

**Illinois Board of Admissions to the Bar  
625 S. College Street  
Springfield, IL 62704  
Tel: 2175225917  
Fax: 217-522-3728: 9327**

**CERTIFICATE OF MEDICAL OR PSYCHOLOGICAL AUTHORITY**

In re the request of  
accommodation

for nonstandard testing

**This form must be completed by a professional who is qualified to diagnose the applicant's disability and familiar with its current impact on the applicant's ability to perform on the Illinois Bar Examination. The recommendations for nonstandard testing accommodation must be SPECIFIC, and diagnoses must support a CURRENT need for the accommodation. A description of the Illinois bar examination is set forth at the end of this form. Attach and sign extra pages to complete your answers as necessary.**

1. Please provide your name, address, email address, phone number, and fax number and describe the professional qualifications (terminal degree, clinical specialty, licensure, etc.) that enable you to act in the capacity of a medical or psychological authority re the applicant's physical or mental impairment. A recent copy of your curriculum vitae must be attached.

2. Advise the date(s) on which you examined the applicant.

3. Describe the nature and severity of the applicant's physical or mental impairment and discuss its effects on the applicant's ability to take the bar examination under standard testing conditions.

4. Provide the complete ICD (International Classification of Diseases) diagnosis of the physical impairment or the complete multiaxial DSMIV or DSMIVTR (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders) diagnosis of the mental impairment, including all relevant severity and course specifiers and a rating of the Global Assessment of Functioning.

5. List the tests, studies and/or procedures used to diagnose the physical or mental impairment and attach a copy of all pertinent medical or psychological records, including results of laboratory studies, diagnostic tests, and clinical procedures used to determine the presence and severity of impairment. In the case of psychological and psychoeducational testing, please attach all raw data and psychological reports pertinent to the impairment.

6. Advise with specificity the nonstandard testing accommodations you recommend for the applicant. Explain in detail how each accommodation relates to the applicant's physical or mental impairment and why each accommodation is needed. In each instance, support your recommendation with specific test results or clinical observations. If your recommendation includes an extension of the customary examination time, SPECIFY the amount of extra time recommended on each segment of the examination and describe your rationale for the amount of time recommended. If your recommendation includes the use of a computer to answer essay portions of the examination, advise whether and, if so, why the use of a spell check function is included as part of your recommendation.

Date of execution

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Signature

## **Description of the Illinois bar examination**

The Illinois bar examination is a timed, 2-day examination. For July 2021, it will be offered remotely for the vast majority of applicants. In the remote environment, the applicant takes the entire exam in a location of their choice. They are monitored via video and audio recording.

They may not leave the view of the camera during any exam session, which are 90 minutes in length for non-accommodated applicants. There are breaks in between those sessions of 30 minutes, and a 90-minute break for lunch.

On the first day, applicants use their laptop computers to type essay answers, but are not permitted access to a spell check function. The essay answers are in two formats. For the first 90 minutes of the morning session, they complete a Multistate Performance Test (MPT) task (which is a skills-based essay), and the next 90 minutes answering a second MPT. During the afternoon session, applicants spend 3 hours total answering 6 essay questions.

On the second day, applicants answer 200 multiple choice questions posed on the standardized Multistate Bar Examination (MBE). Applicants mark answers using a mouse or a keystroke. It is done in four 90-minute blocks of 50 questions each for non-accommodated applicants, with a 30-minute break between the two morning sessions, a 90-minute break for lunch, and 30-minute break in between the two afternoon sessions.