Since its inception, at a time when most attorneys read the law rather than attending law school, the purpose of the exam has been to ensure a certain level of competence before one may practice law in Illinois. Rule 704 describes the current bar exam as the "academic qualification examination." Though today's exam is much different than in 1818, the rationale and philosophy behind it remains the same.

Under Rule 704(b) certain applicants must first pass character and fitness approval before sitting for the exam, but generally if the character fitness registration application and the separate bar exam application are satisfactory, the applicant may take the exam.

**TODAY'S BAR EXAMINATION.** The bar exam is a combination of written essay and Multistate Bar Exam multiple-choice questions. It is offered semi-annually (February and July) for two days at various locations in the Water Tower area of downtown Chicago, with three-hour sessions on both mornings and afternoons.

**The Essay Portion:** Historically, the first day, the Illinois Essay Examination (IEE) and the Multistate Performance Test (MPT) are administered in the morning, and the Multistate Essay Exam (MEE) is administered in the afternoon. The IEE is prepared by members of the Board of Admissions and comprised of three 30-minute essay questions on Illinois law. The MPT and MEE are prepared by the National Conference of Bar Examiners; the MPT consists of one 90-minute essay question, and the MEE consists of six 30-minute essay questions.

The MEE is administered by a large number of jurisdictions. MEE questions generally do not raise issues of law with regard to which states are sharply divided; they are to be answered by applying fundamental legal principles, rather than particular provisions of local law. Accordingly, an applicant can receive full credit for an answer couched wholly in terms of general legal principles, even in the rare instance when Illinois law conflicts.

Answers to each of the three IEE and six MEE essay questions are weighted equally, while the MPT answer is accorded 1.5 times the weight of each of the other essay answers. Answers to IEE and MEE questions must be limited to both sides of two lined pages; MPT answers must be limited to two sides of four lined pages.

Topics that may be included on the Illinois exam are set forth in Supreme Court Rule 704(d) and are as follows: administrative law; agency and partnership; business organizations, including corporations and limited liability companies; commercial paper; conflict of laws; contracts; criminal law and procedure; family law; equity jurisprudence; evidence; federal and state constitution law; federal jurisdiction and procedure; federal taxation; Illinois procedure; personal property, including sales and bailments; real property; secured transactions; suretyship; torts; trusts and future interests; and wills and decedent's estates.

While this is the official list of subjects and all are fair game for the Board of Admissions to the Bar in preparing the test, as a practical matter, you will not have essay questions on all of these subjects. It would be inappropriate--indeed, impossible--to predict what subjects will be covered on any specific exam, but some general observations can be safely made. For example, some subjects are almost always covered at least once--and often twice. Others have not been seen in recent years. With some exceptions, those subjects covered on the Multistate Bar Exam (the multiple-choice exam) have, in the past, not been covered extensively on the essay portion. *But*, no one knows what questions may lurk on your bar exam!

#### The Multistate Bar Exam:

The Multistate Bar Exam (MBE) is given on the second day of the bar exam and consists of 200 multiple-choice questions—100 each in the morning and afternoon sessions. These are answered on sheets read by a computer. As this is "multistate" it does not cover purely Illinois law, but is based upon the "majority" and "minority" positions held by states and jurisdictions nationwide.

The MBE has, in the past, covered the following basic areas of law, with 33 or 34 questions in each area:

Torts -

Contracts (including Sales and Secured Transactions) -

Evidence -

Real Property (including Future Interests) -  
Criminal Law and Procedure -  
Constitutional Law -

GRADING AND RESULTS. While computers quickly grade the Multistate Bar Exam, processing the written examinations takes somewhat longer. Qualified attorneys retained and supervised by the Board, which strives to maintain consistency in grading, score these. Just because what you wrote in the essay portion is not what was expected or does not reach the "correct" conclusion does not mean that you will not receive points. While in law school you often had to guess the answer the professor wanted or lose out entirely, the essay portion of the bar exam seeks a showing of knowledge, logic, and writing skills as well as an application of appropriate rules of law and the correct conclusion.

In Illinois, unlike some states, the scores of the essay and MBE portions are combined for one grade, and no minimum score is required on either portion of the exam. While statistics indicate that most people perform relatively equally on both portions, you do have the advantage in Illinois of being able to compensate for a deficiency in one portion of the exam with a surplus on the other portion and still obtain a passing score overall. Perfection is not required so you can "blow" a few questions and still pass.

Although some states take as long as six months to complete the results, Illinois grades, processes, and notifies individuals within approximately two months. This may seem like the longest two months of your life. But, just when the frustrating uncertainty seems infinite, you will receive a letter from the Board of Admissions to the Bar that, we hope, begins "*We are pleased to advise...*"

Be sure to advise the Board of Admissions of any change of address; failure to do so will obviously delay the arrival of your bar exam results. Shortly after the results are mailed, the applicant numbers (but not the names) of successful applicants will be posted on the Board's website. Applicants who wish to obtain exam results from the website must retain a record of their applicant numbers. Neither applicant numbers nor exam results may be obtained from the Board office until seven days after results are mailed.

THE ETHICS TEST. Applicants must also successfully complete an examination on the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct conducted by the Board of Admissions to the Bar. As allowed by Rule 704(d), the Board has thus far designated the MPRE of the National Conference of Bar Examiners as the Illinois test. Application forms are available at your law school or from the National Conference of Bar Examiners.

The application and required fee must be filed by a specific date set forth in the application material--generally one month prior to the test date. Results of the test may be used in other jurisdictions requiring the MPRE.

The ethics test is a bit of an aberration in the system in that it is not given in conjunction with the bar exam. Rather, the test is offered in March, August, and November. The MPRE must be taken AFTER an applicant has successfully completed two-thirds of the academic requirements for the JD degree. Scores attained before an applicant has completed the equivalent of two full academic years of law school will not be accepted by the Board.

The MPRE is graded separately and has no effect on an applicant's bar exam score. However, all applicants are required to take and pass the MPRE with a scaled score of 80 or above prior to admission to the bar.

In form, it is much like the Multistate portion of the bar exam. The ethics test consists of 50 multiple-choice questions that must be answered in two hours on a computer read sheet; results are returned promptly. The passage rate in Illinois has been quite high in the past. The test may be taken again if you do not pass the first time. As with the Multistate, the MPRE does not specifically cover the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct, but has in the past been based on the American Bar Association's Model Rules upon which Illinois Rules are based.

**THE BAR EXAMINATION EXPERIENCE.** The bar exam is unquestionably the most important and probably one of the most difficult tests you will confront in your scholastic pursuit. In preparing for the examinations one of the most helpful activities, besides studying the law, is reviewing past exams to familiarize you with the style and format of the questions, and to practice the analytical and writing skills that are required.

Equally important is psychological preparation for the process. Without trying to sound melodramatic, the entire admissions procedure might be thought of as a rite of passage, with all the emotions that accompany such an event. *For example:* you will, no doubt, feel pressure from the knowledge that your job may depend on your performance; fear that no matter how much you studied, you will be the only one you know who fails; the unfamiliar surroundings for the test; the fact that none of the choices on the Multistate is the correct answer; the realization as you walk out of the testing room of what your essay answer should have been; and talking to your peers after the exam. All of these feelings should be expected. It is a part of the process. Take a few moments and know that you will survive, you will probably pass, and in a hundred years, none of it will matter anyway. Equally important to consider, if you think you may want to practice in other states, consider taking the bar exam for those states at the same time. Some states do not have reciprocal admission so you might as well do it all at once.



ADMISSION TO THE BAR. Just because you have passed the bar exam and the ethics test, and have been found fit to be an attorney does not mean you are a licensed member of the bar. Two final steps are required—registration and the administration of the oath.

Supreme Court Rule 751, *et seq.*, describes the registration and discipline of attorneys, which is administered by the Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission (ARDC). Under Rule 756, all attorneys must register annually and remain current on the Master Roll of Attorneys, to be authorized to practice law in Illinois and receive each year's identification card. Soon after results of the bar exam are filed, you will receive your registration material, which must be completed and returned to the ARDC.

The Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct, Article VIII of the Supreme Court Rules, governs the conduct of Illinois attorneys. Disciplinary proceedings are also administered under the auspices of the ARDC, as authorized by the Supreme Court Rules.

Sometime shortly before or after notification of the bar exam results, you will receive from the Clerk of the Supreme Court a note showing your name and county as they will appear on your license, as well as the appellate district in which you will take your oath. Then, in November (for the July exam) or May (for the February exam), admissions ceremonies are held at designated locations in each of the five Illinois Appellate Court Districts. Upon payment of an additional fee, the Supreme Court Justice elected from your district administers the oath and licenses are distributed.

At this moment, with the oath ringing in your ears, a license to practice law in your hands, and registration completed, you have been granted the privilege of practicing law in all the Courts in Illinois with all of the rights, duties and responsibilities that entails.

One of the first advantages of your new status as an Illinois attorney is the reception for new admittees and their families and friends hosted by the ISBA immediately following your admission ceremony.

One of your first responsibilities is to continue your legal education. Under the Rules for Minimum Continuing Legal Education, Rule 793 requires newly admitted attorneys to complete a Basic Skills Course within one year of admission. Continuing legal education is required throughout your career.

THE FEDERAL COURTS. While an Illinois license and registration automatically qualifies you to practice in all Illinois state courts, further steps must be taken to practice before the various federal courts in Illinois. The admission requirements are found in the rules for each of the courts, copies of

which may be obtained from the clerks or reviewed in various legal directories, or online. Admission is administered by the clerks of the courts. Inquiries and requests for application materials should be directed to them.

*United States District Court:*

The admission procedures in the three districts are generally similar, requiring completion of specific application material, payment of a fee, and administration of an oath. The major difference is found in the Northern District, which is the only Illinois jurisdiction participating in a national experimental program aimed at increasing competence by requiring separate admission to the "trial bar" before one may appear alone during "testimonial proceedings." The links below are the various courts' application forms for admission to practice.

Northern District

<http://www.ilnd.uscourts.gov/PUBLIC/Forms/attyapp05ins.pdf>

Central District

<http://www.ilcd.uscourts.gov/forms/attyadmrevised.pdf>

Southern District

[http://www.ilsd.uscourts.gov/Forms/PDF%20Forms/web-att-adm-pkg\\_gen.pdf](http://www.ilsd.uscourts.gov/Forms/PDF%20Forms/web-att-adm-pkg_gen.pdf)

<http://www.ilsd.uscourts.gov/Forms/PDF%20Forms/web-att-adm-oath.pdf>

*United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit:*

Admission may be accomplished by mail by completing and returning to the clerk an application form with an oath to be sworn before any authorized officer. In addition, a member of the Seventh Circuit Bar should execute a sponsor's affidavit and motion. These documents and a fee are to be returned to the clerk. In person, the applicant appears at the clerk's office with the sponsoring attorney and similar forms are completed and filed with the fee. Then, as the first order of business before the court, the sponsor makes an oral motion and the court administers the oath. Listed below is the application form for admission to practice.

<http://www.ca7.uscourts.gov/forms/applctn.pdf>

*United States Supreme Court:*

Applicants must have been admitted to practice before the highest court of any jurisdiction in the United States and have been in good standing for the three years immediately preceding date of application and obtain a certificate from the proper authority to that effect. Each applicant must execute a personal statement and oath, obtain statements of two unrelated member sponsors and have a sponsor or third party, whose name is to appear on the certificate, complete the motion for admission. All of these are to be filed with an

admission fee with the clerk. Below are both the instructions and the application form for admission to practice.

<http://www.supremecourt.us.gov/bar/barinstructions.pdf>

<http://www.supremecourt.us.gov/bar/barapplication.pdf>

THE ILLINOIS STATE BAR ASSOCIATION AND YOU. While law school may have prepared you to be an attorney, which does not necessarily mean you are ready to practice law. With your diploma in one hand and license in the other, you must still find your way to the courthouse. Your legal education has really just begun. The Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA) can help you. As a new attorney, your first year's membership is complimentary to introduce you to the services available through the ISBA.

To help you in your continuing legal education, the ISBA offers the *Illinois Bar Journal*, *Illinois Courts Bulletin* (a monthly digest of all new Illinois Appellate, Supreme Court, and Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals opinions), newsletters published by various sections feature the latest in legislative and case law developments, and the ISBA's LAW ED series programs, designed to keep you on top of new developments in your practice areas, are regularly scheduled throughout the state. The variety of LAW ED programs gives all attorneys an easy, low cost opportunity to increase competency and keep current with Illinois law. Handout materials on the speaker's remarks or source materials are available.

To help interpret the Illinois Rules of Professional Conduct and how they relate to specific questions, the ISBA offers informal advice and formal advisory opinions on professional conduct. By joining the ISBA sponsored Illinois Lawyer Referral Service, or listing with [www.IllinoisLawyerFinder.com](http://www.IllinoisLawyerFinder.com), you can expand your client base. By participating in ISBA committees and sections you can improve the quality of justice and the quality of your chosen profession.

The ISBA's Department of Legislative Affairs provides up-to-date information on legislation and new laws. The ISBA also sponsors professional liability insurance through its own company, the ISBA Mutual Insurance Company. Also available is a sponsored group program on health, life and disability insurance and numerous other services, programs and publications.

The ISBA is committed to assisting and enhancing the practice experience of its members. We are located at the Illinois Bar Center in Springfield, across from the Capitol and next door to the Illinois Supreme Court, and at our Chicago Office, 20 South Clark Street, 9th Floor. Should you have questions, please feel free to contact us at (800) 252-8908 in Springfield, or (312) 726-8775 in Chicago.

EPILOGUE. The answer to the riddle of the Sphinx is:

The Human Animal--  
We are on four legs when we crawl as a child,  
We walk erect during our prime, and in the twilight of our years, we are aided in our  
steps by a cane.

We wish you every success as an attorney. The Illinois State Bar Association stands ready to help you throughout your professional career.

*Please note: Additional information on the admissions procedures may be found online at the Board of Admissions to the Bar Website: [www.ibaby.org](http://www.ibaby.org).*

## ADDRESSES

### **Illinois State Bar Association**

Springfield Office  
Illinois Bar Center  
424 South Second Street  
Springfield, IL 62701  
215/525-1760  
Toll free in Illinois 800/252-8908  
[www.isba.org](http://www.isba.org)

### **Illinois State Bar Association**

Chicago Regional Office  
Two First National Plaza  
20 South Clark Street, Suite 900  
Chicago, IL 60603  
312/726-8775

### **Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission**

One North Old State Capitol Plaza, Suite 345, Springfield, IL 62701  
217/522-6838  
or  
130 East Randolph, 15th Floor, Prudential Plaza, Chicago, IL 60601  
312/346-0690  
[www.iardc.org](http://www.iardc.org)

### **Clerk of the Court, Northern District of Illinois**

219 South Dearborn Street, 20th Floor, Chicago, IL 60604  
312/435-5670  
<http://www.ilnd.uscourts.gov/home/ClerksOffice.aspx>

### **Clerk of the Court, Central District of Illinois**

254 Federal Building, 100 N.E. Monroe, Peoria, IL 61602  
309/671-7118  
or  
211 19th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201  
309/793-5778  
or  
600 East Monroe, 151 U.S. Courthouse, P.O. Box 315, Springfield, IL 62705  
217/492-4020

or

201 South Vine, 218 U.S. Courthouse, Urbana, IL 61801  
217/373-5830

[http://www.ilcd.uscourts.gov/clerk\\_ALL.htm](http://www.ilcd.uscourts.gov/clerk_ALL.htm)

**Clerk of the Court, Southern District of Illinois**

750 Missouri Avenue, PO Box 249, East St. Louis, IL 62202  
618/482-9371, or

U.S. Courthouse and Post Office Building

PO Box 677, 301 W. Main Street, Benton, IL 62812

618/438-0671, or

Federal Building, 501 Belle Street, Alton, IL 62002

618/463-6402

<http://www.ilsd.uscourts.gov/court.html>

**Clerk of the Court, United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh District**

219 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, IL 60604

312/435-5850

<http://www.ca7.uscourts.gov/default.htm>

**Clerk of the Court, United States Supreme Court**

Supreme Court Building, Washington, DC 20543

202/479-3000

<http://www.supremecourtus.gov/>

**Board of Admissions to the Bar**

625 South College Street, Springfield, IL 62704

217/522-5917

Fax: 217/522-3728

[www.ibaby.org](http://www.ibaby.org)

**National Conference of Bar Examiners**

MPRE Applications Department, PO Box 4001, Iowa City, Iowa 52243

319/337-1287

[www.ncbex.org](http://www.ncbex.org)

**ISBA Mutual Insurance Company**

223 West Ohio Street, POB 109003, Chicago, IL 60610

312/379-2000

[www.isbamutual.com](http://www.isbamutual.com)

<p><b>CAVEAT: This brochure is not a substitute for examination of the specific applicable rules, which are subject to change at any time by the governing authorities.</b></p>
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Originally prepared in 1983 by Dennis A. Rendleman, the ISBA Standing Committee on Legal Education, Admissions and Competence, and Jan Hefti, State Board of Admissions to the Bar.

Updated: Dennis A. Rendleman, Director, UIS Pre-Law Center (2004-2008) with Thanks to PLC Graduate Assistants Ryan Reese, Natalia Vera, Bukola Bello, and Jennifer Sconyers.



**ILLINOIS STATE  
BAR ASSOCIATION**

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217.525.1760 or toll-free 800.252.8908**

[www.isba.org](http://www.isba.org)

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## AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION ACCREDITED LAW SCHOOLS IN ILLINOIS

### **DePaul University Law School**

25 E. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604 312/362-8701  
[www.law.depaul.edu](http://www.law.depaul.edu)

### **Illinois Institute of Technology/Chicago-Kent College of Law**

565 West Adams Street, Chicago, IL 60661 312/906-5000  
[www.kentlaw.edu](http://www.kentlaw.edu)

### **John Marshall Law School**

315 S. Plymouth Court, Chicago, IL 60604 312/427-2737  
[www.jmls.edu](http://www.jmls.edu)

### **Loyola University Law School**

One E. Pearson Street, Chicago, IL 60611 312/915-7120  
[www.luc.edu/schools/law](http://www.luc.edu/schools/law)

### **Northern Illinois University College of Law**

DeKalb, IL 60115 815/753-1067  
<http://law.niu.edu/law/>

### **Northwestern University School of Law**

357 E. Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611 312/503-8649  
[www.law.northwestern.edu](http://www.law.northwestern.edu)

### **Southern Illinois University School of Law**

Lesar Law Building, Carbondale, IL 62901 618/536-7711  
[www.law.siu.edu](http://www.law.siu.edu)

### **University of Chicago School of Law**

1111 E. 60th Street, Chicago, IL 60637 773/702-9494  
[www.law.uchicago.edu](http://www.law.uchicago.edu)

### **University of Illinois College of Law**

Law Building, 504 E. Pennsylvania Ave.,  
Champaign, IL 61820 217/333-0930  
[www.law.uiuc.edu](http://www.law.uiuc.edu)