



Application for Admission to the Palau Bar *Instructions for Completing an Application*

All applicants seeking admission to the Palau Bar must complete the following:

1. **Form A: Character & Fitness Questionnaire**

Form A includes an affidavit and a general release form, both of which must be signed and notarized;

2. **Bar Admission Good Standing or Letter from Law School**

An application must include an original certificate of good standing, **issued within 30 days prior to the applicant's application for admission to the Palau bar**, from the bar of *each* jurisdiction in which the applicant is a member, *OR*, if the applicant is not and has never been a member of any bar, a letter from the applicant's law school attesting to the applicant's good moral character;

3. **Law School Graduation Confirmation**

An application must include a certification of graduation from the law school's registrar or a photocopied diploma from the school from which the applicant graduated;

AND

4. **EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING, AS APPLICABLE:**

Form B: Admission without Examination: (Government Attorneys)

Applicants for admission without examination, pursuant to Rule 3 of the *Rules of Admission*, must complete **Form B**.

OR

Form C: Admission by Examination (Palau Bar Exam)

Applicants seeking admission by examination must complete **Form C** and submit non-refundable payment of \$300 to the Clerk of Courts.

Completed applications to sit for the Palau Bar Exam must be received at least forty-five days before the date of the next examination. It may take a week or more to process your application.

BAR APPLICANTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR REVIEWING THE "NOTICE OF EXAM" AND FOR ENSURING THAT HER/HIS APPLICATION IS COMPLETE BY THE REQUIRED DEADLINE. IF THE APPLICATION IS INCOMPLETE AT THE APPLICATION DEADLINE, THE APPLICANT SHALL BE INELIGIBLE TO SIT FOR THE EXAM.

Completed applications should be hand-delivered to the Clerk of Courts or sent by mail to:
Palau Supreme Court, P.O. Box 248, Koror, Palau PW 96940.

For inquiries regarding the Palau Bar Exam, please contact Ms. Vernice Rechebei, Chief Appellate Clerk at vrechebei@palausupremecourt.net. For further inquiries regarding admission without examination (Government Attorneys), please contact Ms. Allison Sengebau, Clerk of Courts, Trial Division at asengebau@palausupremecourt.net.

Requirements for Admission to the Palau Bar through Examination

Requirements for admission can be found in the Rule of Admission for Attorneys to Practice in the Courts of the Republic of Palau on the Court's website.

To summarize the rules, to be admitted to the Palau Bar, an applicant must:

- (1) complete the proper application forms as described above;
- (2) be of good moral character as provided for in Rule of Admission 2;
- (3) provide certificate(s) of good standing issued within 30 days **prior** to the date the Applicant submits her/his application for admission to the Palau Bar from all jurisdictions in which the applicant is admitted to practice or, if not a member of any jurisdiction's bar, a letter from the dean or dean's designee of the applicant's law school attesting to the applicant's good moral character;
- (4) not have been convicted of a felony, or if convicted, the applicant must have been granted a full pardon;
- (5) have graduated from an accredited law school, as described in Rule of Admission 2;¹ and
- (6) take and pass the Bar Examination as required in Palau and as explained below.

Exam Requirements

Applicants who have taken and passed the MBE, MEE, MPT I & II, and/or the MPRE within the five years prior to the date the Applicant submits her/his application for admission to the Palau Bar are not required to take that particular examination, as long as they provide official evidence from a testing authority of what would be deemed a passing score on the Palau Bar examination.

Applicants who have not previously taken and passed a bar examination in any state or territorial jurisdiction of the United States within the five years prior to submitting an application for admission to the Palau bar are required to take all portions of the Palau Bar Examination (MEE, MPT I & II, MBE, and Palau-based essay exam) in one sitting and take and pass the MPRE within the five years prior to submitting an application for admission to the Palau bar or within one year after taking the Palau Bar Examination.

¹ If the applicant has not graduated from an appropriately accredited law school as described in Rule of Admission 2, she/he may seek a waiver to be allowed to apply for admission to the Palau Bar.

UBE, MBE, and MPRE Score Services

All UBE, MBE, and MPRE score service requests for transferring scores from another jurisdiction, obtaining your test results, etc., must be submitted through an examinee's National Conference of Bar Examiners ("NCBE") account for the jurisdictions for which NCBE is authorized to perform score services (i.e., score transfers). NCBE is authorized to perform UBE score services for all UBE jurisdictions and MBE score services for only some U.S. Jurisdictions. The list of those jurisdictions is available on the NCBE webpage.

If you don't have an NCBE account, please go to the NCBE website (www.NCBEX.org) and create one.

Transfer of Bar Examination Score

Where the NCBE is not authorized by a state or territorial jurisdiction to perform MBE, MEE, or MPT score services (i.e., score transfers), the state or territorial jurisdiction where a bar examination was taken may allow scores to be transferred directly from the state or territory. Scores scaled on the same examination scale as used in Palau will be accepted. **Scores that are not scored on the same scale shall be ineligible for transfer because it cannot be determined whether they would be deemed a passing grade on the Palau Bar examination.**

Each jurisdiction's bar admission office contact information can be found on the home page of the NCBE website. Score reports should be sent directly from a state or territory to: Chief Appellate Clerk, Palau Supreme Court, P.O. Box 248, Koror, Palau 96940.

Bar Examination Fee

The examination fee is \$300. If paying by check or money order please make it payable to the "Palau Supreme Court." This fee is nonrefundable and will not be applied to future examinations should the applicant fail to sit for the examination.

Please also note the examination fee no-refund policy: An applicant's \$300.00 examination fee will not be refunded. Moreover, an applicant who submits an examination fee for the examination, but fails to take that exam will not be permitted to apply the examination fee to the next year's examination.