

# CHART I: Basic Information

| State or Jurisdiction    | Rules for admission promulgated by: |      | Is prelegal education required? |    | Is there a residence requirement for applicants? |    | Is registration of law students required? |    | May students take exam prior to graduation? |    |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|------|---------------------------------|----|--|----|---|----|---|----|
|                          | S. Ct.                              | Leg. | Yes                             | No | Yes  | No | Yes                                       | No | Yes   | No |
| Alabama                  | X                                   |      | X                               |    |  | X  | X   |    |   | X  |
| Alaska                   | X                                   | X    |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Arizona                  | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Arkansas                 | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| California               | X                                   | X    | X                               |    |  | X  | X   |    |   | X  |
| Colorado                 | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Connecticut              | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Delaware                 | X                                   |      | X                               |    |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Dist. of Columbia        | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Florida                  | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  | X   |    |   | X  |
| Georgia                  | X                                   |      | X                               |    |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Hawaii                   | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Idaho                    | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Illinois                 | X                                   |      | X                               |    |  | X  | X   |    |   | X  |
| Indiana                  | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  | X   |    |
| Iowa                     | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  | X   |    | X   |    |
| Kansas                   | X                                   |      | X                               |    |  | X  |   | X  | X   |    |
| Kentucky                 | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Louisiana                | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  | X   |    |   | X  |
| Maine                    | X                                   |      | X                               |    |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Maryland                 | X                                   | X    | X                               |    |  | X  | X   |    |   | X  |
| Massachusetts            | X                                   | X    | X                               |    |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Michigan                 | X                                   | X    | X                               |    |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Minnesota                | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Mississippi              | X                                   | X    | X                               |    |  | X  | X   |    | X   |    |
| Missouri                 | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Montana                  | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Nebraska                 | X                                   |      | X                               |    |  | X  |   | X  | X   |    |
| Nevada                   | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| New Hampshire            | X                                   |      | X                               |    |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| New Jersey               | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| New Mexico               | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| New York                 | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  | X   |    |
| North Carolina           | X                                   |      | X                               |    |  | X  |   | X  | X   |    |
| North Dakota             | X                                   |      | X                               |    |  | X  | X   |    |   | X  |
| Ohio                     | X                                   |      | X                               |    |  | X  | X   |    |   | X  |
| Oklahoma                 | X                                   |      | X                               |    |  | X  | X   |    |   | X  |
| Oregon                   | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Pennsylvania             | X                                   |      | X                               |    |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Rhode Island             | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| South Carolina           | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| South Dakota             | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Tennessee                | X                                   |      | X                               |    |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Texas                    | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  | X   |    | X   |    |
| Utah                     | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Vermont                  | X                                   |      | X                               |    |  | X  |   | X  | X   |    |
| Virginia                 | X                                   | X    |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  | X   |    |
| Washington               | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| West Virginia            | X                                   |      | X                               |    |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Wisconsin                | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  | X   |    |
| Wyoming                  | X                                   | X    |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Guam                     | X                                   |      | X                               |    |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Northern Mariana Islands | X                                   | X    | X                               |    |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Palau                    | X                                   |      |                                 | X  |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Puerto Rico              | X                                   | X    | X                               |    |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |
| Virgin Islands           | X                                   |      | X                               |    |  | X  |   | X  |   | X  |

See supplemental remarks.

# CHART I: Basic Information

Are the rules for admission to the practice of law in your jurisdiction promulgated by the state supreme court or the state legislature?

**Alabama** Board of Commissioners, with ultimate approval in the Supreme Court.

**Connecticut** Superior Court.

**District of Columbia** Court of Appeals.

**Maryland** The statutory requirements are implemented by rules adopted by Court of Appeals.

**Massachusetts** Rules for admission of attorneys promulgated by the Supreme Judicial Court. Board of Bar Examiners may make additional rules subject to Supreme Judicial Court approval; legislative enabling statute.

**Mississippi** Board of Bar Examiners, subject to ultimate authority in the legislature with Supreme Court approval.

**North Carolina** Board of Bar Examiners, with ultimate approval by the Council of the North Carolina State Bar and the Supreme Court.

**Texas** Legislature enacts Board's enabling statute; Supreme Court adopts rules.

**Virgin Islands** Superior Court of the Virgin Islands.

**Virginia** Admission by examination: Board of Bar Examiners, with ultimate authority in the legislature. Admission on motion: Supreme Court of Virginia.

Do the rules of your jurisdiction require any specific period of prelegal education?

**Alabama** Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.

**California** Two years of college; total of 60 semester or 90 quarter units of college credit with an average grade at least equal to that required for graduation, or attain specific minimum scores on selected general exams administered by College Level Examination Program (CLEP).

**Delaware** Bachelor's degree.

**Georgia** Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.

**Guam** Two years college.

**Kansas** Baccalaureate degree.

**Maine** Two-year degree.

**Maryland** Applicant must have completed prelegal education necessary to meet the minimum requirements for admission to an ABA-approved law school.

**Massachusetts** Graduation from high school or equivalent and completion of work acceptable for a bachelor's degree or equivalent.

**Michigan** Two years college; total of 60 semester or 90 quarter hours.

**Mississippi** Three years college if on a 3-3 program, or bachelor's degree.

**New Hampshire** Three years' work required for a bachelor's degree.

**North Carolina** Completion of academic work required for admission to a law school approved by the Council of the North Carolina State Bar.

**Ohio** Bachelor's degree.

**Oklahoma** Bachelor's degree.

**Pennsylvania** Bachelor's degree or equivalent education.

**Puerto Rico** Bachelor's degree or sufficient education to meet entrance requirements for admission to law school in Puerto Rico.

**Vermont** Three-quarters of work required for bachelor's degree.

**Virgin Islands** Bachelor's degree.

**West Virginia** Bachelor's degree.

Is there a residence requirement for applicants?

**Iowa** Applicant shall demonstrate a bona fide intention to practice law in Iowa.

**Minnesota** Prior to admission must be a resident or maintain an office in the state or designate the clerk of the Supreme Court as agent for service of process for all purposes.

**Nevada** Must be present or available within the state to facilitate examination, investigation, or interview related to application.

**Virginia** An applicant must intend, promptly after being admitted to practice in Virginia without examination, to establish his or her office in Virginia and to practice full time from such Virginia office.

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**Does your jurisdiction have any registration requirements for law students?**

**Alabama** Within 60 days of starting law school.

**California** Within 90 days of starting law school.

**Florida** Law students are encouraged to register within 180 days of starting law school.

**Illinois** By the first day of March following applicant's commencement of law school (first day of July for spring semester matriculants).

**Iowa** Filed by November 1 of the year the student commences the study of law in an accredited law school.

**Maryland** At the beginning of law school if early determination of character is desired; by January 16 for a July examination and by September 15 for a February examination.

**Mississippi** Law students must file a registration application by October 1 of applicant's second year of law school.

**Missouri** Law students are permitted to seek an early character and fitness determination and may file an application upon beginning law school.

**North Dakota** Law students must file a registration application by October 1 of applicant's second year of law school, or 14 months after the first day of the first year of law school.

**Ohio** By November 15 in the applicant's second year of law school.

**Oklahoma** By March 15 of the year following the year in which law study was commenced.

**Texas** Within approximately 60 days after entry into an approved Texas law school. Does not apply to graduates from approved law schools in other states.

**Are law students eligible to take the bar examination prior to graduation from law school?**

**District of Columbia** By filing deadline, must be certified by dean of the law school as having completed all requirements for graduation.

**Indiana** Applicants who have fewer than five credit hours to complete, are within 100 days of graduation, have completed two hours of professional responsibility and have completed all requirements for admission to the bar may sit.

**Iowa** Must receive degree within 45 days after the first day of the July examination or by the first day of the February examination.

**Kansas** Must graduate within 30 days after last day of the bar examination.

**Mississippi** Must complete all work required for degree within 60 days of the examination.

**Nebraska** Must receive degree within 60 days of examination.

**New York** Must have completed all work required for graduation, although degree may not have been conferred.

**North Carolina** Must graduate within 30 days after exam.

**Texas** Must be within four semester hours of completing all requirements for graduation.

**Vermont** Must have completed all work required for graduation, although degree may not have been conferred.

**Virginia** Must have completed all requirements for graduation prior to taking bar examination, although degree may not have been conferred.

**Wisconsin** Must receive degree within 60 days after examination.