

EXPLANATION OF REPORT OF UBE SCORES

Scores on the Essay Portion of the Exam

The essay portion of the exam consists of six MEE questions and two MPT questions. The MEE and MPT questions are graded using a 10-point scale. Essay raw scores are converted to scaled scores using the standard deviation method of scaling. Scaling puts the essay raw scores on the 200-point scale of the MBE and adjusts for possible differences in the difficulty of the essay questions or in the harshness of the essay grading from one exam administration to another. Essay scaled scores are rounded to one decimal place. Your “Report of Examination Scores” posted with your results letter includes your Essay scaled score.

Scores on the MBE Portion of the Exam

NCBE scores the MBE component of the UBE. Jurisdictions grade the MEE and MPT components. The performance information provided for the MBE is a scaled score which can range from about 40 (low) to 200 (high). MBE scaled scores are calculated by NCBE based on a statistical process known as equating that is commonly used on standardized examinations. This statistical process adjusts raw scores on the current examination to account for differences in difficulty as compared with past examinations. Equating makes it possible to compare scaled scores across test administrations because any particular scaled score will represent the same level of knowledge/performance from one test date to another. Equating helps to ensure that no examinee is unfairly penalized or rewarded for taking a more or less difficult form of the test. Because the adjustment of scores during equating is examination-specific (i.e., based on the level of difficulty of the current examination as compared to previous examinations), it is not possible to determine in advance of the test how many questions an examinee must answer correctly to achieve a specific scaled score. MBE scaled scores are rounded to one decimal place. Your Report of Examination Scores includes your MBE scaled score.

UBE Total Scores

The MEE and MPT scores are scaled to the MBE and UBE total scores are calculated by NCBE. The MBE is weighted 50%, the MEE 30%, and the MPT 20%. UBE total scores are reported on a 400-point scale. An applicant’s total score is the sum of the applicant’s MBE scaled score and essay scaled score rounded to a whole number. For applicants who transfer an MBE score from another jurisdiction, the transferred MBE scaled score is added to the essay scaled score earned in Missouri to determine the applicant's total score. A total score of at least 260 is required to pass the bar examination in Missouri.

UBE Score Versus Non-UBE Score

Applicants must sit for both the essay (MEE and MPT) portion and the MBE portion of the examination in a single administration in order to earn a portable UBE score that can be transferred to seek admission in other jurisdictions. Applicants who transfer an MBE score to Missouri and sit for only the essay portion of the examination will earn a score that can be used only to seek admission in Missouri.

Accuracy of Your Reported Exam Scores

Prior to release, the results of each examination are subjected to numerous rounds of verification and proofing to ensure that all scores are mathematically correct and accurately reported to you on the Report

of Examination Scores. In addition, all MEE and MPT answers of any applicant whose preliminary total scaled score is within a set range are automatically re-graded prior to release of exam results. The re-grading is blind in that the graders do not know what scores were assigned originally. The range is set sufficiently wide, however, to encompass any applicant whose pass/fail status realistically could be changed by re-grading.

Finality of Examination Results

Released examination results are final. No re-grading of essays will be undertaken and no appeal of scores is allowed. Applicants may not review their MEE, MPT or MBE answers.

The National Conference of Bar Examiners will hand-score (as opposed to machine-score) an applicant's MBE answer sheet for a fee of \$50.00. To request a hand-scoring of your MBE answers, please mail a check made payable to NCBE directly to: Missouri Board of Law Examiners, 1700 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, MO 65109. Include your name, NCBE Number (or SSN), date of birth and address with your check. We will submit your request to NCBE and notify you, generally about four weeks after we receive your request, of the outcome of the hand-scoring. Score verifications must be requested before the next administration of the MBE.