

Rhode Island by making it easier for law school graduates from around the country to bring their talents here.

The Court endorses the recommendation of the Board and hereby adopts the UBE beginning with the administration of the February 2019 bar examination, subject to the Court's enactment of necessary rule amendments and modifications to its newly implemented electronic filing systems.

The Court also adopts the following specific recommendations of the Board with respect to the UBE in Rhode Island:

1. that the UBE in Rhode Island not include a separate local component;
2. that the current passing score of 276 be retained;
3. that Rhode Island begin accepting the transfer of UBE scores once Rhode Island first administers the UBE;
4. that Rhode Island accept the transfer of UBE scores earned within two (2) years of submitting an application for admission to the Rhode Island Bar;
5. that the current five-time fail rule be retained such that an applicant who fails five bar examinations in this or any other jurisdiction be prohibited from obtaining admission to the Rhode Island Bar, and that with respect to the UBE, failure to achieve a score of 276 on any administration of the UBE constitutes a fail for purposes of the rule;
6. that Rhode Island retain the attorneys' exam and maintain the current passing score of 138; and
7. that the Court increase the fees for those seeking admission to the Rhode Island Bar to closely parallel the fees currently charged in neighboring jurisdictions.

The Court is aware that this change to the Rhode Island bar examination impacts individuals who, as of the date of this Order, have applied to take the upcoming July 2018 bar examination. Accordingly, it is hereby ordered that current applicants for the July 2018 bar examination may defer their application for admission to the first administration of the UBE without payment of the required deferral fees. Applicants seeking to defer per this Order shall file a request to defer on the Rhode Island Supreme Court Attorney Portal no later than June 15, 2018.

The Court extends sincere gratitude to the Board of Bar Examiners, the Clerk, and Bar Admissions staff for their time and thorough review of this issue for the Court.

Entered as an Order of this Court this 7th day of *June 2018*.

/s/
Suttell, C. J.

/s/
Goldberg, J.

/s/
Flaherty, J.

/s/
Robinson, J.

/s/
Indeglia, J.