

Online Bar Examination Hardship Survey Data Summation and Analysis

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I. Introduction

This survey consisted of 177 unique responses, approximately 16.10% of the total number of registrants for Maryland's October bar examination (estimated to be 1,100 registrants). Survey results were collected between July 31, 2020, and August 22, 2020.

The overall survey margin of error was calculated to a 95% confidence interval. The margin of error for the survey is 7%.

This survey has found that the Maryland October 2020 Online Bar Examination poses myriad challenges and hardships to applicants. Some of those are:

- **44.70% of respondents anticipate spending additional money preparing for the remote bar exam.**
- **34.46% of respondents must obtain alternative insurance.**
- **Between 48.02% and 41.48% of respondents do not have a quiet space to take the bar examination in without interruption.**
- **37.29% of respondents are planning on paying for an alternative testing space.**
- **46.86% of respondents do not have a single room in their home that allows them to shut out all people, animals, and other things that could create noise and/or distraction.**
- **71.18% of respondents anticipate having at least one friend, spouse, family member, or other person in their home when they take the remote bar exam.**
- **Only 16.38% of respondents answered “yes” when asked if they have stable and reliable internet access to take the bar exam.**
- **94.85% of respondents answered “no,” they did not believe they could take the bar exam without fidgeting or touching their hair or faces.**
- **92.09% of respondents reported their bar exam preparation course teaches skills such as highlighting, circling, diagramming, and drawing.**
- **85.3% of respondents said “no,” they did not believe they would be able to get questions calling for diagramming reliably correct without access to physical scratch paper.**

The online bar exam also poses disproportionate challenges to nonwhite applicants that have the potential to unfairly means test nonwhite applicants or jeopardize their success:

- **Nonwhite respondents make up disproportionate shares of the groups of applicants reporting spending more money preparing for the online bar exam (6.36% higher than expected) and spending money on quiet testing space (7.60% higher than expected).**
- **Nonwhite respondents also make up a greater proportion of the population that reports not having a stable and reliable power (25.30% higher) than they should have, if problems with power sources were distributed proportionally to race/ethnicity.**

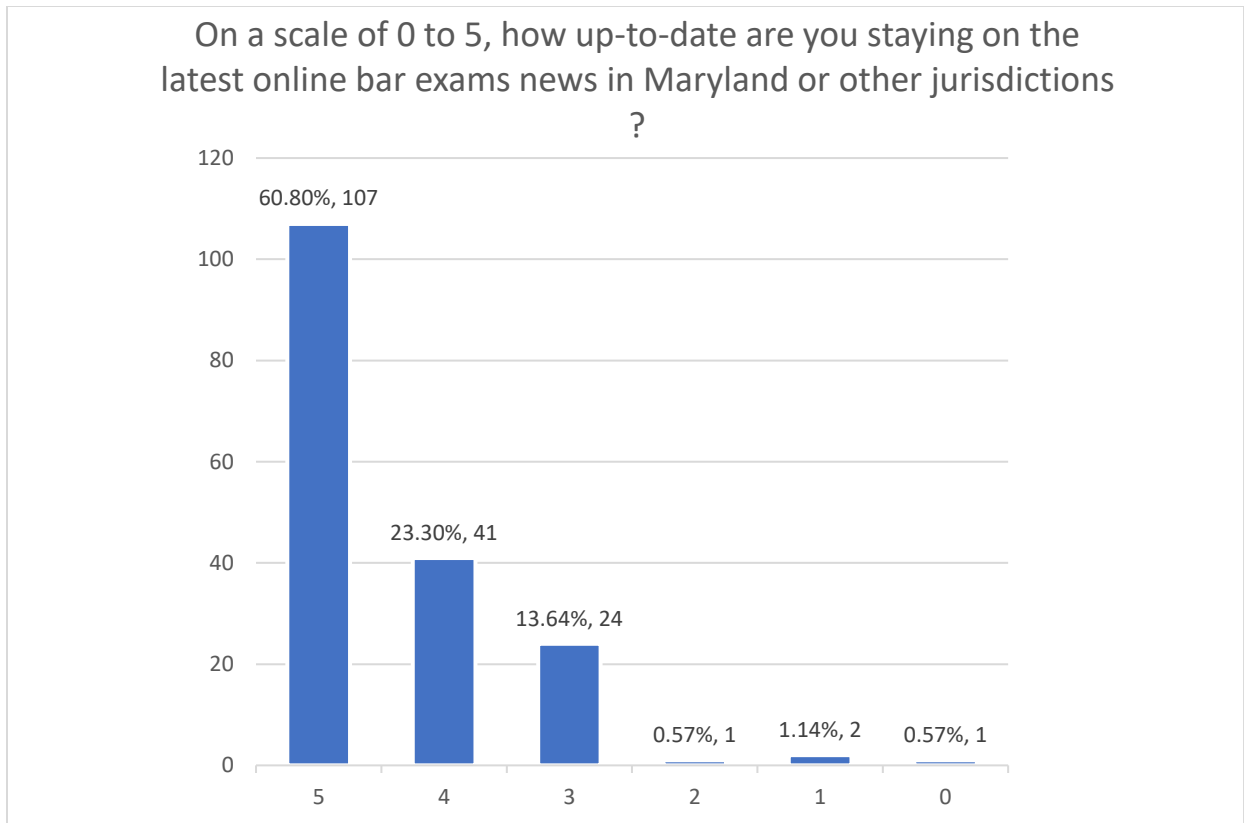
Those, and other hardships potentially imposed by the online bar exam, are discussed below.

II. Overview of Survey Respondents

There were 177 respondents to the survey. 94.92% of respondents remain registered for the October 2020 Online Bar Examination; the other respondents have withdrawn or plan to withdraw.¹ The demographics of the survey respondents are as follows:

- **Age:** 93.22% are between 22 and 35 years old.
- **Gender Identity:** 67.80% identify as female, 32.20% identify as male.
- **LGBTQIA+ Membership:** 12.57% identify as a member of the LGBTQIA+ Community.
- **Race/Ethnicity:** 62.15% identify as white, 37.85% identify as non-white²

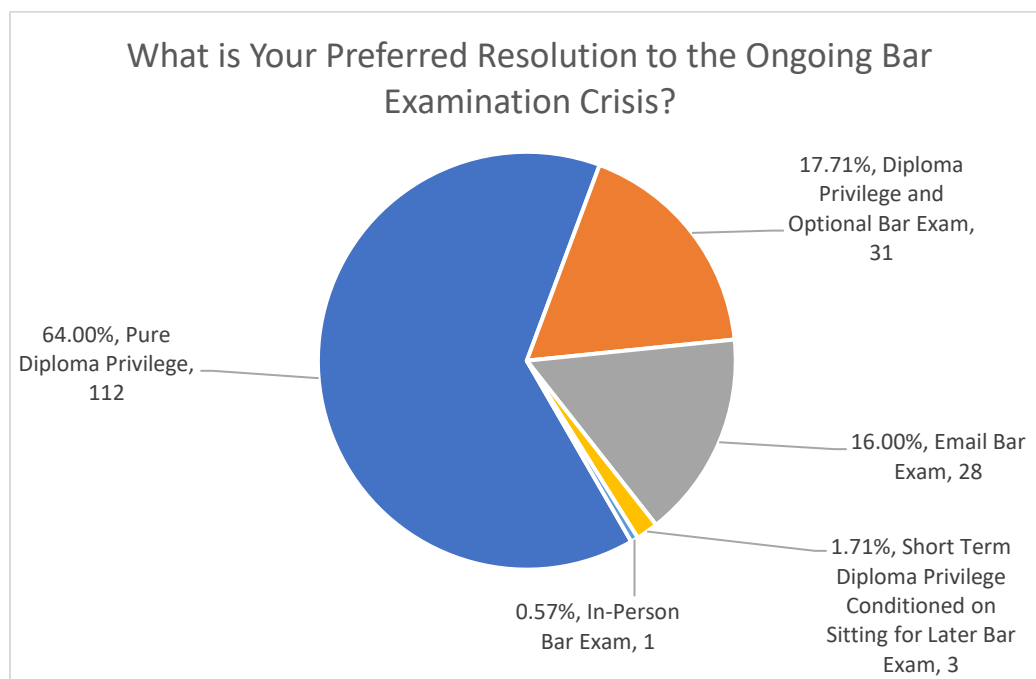
Respondents have been staying up to date on developments regarding the bar examination, both in Maryland and across the country. When asked to rate how up to date they were staying on a scale of 0-5, 107 respondents (60.80%) rated themselves “5.” 172 respondents (97.73%) rates themselves “3” or higher.



¹ 168 registered, 5 registered but planning to withdraw, 4 previously registered but subsequently withdrawn.

² Respondents were asked to submit the single race or ethnicity they most identify with. 6 respondents reported both a “non-white” race/ethnicity and a “white” race/ethnicity. Those six respondents have been classified as “non-white” for the purposes of statistical calculation. Respondents were asked to report as many races/ethnicities as fit their identity in a subsequent question. All race and ethnicity data for all respondents can be found in Section VII.B.

Most respondents selected Diploma Privilege as their preferred resolution to the bar examination crisis (112 respondents, 64.37% of those answering the question), but notable numbers preferred either Diploma Privilege and the option of an online bar exam (31 respondents, 17.71%), or an email bar exam, similar to Indiana and Louisiana (28 respondents, 16%). There was a margin of error of 1.13%, calculated from two nonresponses.³



III. Race/Ethnicity Analysis

Survey results indicate proceeding with an online bar exam in October 2020 potentially places nonwhite applicants at a disadvantage when compared with white applicants. Nonwhite applicants will be disproportionately harmed in several ways: disproportionately having to having to pay for test taking spaces and resources, disproportionately having to obtain insurance, and disproportionately facing anticipated electricity unreliability on test day. This section first explains how to “read” the below charts, which demonstrate and summarize the disproportionality analysis conducted on the substantive survey questions. Then, salient disproportionalities with the potential to harm nonwhite test takers are discussed.

The furthest right column, disproportionality (“Disprop”), reflects whether there is a disproportionality by race for that answer. A positive disproportionality number means the race has a higher share of responses selecting that answer choice than would be expected when considering their overall share of the population for that question. A negative disproportionality

³ Three respondents indicated multiple choices in answering this question. To simplify presentation of results those responses were only counted towards the first test format they indicated in their answer.

number means the race has a lower share of responses selecting that answer than expected. The closer the number is to zero the less there is a disproportionality.

For example, on the question of needing to obtain alternative health insurance every respondent answered the question, so the 67 respondents classified as “nonwhite” make up 37.85% of the population answering this question. A total of 61 respondents, irrespective of race, indicated they have to obtain alternative insurance. If the need to obtain alternative insurance was proportional by race, then 37.85% of respondents selecting they needed alternative insurance would be nonwhite (approximately 23 nonwhite individuals). Instead, nonwhite individuals are 40.98% of the respondents selecting yes (25 individuals). Thus, nonwhite individuals disproportionately have to obtain alternative insurance. Disproportionally needing insurance is a disproportionately that harms nonwhite respondents so it has been marked in red.

The disproportionality numbers for nonwhite respondents have been color coded for quick reference. “Beneficial” disproportionalities—having a higher than expected access to a resource, for example—have been marked in green. Disproportionality numbers close to 0—answers which follow the expected distribution of races—have been marked in orange. “Harmful” disproportionalities are in red.

A. Disproportionate Costs to Nonwhite Applicants

The online bar exam places a disproportionate financial burden on nonwhite applicants. When applicants were asked “Do you anticipate needing to spend additional money preparing for the remote October 2020 bar exam (this is different from paying for a testing space, i.e. do you need to buy a new computer, pay for faster internet, are you paying for specialized online tutoring, etc.)? If yes, how much?” **nonwhite respondents were disproportionately likely to anticipate paying some additional amount of money, having a population share 6.36% higher than expected** (37.06% population share for the entire question, 43.42% population share for responses anticipating paying some amount).

Do you anticipate needing to spend additional money preparing for the remote October 2020 bar exam (this is different from paying for a testing space, i.e. do you need to buy a new computer, pay for faster internet, are you paying for specialized online tutoring, etc.)? If yes, how much?						
NW *4 nonresponses	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
No	5	7.94%	21	23.81%	37.06%	-13.25%
Maybe, but unsure right now	25	39.68%	73	34.25%	37.06%	-2.81%
Less than \$250	6	9.52%	16	37.50%	37.06%	0.44%
\$100-\$250	0	0.00%	0	#DIV/0!	37.06%	Null Set
\$250-\$500	13	20.63%	32	40.63%	37.06%	3.57%

\$500-\$750	5	7.94%	8	62.50%	37.06%	25.44%
\$750-\$1000	3	4.76%	7	42.86%	37.06%	5.80%
\$1,000-\$2,000	3	4.76%	9	33.33%	37.06%	-3.73%
More than \$2,000	3	4.76%	4	75.00%	37.06%	37.94%
Total	63					
Yes, some amount	33	52.38%	76	43.42%	37.06%	6.36%
White *3 nonresponses	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
No	16	14.95%	21	76.19%	62.94%	13.25%
Maybe, but unsure right now	48	44.86%	73	65.75%	62.94%	2.81%
Less than \$250	10	9.35%	16	62.50%	62.94%	-0.44%
\$100-\$250	0	0.00%	0	#DIV/0!	62.94%	Null Set
\$250-\$500	19	17.76%	32	59.38%	62.94%	-3.57%
\$500-\$750	3	2.80%	8	37.50%	62.94%	-25.44%
\$750-\$1000	4	3.74%	7	57.14%	62.94%	-5.80%
\$1,000-\$2,000	6	5.61%	9	66.67%	62.94%	3.73%
More than \$2,000	1	0.93%	4	25.00%	62.94%	-37.94%
Total	107					
Yes, some amount	43	40.19%	76	56.58%	62.94%	-6.36%

Nonwhite applicants are also disproportionately contemplating needing to pay for a place to take the bar exam, now that applicants must furnish their own test taking environment. When asked “Do you anticipate that you will need to pay for a quiet space to take the remote October 2020 bar exam without interruption?” **nonwhite applicants were disproportionately likely to answer “yes” to needing to pay for a place to take the bar exam, having a population share 7.60% higher than expected** (37.85% population share for the entire question, 45.45% population share for the responses answering “yes”). Furthermore, when asked “If you do anticipate needing to pay for a quiet space to take the remote October 2020 bar exam in how much do you anticipate paying?” **nonwhite respondents were disproportionately likely to anticipate paying \$100 or more, having a population share 7.44% higher than expected** (37.01% population share for the question, 44.44% population share for the responses answering \$100 or more).

Do you anticipate that you will need to pay for a quiet space to take the remote October 2020 bar exam without interruption?						
NW	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
Yes	30	44.78%	66	45.45%	37.85%	7.60%
Maybe	13	19.40%	52	25.00%	37.85%	-12.85%
No	24	35.82%	59	40.68%	37.85%	2.82%
Total	67					
White	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
Yes	36	32.73%	66	54.55%	62.15%	-7.60%
Maybe	39	35.45%	52	75.00%	62.15%	12.85%
No	35	31.82%	59	59.32%	62.15%	-2.82%
Total	110					

If you do anticipate needing to pay for a quiet space to take the remote October 2020 bar exam in how much do you anticipate paying?						
NW *20 nonresponses	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
Unsure	15	31.91%	52	28.85%	37.01%	-8.16%
Less than \$100	0	0.00%	3	0.00%	37.01%	-37.01%
\$100-\$250	12	25.53%	29	41.38%	37.01%	4.37%
\$250-\$500	15	31.91%	36	41.67%	37.01%	4.66%
\$500-\$750	3	6.38%	5	60.00%	37.01%	22.99%
\$750-\$1000	2	4.26%	2	100.00%	37.01%	62.99%
Total	47					
More than \$100	32	68.09%	72	44.44%	37.01%	7.44%
White *30 nonresponses			# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
Unsure	37	46.25%	52	71.15%	62.99%	8.16%
Less than \$100	3	3.75%	3	100.00%	62.99%	37.01%
\$100-\$250	17	21.25%	29	58.62%	62.99%	-4.37%
\$250-\$500	21	26.25%	36	58.33%	62.99%	-4.66%

\$500-\$750	2	2.50%	5	40.00%	62.99%	-22.99%
\$750-\$1000	0	0.00%	2	0.00%	62.99%	-62.99%
Total	80					
More than \$100	40	50.00%	72	55.56%	62.99%	-7.44%

The disproportionate impact of paying for a suitable test taking space is more concerning when we consider the results of two questions asking respondents if they believed they have a quiet space to take the bar exam in without interruption. The first question, “Do you have a quiet place to TAKE the remote October 2020 bar exam without interruption?” was asked early in the survey, while a second question “Do you have a space in which you can take the bar examination uninterrupted for the entire duration of the exam?” was asked after respondents had been asked to review sample test taking rules from Tennessee and Maryland. From the first to second question respondents trended away from being certain (i.e., answering “yes” or “no”) that they would have such a space to being uncertain (i.e., answering “maybe”).⁴ This was driven mostly by a decrease in the number of respondents answering “no.”

These two questions reveal a disproportionality, however, when the answers of white and nonwhite respondents are considered separately. The responses to the first question already indicate nonwhite respondents disproportionately do not have a quiet space to take the bar exam without interruption, 1.47% higher than expected (37.36% population share for the question, 38.82% population share for respondents answering “no”). **This disproportionality increases when we move from the first to second question: nonwhite respondents are now 5.77% more likely to not have a space to take the bar examination uninterrupted for the entire duration of the exam than expected based on their population share** (38.07% population share for question, 43.84% population share for respondents answering “no”). This is due to the number of white respondents answering “no” decreasing from 52 to 41, while the number of nonwhite respondents answering “no” only decreased by 1, from 33 to 32. **While white respondent’s confidence in having a suitable exam taking space increased nonwhite respondent’s concerns over not having access to a suitable test taking space remained static.**

Do you have a quiet place to TAKE the remote October 2020 bar exam without interruption?						
NW	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
Yes	15	22.39%	32	46.88%	37.36%	9.52%
Maybe	19	28.36%	60	31.67%	37.36%	-5.69%
No	33	49.25%	85	38.82%	37.36%	1.47%
Total	67					

⁴ See *infra*, Section IV.B.

White	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disprop.
Yes	17	15.45%	32	53.13%	62.64%	-9.52%
Maybe	41	37.27%	60	68.33%	62.64%	5.69%
No	52	47.27%	85	61.18%	62.64%	-1.47%
Total	110					

Do you have a space in which you can take the bar examination uninterrupted for the entire duration of the exam? (asked after reviewing sample test instructions)						
NW	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disprop.
Yes	12	17.91%	27	44.44%	38.07%	6.38%
Maybe	23	34.33%	76	30.26%	38.07%	-7.81%
No	32	47.76%	73	43.84%	38.07%	5.77%
Total	67					
White	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disprop.
Yes	15	13.76%	27	55.56%	61.93%	-6.38%
Maybe	53	48.62%	76	69.74%	61.93%	7.81%
No	41	37.61%	73	56.16%	61.93%	-5.77%
Total	109					

A further economic burden that disproportionately impacts nonwhite applicants is the need to obtain alternative insurance because of the pushback of the bar examination date. **Across the board nonwhite applicants are disproportionately hurt by the need to obtain alternative insurance: they are 3.13% more likely than expected to need alternative insurance (37.85% of the population, 40.98% of “yes” answers), 3.53% more likely than expected to “maybe” need alternative insurance (37.85% of the population, 41.38% of “maybe” answers), and 3.37% less likely than expected to not need alternative health insurance (37.85% of the population, 34.48% of “no” answers).** Overall, 34.46% of the entire survey population, irrespective of race, reported needing to obtain alternative insurance and 16.38% reported “maybe” needing to obtain alternative insurance.⁵

⁵ See *infra*, Section IV.A.

Do you have to obtain alternative insurance (health, dental, etc.) because of the pushback of the bar examination date?						
NW	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
Yes	25	37.31%	61	40.98%	37.85%	3.13%
Maybe	12	17.91%	29	41.38%	37.85%	3.53%
No	30	44.78%	87	34.48%	37.85%	-3.37%
Total	67					
White	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
Yes	36	32.73%	61	59.02%	62.15%	-3.13%
Maybe	17	15.45%	29	58.62%	62.15%	-3.53%
No	57	51.82%	87	65.52%	62.15%	3.37%
Total	110					

Data indicating nonwhite applicants facing disproportionately costs is highly concerning, especially when contextualized against the fact that nonwhite applicants have a disproportionate amount of debt. Answers to a question on law school debt asked in Diploma Privilege for Maryland's first hardship survey in July 2020 indicated that nonwhite respondents made up 30% of the respondents answering the question, but were 32.80% of the respondents reporting law school debt of \$50,000 or higher (a disproportionality of 2.80%).

Do you have any debt from law school? (data from Compilation of Statistics from July Survey Conducted by Maryland for Diploma Privilege Version 1.5)						
NW	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disprop.
No	5	9.80%	24	20.83%	30.00%	-9.17%
<20k	2	3.92%	11	18.18%	30.00%	-11.82%
20-50	3	5.88%	10	30.00%	30.00%	0.00%
50-100	11	21.57%	24	45.83%	30.00%	15.83%
100-150	10	19.61%	32	31.25%	30.00%	1.25%
150-200	10	19.61%	39	25.64%	30.00%	-4.36%
>200	10	19.61%	30	33.33%	30.00%	3.33%
Total	51					
>50	41	80.39%	125	32.80%	30.00%	2.80%

White *1 nonresponse	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disprop.
No	19	15.97%	24	79.17%	70.00%	9.17%
<20k	9	7.56%	11	81.82%	70.00%	11.82%
20-50	7	5.88%	10	70.00%	70.00%	0.00%
50-100	13	10.92%	24	54.17%	70.00%	-15.83%
100-150	22	18.49%	32	68.75%	70.00%	-1.25%
150-200	29	24.37%	39	74.36%	70.00%	4.36%
>200	20	16.81%	30	66.67%	70.00%	-3.33%
Total	119					
>50	84	70.59%	125	67.20%	70.00%	-2.80%

B. Disproportionate Challenges at Home for Nonwhite Applicants

An online exam disproportionately harms nonwhite applicants because of the exam’s interaction with homelife in four ways: presence of children, use of earplugs, access to a power supply, and access to reliable internet.

Nonwhite respondents are disproportionately likely to have children at home with them while taking the test, unless they are able to work out an alternative childcare plan. The population share of nonwhite respondents answering “yes” to “Do you have children that will be home during the Bar Exam unless you are able to make provision for them to be somewhere else?” was 4.14% higher than expected (37.79% population share for the question, 41.94% population share for “yes” answer).

Whether that disproportionality translates into a disproportionate need for childcare remains to be seen. While white respondents who answered yes to whether they would have children home during the exam almost universally said they would need to arrange childcare for the exam, roughly half of nonwhite respondents answering that question answered “maybe.”

Do you have children that will be home during the Bar Exam unless you are able to make provision for them to be somewhere else?						
NW *2 nonresponses	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
Yes	13	20.00%	31	41.94%	37.79%	4.14%
No	52	80.00%	141	36.88%	37.79%	-0.91%
Total:	65					
White *3 nonresponses	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.

Yes	18	16.82%	31	58.06%	62.21%	-4.14%
No	89	83.18%	141	63.12%	62.21%	0.91%
Total	107					

Will you need to arrange childcare or care services for the days of the remote exam?						
NW	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disprop.
Yes	3	5.88%	17	17.65%	41.94%	-24.29%
Maybe	6	11.76%	7	85.71%	41.94%	43.78%
No	4	7.84%	7	57.14%	41.94%	15.21%
Total	13					
White	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disprop.
Yes	14	17.72%	17	82.35%	58.06%	24.29%
Maybe	1	1.27%	7	14.29%	58.06%	-43.78%
No	3	3.80%	7	42.86%	58.06%	-15.21%
Total	18					

Rules restricting the use of earplugs will disproportionately impact nonwhite applicants, 74.63% of whom indicated their interest in wearing earplugs while taking the exam. Their share of the population answering “yes” to “Do you anticipate wishing to wear earplugs while taking the bar examination?” is 4.52% higher than expected (37.85% overall population, 42.37% share of question population).

Do you anticipate wishing to wear earplugs while taking the bar examination?						
NW	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disprop.
Yes	50	74.63%	118	42.37%	37.85%	4.52%
Maybe	5	7.46%	20	25.00%	37.85%	-12.85%
No	12	17.91%	39	30.77%	37.85%	-7.08%
Total	67					
White	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disprop.
Yes	68	61.82%	118	57.63%	62.15%	-4.52%
Maybe	15	13.64%	20	75.00%	62.15%	12.85%
No	27	24.55%	39	69.23%	62.15%	7.08%
Total	110					

Technology also presents disproportionate challenges to nonwhite applicants. While access to stable and reliable power affects only a minority of applicants (10.73% of respondents), the applicants harmed by an inadequate power supply will disproportionately be nonwhite.

Nonwhite respondents answering “yes” to “Do you have a stable and reliable power supply for your space when taking the remote bar exam?” have a population share 3.94% lower than expected (37.85% question population share, 33.91% answer population share). **Nonwhite applicants answering “no” have a population share 25.30% higher than expected** (37.85% question population share, 63.16% answer population share). This is driven by the fact that “no” answers comprise a noticeably higher proportion of the nonwhite respondent population (12 nonwhite respondents, 17.91% of the nonwhite respondent population) than the white respondent population (7 white respondents, 6.36% of the white respondent population).

Do you have a stable and reliable power supply for your space when taking the remote bar exam?						
NW	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
Yes	39	58.21%	115	33.91%	37.85%	-3.94%
Maybe/Unsure	16	23.88%	43	37.21%	37.85%	-0.64%
No	12	17.91%	19	63.16%	37.85%	25.30%
Total	67					
White	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
Yes	76	69.09%	115	66.09%	62.15%	3.94%
Maybe	27	24.55%	43	62.79%	62.15%	0.64%
No	7	6.36%	19	36.84%	62.15%	-25.30%
Total	110					

Access to stable and reliable internet also presents a disproportionate challenge to nonwhite applicants. While the population share of nonwhite respondents answering “yes” to “Do you have stable and reliable internet access for taking the remote bar exam” is 4.08% higher than expected, the population share of nonwhite respondents answering “no” is 4.45% lower than expected. The disproportionate number of “no” responses is concerning, given it is the more frequent answer choice between “yes” and “no.”

Do you have stable and reliable internet access for taking the remote bar exam?						
NW *1 nonresponse	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
Yes	13	19.40%	31	41.94%	37.85%	4.08%

Maybe/Unsure	32	47.76%	94	34.04%	37.85%	-3.81%
No	22	32.84%	52	42.31%	37.85%	4.45%
Total	67					
White *5 nonresponse	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
Yes	18	16.36%	31	58.06%	62.15%	-4.08%
Maybe	62	56.36%	94	65.96%	62.15%	3.81%
No	30	27.27%	52	57.69%	62.15%	-4.45%
Total	110					

Nonwhite respondents face disproportionately increased costs because of an online bar exam, disproportionately lower access to adequate test taking spaces, and will disproportionately face challenges at home in the form of children being present, inability to use earplugs, unstable power supply, and unreliable internet.

C. Disproportionality Analysis of Other Questions

Below are the remaining results of analyzing answer selection by race/ethnicity from other survey questions. Some of these questions do not reflect a disproportionality with a negative impact or have sample sizes so small that do make a compelling case for the presence or absence of disproportionate impacts.

What is your preferred resolution to the ongoing bar examination crisis?						
NW *1 nonresponse	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
Diploma Privilege	41	62.12%	112	36.61%	37.71%	-1.11%
DP + Opt. Online Exam	16	24.24%	31	51.61%	37.71%	13.90%
Email Exam	6	9.09%	28	21.43%	37.71%	-16.29%
In-Person Exam	1	1.52%	1	100.00%	37.71%	62.29%
Temporary Licensure	2	3.03%	3	66.67%	37.71%	28.95%
Total	66					
White *1 nonresponse	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
Diploma Privilege	71	65.14%	112	63.39%	62.29%	1.11%

Diploma Privilege for Maryland

DP + Opt. Online Exam	15	13.76%	31	48.39%	62.29%	-13.90%
Email Exam	22	20.18%	28	78.57%	62.29%	16.29%
In-Person Exam	0	0.00%	1	0.00%	62.29%	-62.29%
Temporary Licensure	1	0.92%	2	50.00%	62.29%	-12.29%
Total	109					

On a scale of 0 to 5, how up-to-date are you staying on the latest online bar exams news in Maryland or other jurisdictions (such as the rules test takers will have to follow, or difficulties test takers are experiencing preparing for or taking the test)? A 5 is staying highly up to date while a 0 is this being the first time you've heard about an online bar exam.

NW	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disprop.
0	0	0.00%	1	0.00%	38.07%	-38.07%
1	1	1.52%	2	50.00%	38.07%	11.93%
2	0	0.00%	1	0.00%	38.07%	-38.07%
3	12	18.18%	24	50.00%	38.07%	11.93%
4	12	18.18%	41	29.27%	38.07%	-8.80%
5 or more	42	63.64%	107	39.25%	38.07%	1.18%
Total	67					

White *1 nonresponse	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disprop.
0	1	0.92%	1	100.00%	61.93%	38.07%
1	1	0.92%	2	50.00%	61.93%	-11.93%
2	1	0.92%	1	100.00%	61.93%	38.07%
3	12	11.01%	24	50.00%	61.93%	-11.93%
4	29	26.61%	41	70.73%	61.93%	8.80%
5 or more	65	59.63%	107	60.75%	61.93%	-1.18%
Total	109					

Do you have Quiet Place to Study for the Bar Exam?

NW	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disprop.
Yes	20	29.85%	42	47.62%	37.85%	9.77%

Diploma Privilege for Maryland

Maybe	6	8.96%	21	28.57%	37.85%	-9.28%
No	41	61.19%	114	35.96%	37.85%	-1.89%
Total	67					
White	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
Yes	22	20.00%	42	52.38%	62.15%	-9.77%
Maybe	15	13.64%	21	71.43%	62.15%	9.28%
No	73	66.36%	114	64.04%	62.15%	1.89%
Total	110					

How many rooms in your residence allow you to shut out all humans/animals/other things that could create a distraction or noise?						
NW *1 nonresponse	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
0	31	46.97%	82	37.80%	37.71%	0.09%
1	22	33.33%	67	32.84%	37.71%	-4.88%
2	7	10.61%	18	38.89%	37.71%	1.17%
3	3	4.55%	5	60.00%	37.71%	22.29%
4	0	0.00%	0	#DIV/0!	37.71%	Null Set
5 or more	3	4.55%	3	100.00%	37.71%	62.29%
Total	66					
1 or more	35	53.03%	93	37.63%	37.71%	-0.08%
White *1 nonresponse	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
0	51	46.79%	82	62.20%	62.29%	-0.09%
1	45	41.28%	67	67.16%	62.29%	4.88%
2	11	10.09%	18	61.11%	62.29%	-1.17%
3	2	1.83%	5	40.00%	62.29%	-22.29%
4	0	0.00%	0	#DIV/0!	62.29%	Null Set
5 or more	0	0.00%	3	0.00%	62.29%	-62.29%
Total	109					
1 or more	58	53.21%	93	62.37%	62.29%	0.08%

Do you have roommate(s) that will be home during the bar exam unless you are able to make provisions for them to be somewhere else?						
NW *1 nonresponse	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
Yes	37	56.06%	110	33.64%	38.15%	-4.51%
No	29	43.94%	63	46.03%	38.15%	7.88%
Total	66					
White *3 nonresponses	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
Yes	73	68.22%	110	66.36%	61.85%	4.51%
No	34	31.78%	63	53.97%	61.85%	-7.88%
Total	107					

If you answered yes to the above question: how many?						
NW	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
1	20	55.56%	62	32.26%	32.73%	-0.47%
2	4	11.11%	24	16.67%	32.73%	-16.06%
3	7	19.44%	17	41.18%	32.73%	8.45%
4	3	8.33%	5	60.00%	32.73%	27.27%
5 or more	2	5.56%	2	100.00%	32.73%	67.27%
Total	36					
White	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disrprop.
1	42	56.76%	62	67.74%	67.27%	0.47%
2	20	27.03%	24	83.33%	67.27%	16.06%
3	10	13.51%	17	58.82%	67.27%	-8.45%
4	2	2.70%	5	40.00%	67.27%	-27.27%
5 or more	0	0.00%	2	0.00%	67.27%	-67.27%
Total:	74					

Do you have pets that will be home during the bar exam unless you are able to make provision for them to be somewhere else?						
NW *1 nonresponse	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disprop.
Yes	32	48.48%	111	28.83%	38.15%	-9.32%
No	34	51.52%	62	54.84%	38.15%	16.69%
Total:	66					
White *3 nonresponse	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Disprop.
Yes	79	73.83%	111	71.17%	61.85%	9.32%
No	28	26.17%	62	45.16%	61.85%	-16.69%
Total	107					

If you answered yes to the above question: how many?						
NW	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Prop. Diff.
1	14	43.75%	49	28.57%	28.57%	0.00%
2	12	37.50%	48	25.00%	28.57%	-3.57%
3	4	12.50%	9	44.44%	28.57%	15.87%
4	2	6.25%	5	40.00%	28.57%	11.43%
5 or more	0	0.00%	1	0.00%	28.57%	-28.57%
Total	32					
White	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Prop. Diff.
1	35	43.75%	49	71.43%	71.43%	0.00%
2	36	45.00%	48	75.00%	71.43%	3.57%
3	5	6.25%	9	55.56%	71.43%	-15.87%
4	3	3.75%	5	60.00%	71.43%	-11.43%
5 or more	1	1.25%	1	100.00%	71.43%	28.57%
Total	80					

Do you have a space to take the bar examination that is free of mirrors that could reflect the laptop screen?						
NW	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Prop. Diff.
Yes	46	68.66%	115	40.00%	38.07%	1.93%
Maybe	8	11.94%	29	27.59%	38.07%	-10.48%
No	13	19.40%	32	40.63%	38.07%	2.56%
Total	67					
White*1 nonresponse	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Prop. Diff.
Yes	69	63.30%	115	60.00%	61.93%	-1.93%
Maybe	21	19.27%	29	72.41%	61.93%	10.48%
No	19	17.43%	32	59.38%	61.93%	-2.56%
Total	109					

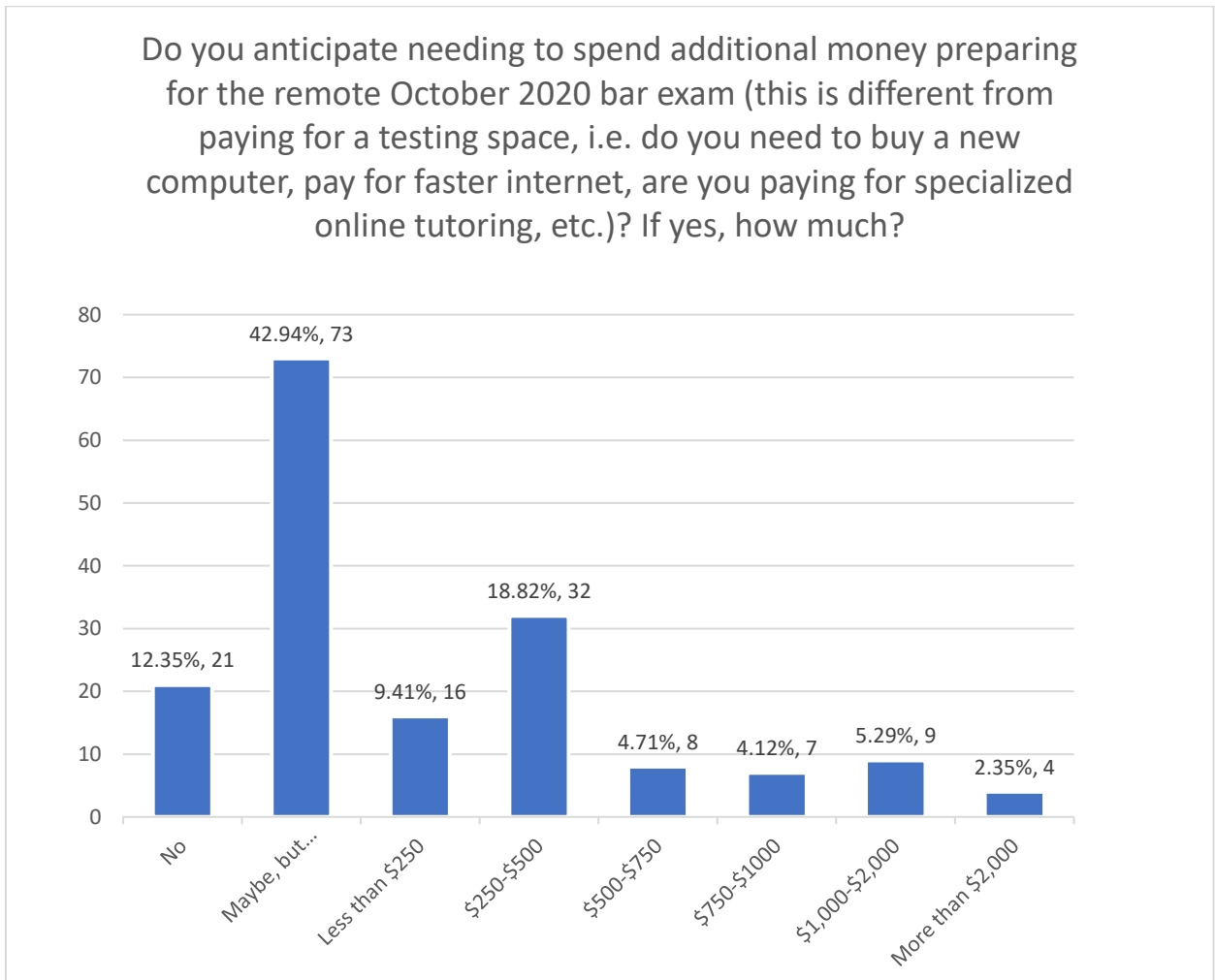
Do you believe you can take the examination without fidgeting or touching your face or hair?						
NW	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Prop. Diff.
Yes	0	0.00%	4	0.00%	37.85%	-37.85%
Maybe	3	4.48%	6	50.00%	37.85%	12.15%
No	64	95.52%	167	38.32%	37.85%	0.47%
Total	67					
White*1 nonresponse	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Prop. Diff.
Yes	4	3.64%	4	100.00%	62.15%	37.85%
Maybe	3	2.73%	6	50.00%	62.15%	-12.15%
No	103	93.64%	167	61.68%	62.15%	-0.47%
Total	110					

Does your bar preparation course teach exam taking skills such as hi-lighting, underlining, circling, diagraming, etc.?						
NW	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Prop. Diff.
Yes	58	86.57%	163	35.58%	37.85%	-2.27%
Maybe	3	4.48%	3	100.00%	37.85%	62.15%
No	6	8.96%	11	54.55%	37.85%	16.69%
Total	67					
White	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Prop. Diff.
Yes	105	95.45%	163	64.42%	62.15%	2.27%
Maybe	0	0.00%	3	0.00%	62.15%	-62.15%
No	5	4.55%	11	45.45%	62.15%	-16.69%
Total	110					
Do you think you will reliably be able to get the right answers on questions requiring drawing/diagraming if you are not allowed to use scratch paper?						
NW	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Prop. Diff.
Yes	1	1.49%	2	50.00%	37.85%	12.15%
Maybe	13	19.40%	24	54.17%	37.85%	16.31%
No	53	79.10%	151	35.10%	37.85%	-2.75%
Total	67					
White	# Per Race	% of Race	# All Races	% All Races	% of Respondents by Race	Prop. Diff.
Yes	1	0.91%	2	50.00%	62.15%	-12.15%
Maybe	11	10.00%	24	45.83%	62.15%	-16.31%
No	98	89.09%	151	64.90%	62.15%	2.75%
Total	110					

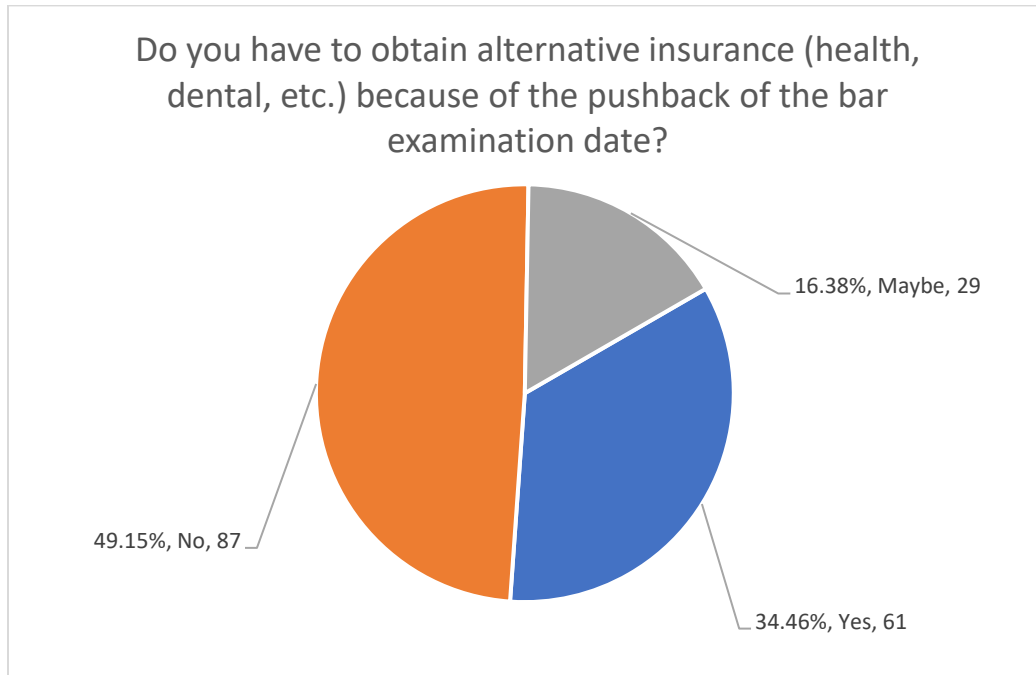
IV. Access to Resources

A. Unanticipated Financial Hardships Imposed by the Extension of the Bar Examination Date to Accommodate an Online Exam

Respondents anticipated needing to spend more money to specifically prepare for the remote October 2020 bar examination. 32 respondents (18.82%) anticipated spending an additional \$250-\$500. 73 respondents (42.94%) believed they may need to spend additional money preparing for the online bar exam but were unsure at the time of submitting their answer. 60 respondents (35.29%) anticipated spending over \$250. 7 respondents did not answer this question, producing a margin of error of 3.95%.



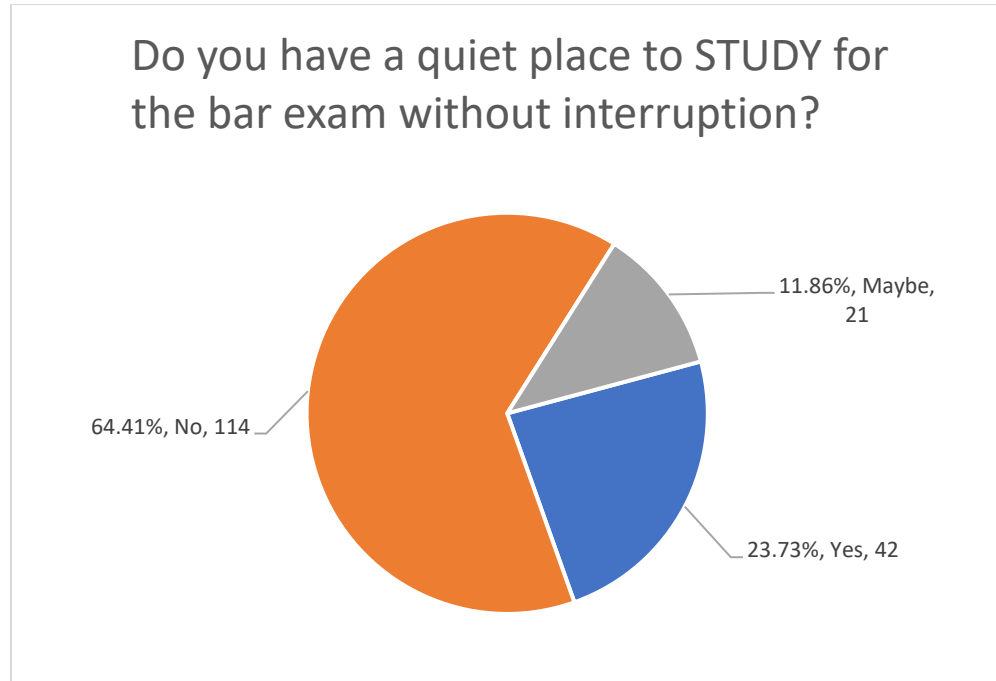
Many respondents have been forced to obtain alternative health insurance because of the bar examination's date pushback.



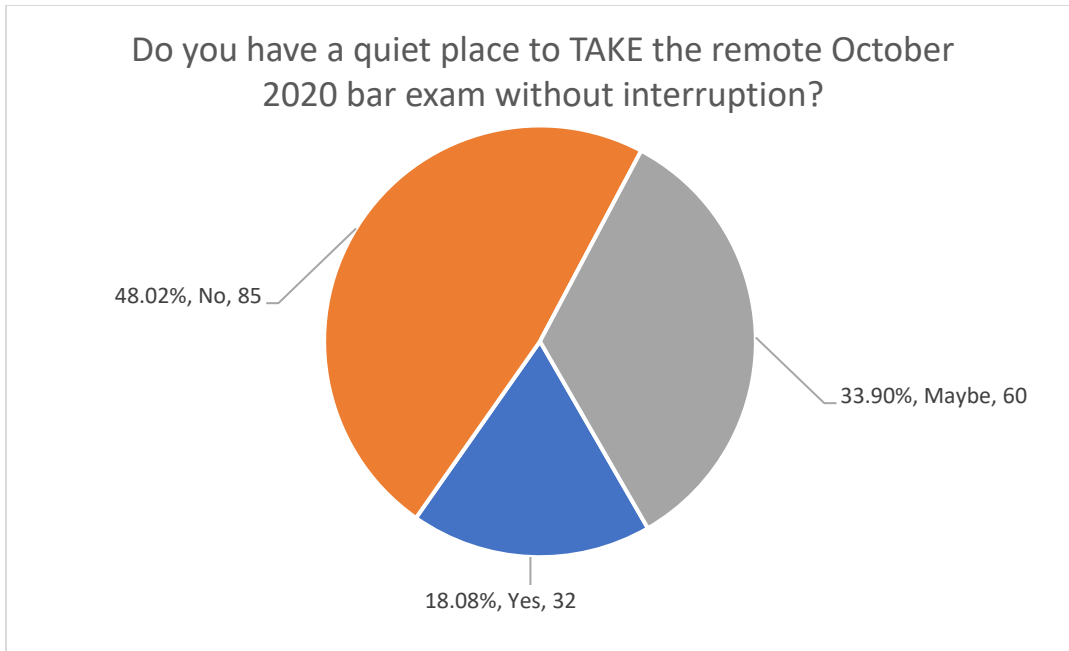
90 respondents (50.84%) have, or may have to, obtain alternative health insurance.

B. Access to Quiet Space(s)

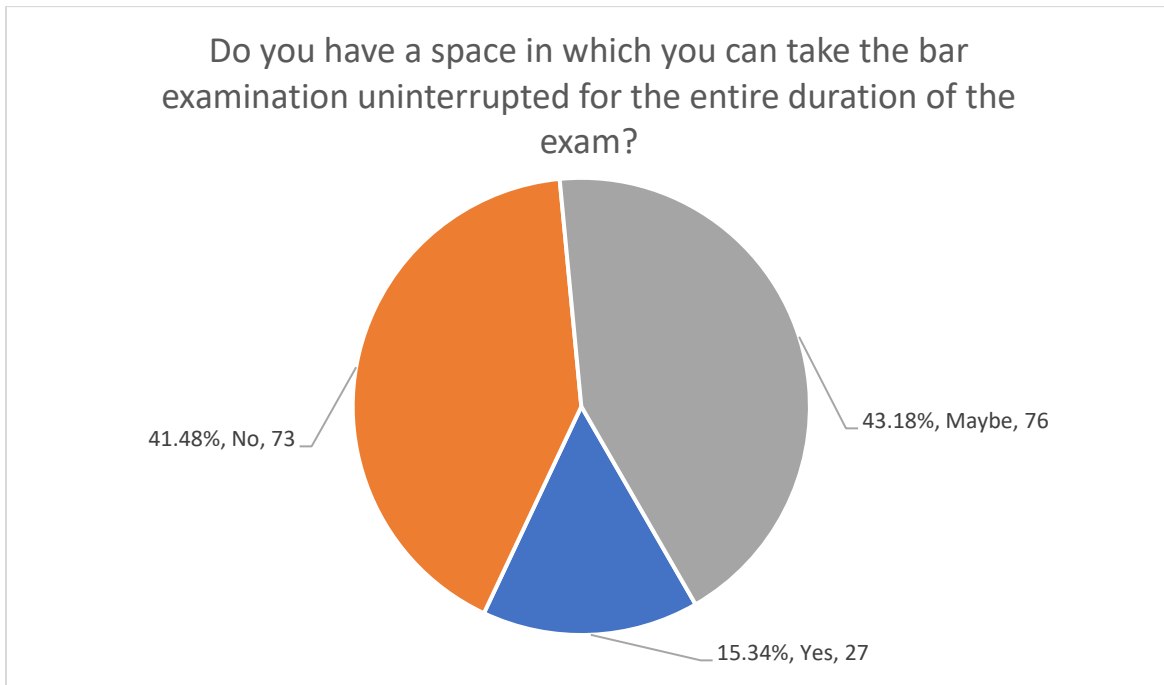
114 respondents (64.41%) do not have access to a quiet space to study for the bar examination and only 42 respondents (23.73%) said they had such space.



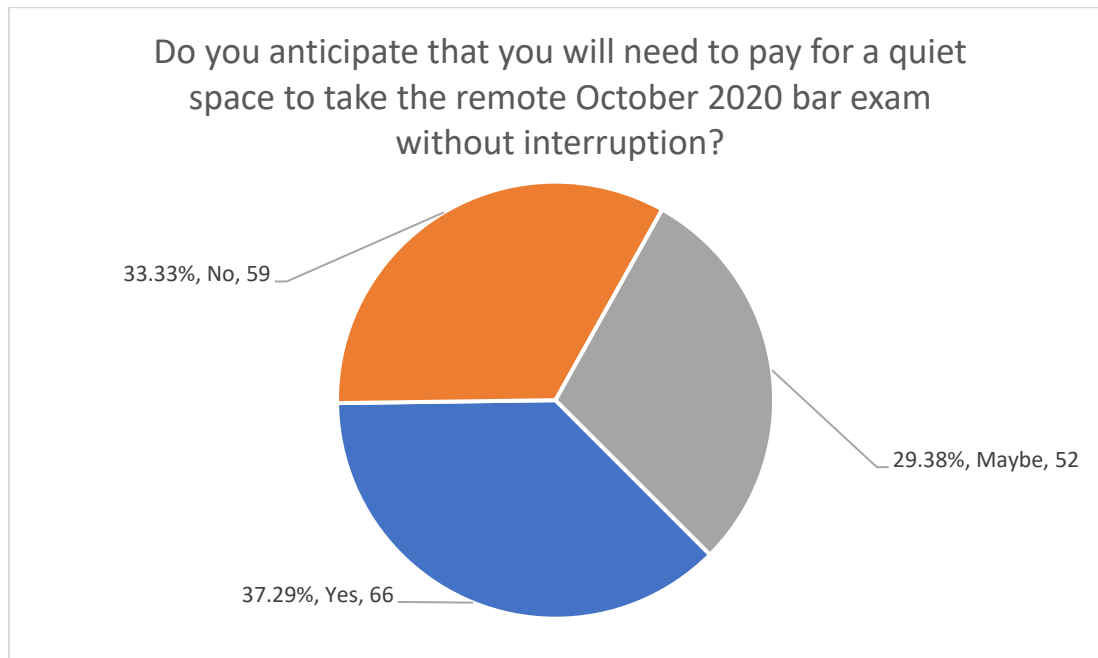
Of course, the need for a quiet space is not something new to bar examination studying. What is new is the need to furnish one's own test taking space. Only 32 respondents (18.08%) reported that they have a quiet place to take the remote October 2020 bar examination in without interruption. Roughly half of respondents (85, 48.02%) report they do not have such a space.



After reviewing example exam rules from Tennessee and Maryland, respondents became less certain of their access to a space in which they could take the online bar exam uninterrupted for the entire duration of the exam. The number of respondents answering “yes” and “no” decreased to 27 (15.34%, a decrease of 2.74%) and 73 (41.48%, a decrease of 6.54%), respectively. The number of respondents answering “maybe” increased to 76 (43.18%, an increase of 9.28%). 1 respondent did not answer this question, producing a margin of error of 0.56%.

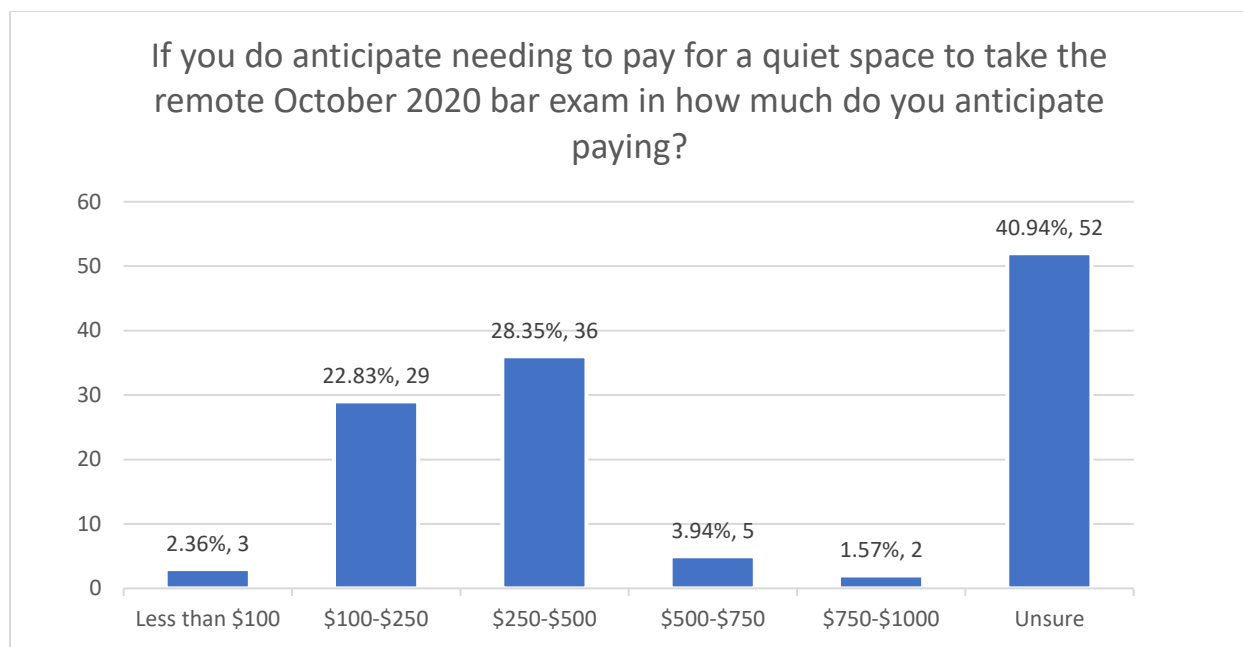


As a result, respondents are considering paying to obtain such a quiet test taking site. 66 respondents (37.29%) reported they anticipate needing to pay for such a space and another 52 (29.38%) reported they may need to do so.



This presents an unexpected cost for respondents. 127⁶ respondents answered a follow up question asking, “If you do anticipate needing to pay for a quiet space to take the remote October 2020 bar exam in how much do you anticipate paying?”. Of those 127, 65 (51.18%) reported they anticipated paying between \$100 and \$500. An additional 52 respondents (40.94%) anticipated having to pay for a test taking space but were unsure how much they would need to pay.

⁶ 50 respondents opted not to answer this question.

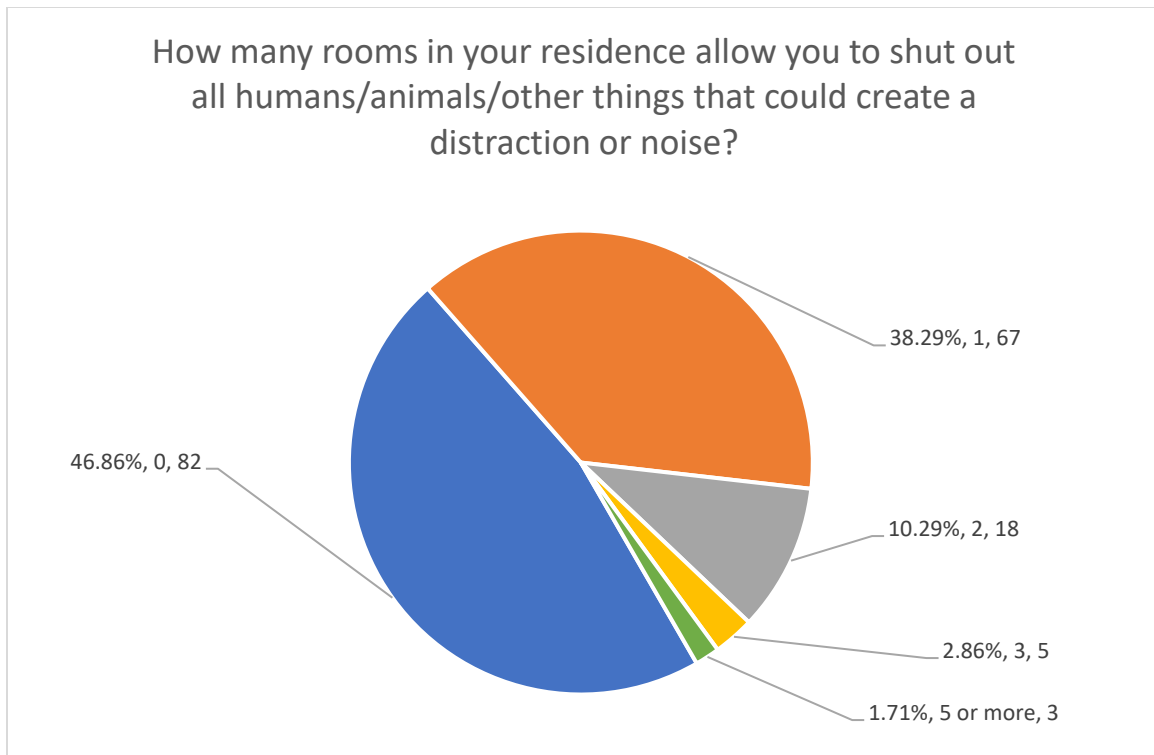


V. Access to Studying and Test Tasking Facilities

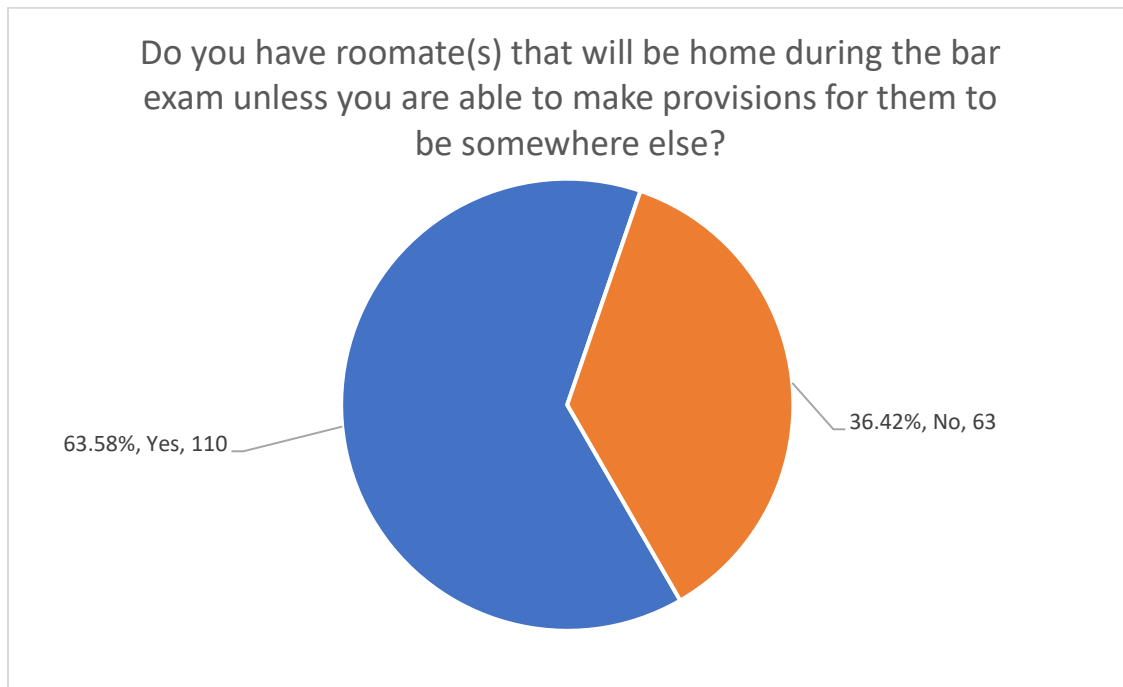
A. The Unsuitability of Respondent's Homes for an Online Bar Exam

Respondents reported myriad problems with using their homes for online bar exam test taking, ranging from the number of rooms appropriate for examination to the presence of spouses, partners, children, and pets.

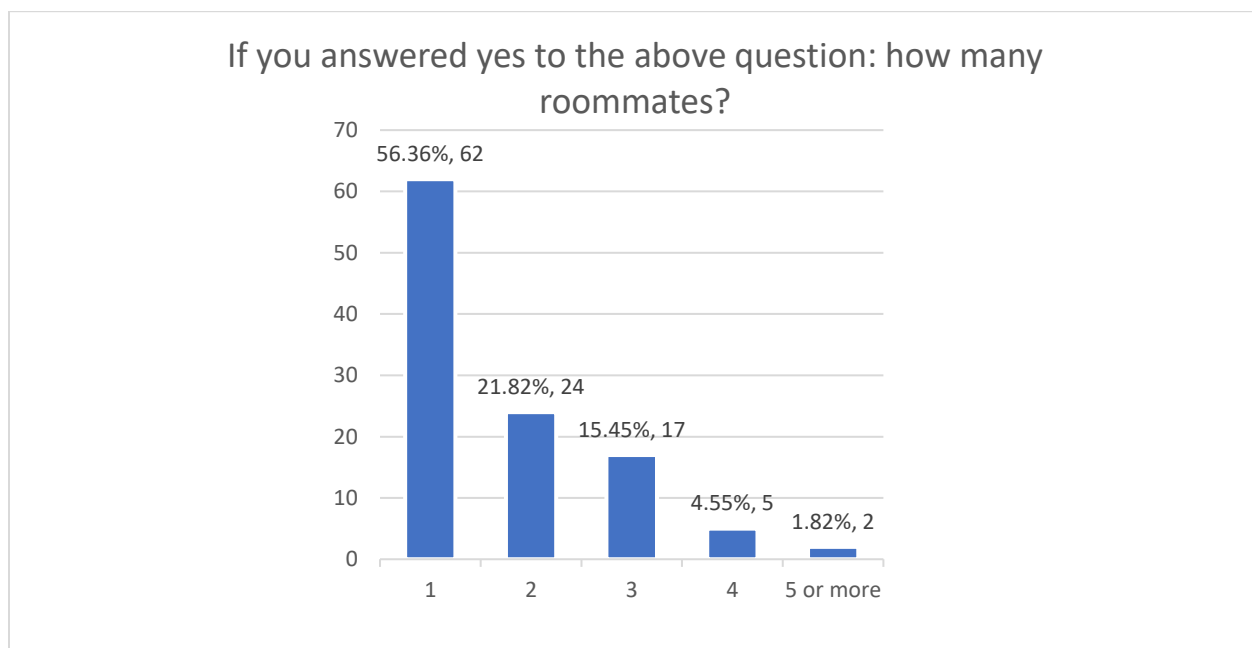
Nearly half of respondents (82, 46.86%) reported they **do not have any** room in their residence permitting them to shut out humans, animals, or any other thing that could create a disturbance during the examination. 2 respondents did not answer this question, producing a margin of error of 1.13%



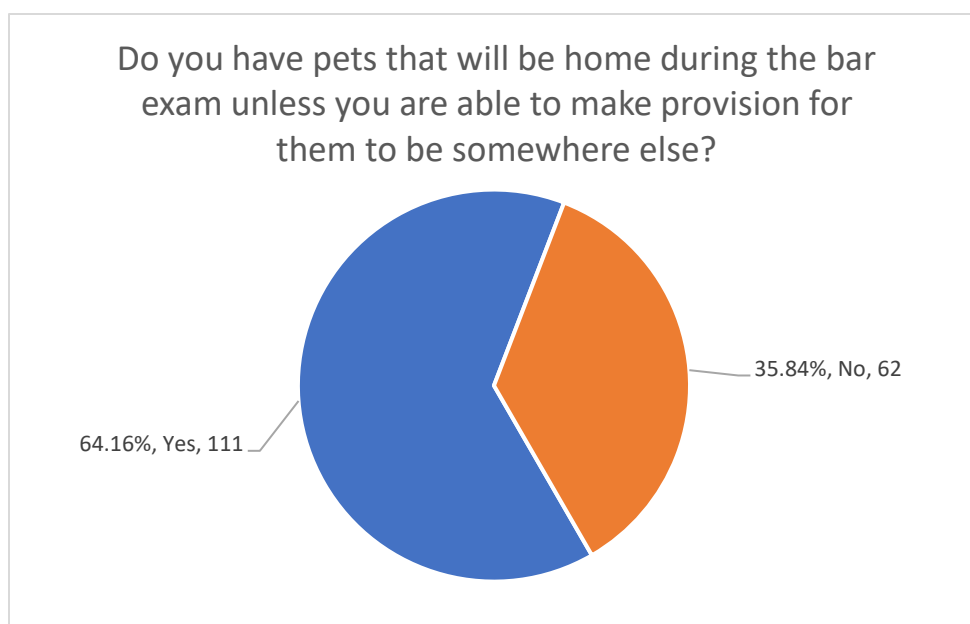
The majority of respondents (110, 63.58%) have a roommate who will be home during the bar examination, unless they are able to make provision for the roommate to vacate the residence during the ongoing pandemic. 4 respondents did not answer this question, producing a margin of error of 2.27%



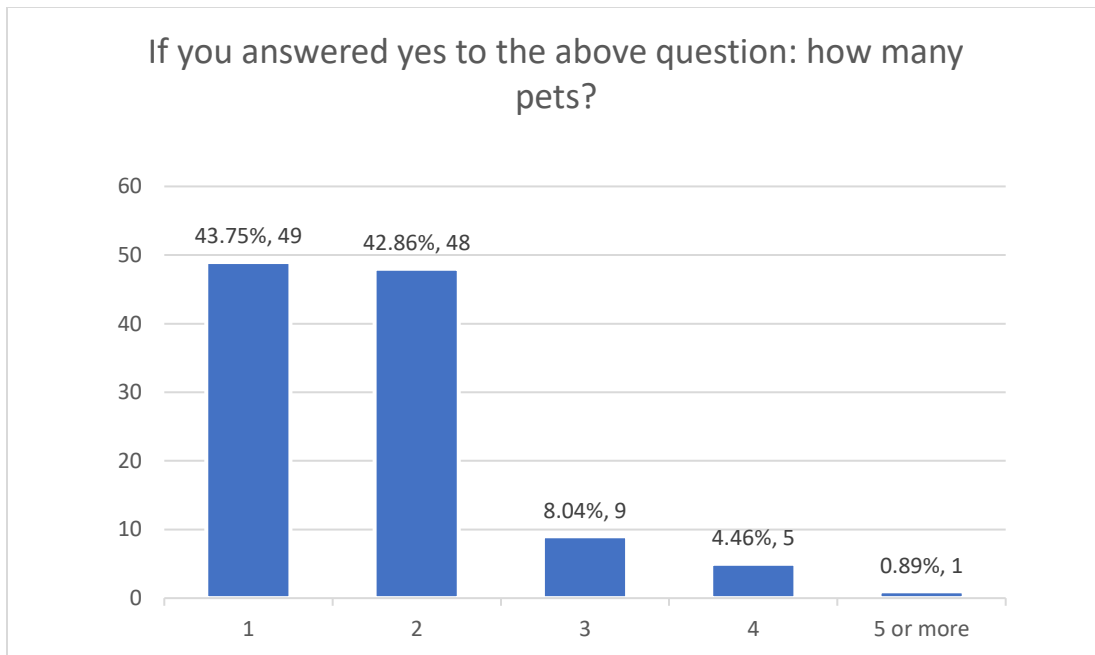
110⁷ respondents answered a follow up question asking how many roommates they had, if any. The majority of answering respondents indicated they had a single roommate (62, 56.36%), with another 24 answering respondents (21.82%) reporting two roommates.



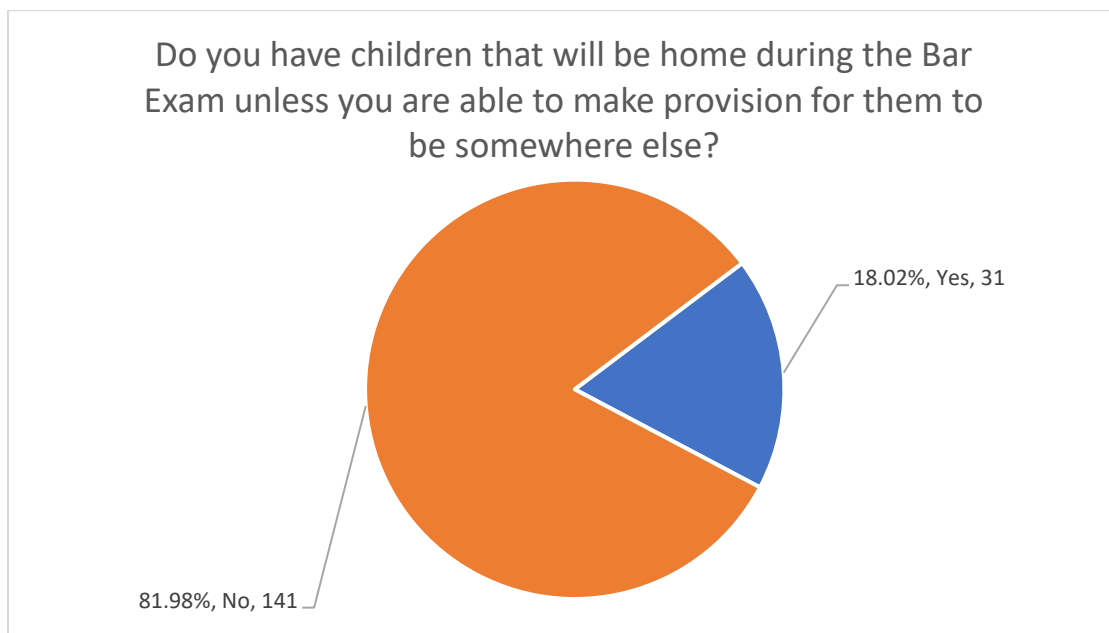
111 respondents (64.16%) will have pets home during the bar exam unless they can make provision for them to be somewhere else during the ongoing pandemic. 112 respondents answered a follow question asking how many pets they have. 63 of those respondents (56.25%) have 2 or more pets.



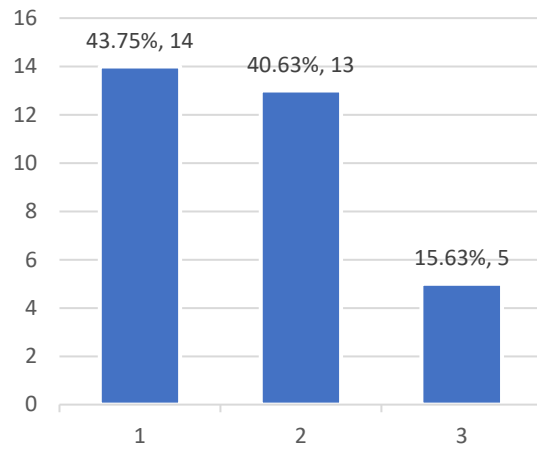
⁷ 67 respondents did not answer this question.



31 respondents (18.02%) reported they will have children home during the bar exam unless they are able to make provision amidst the ongoing pandemic.

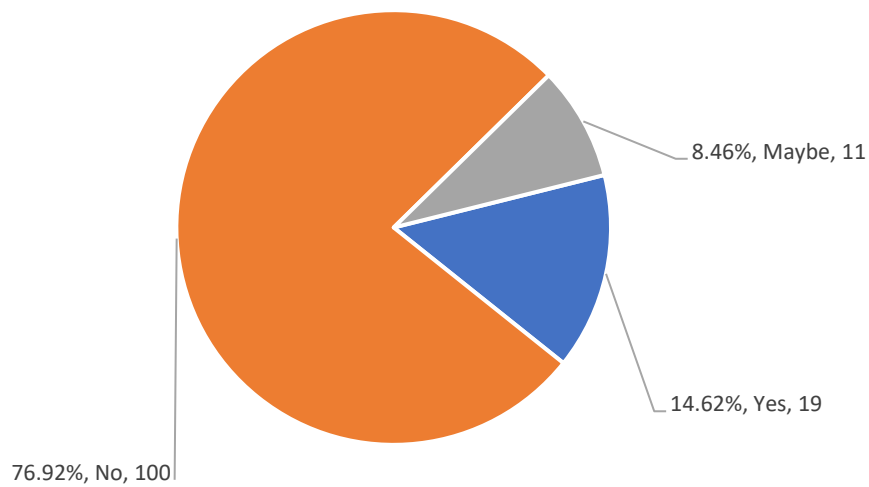


If you answered yes to the above question: how many children?



8

Will you need to arrange childcare or care services for the days of the remote exam?

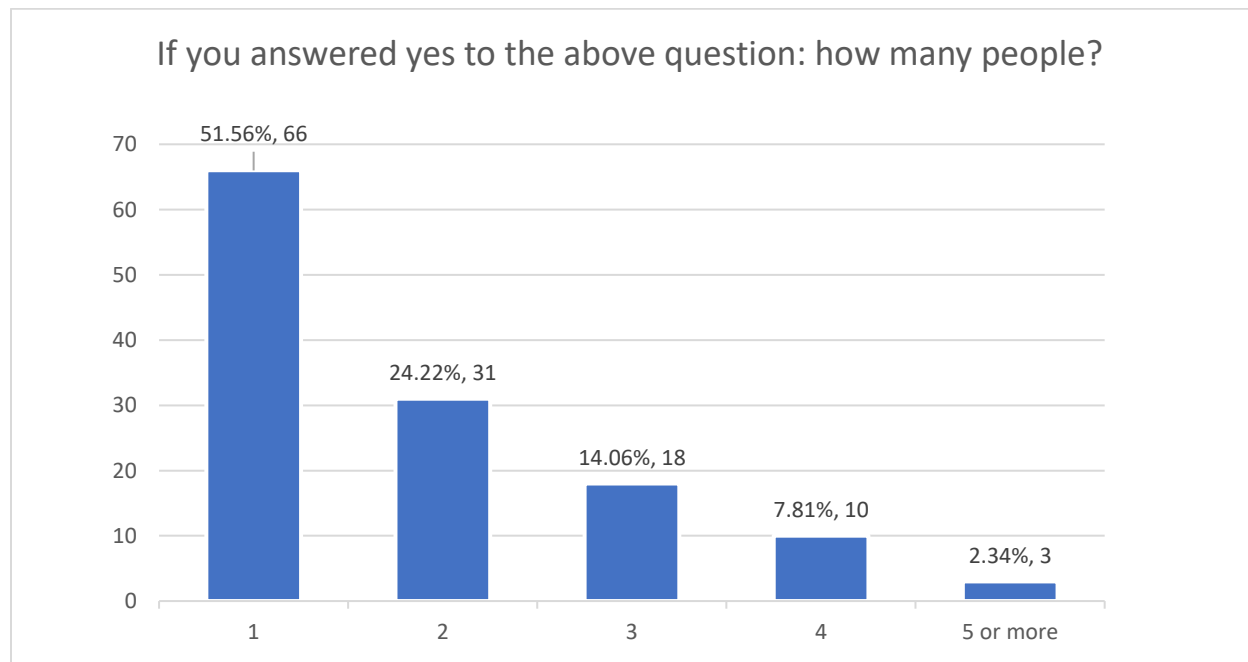
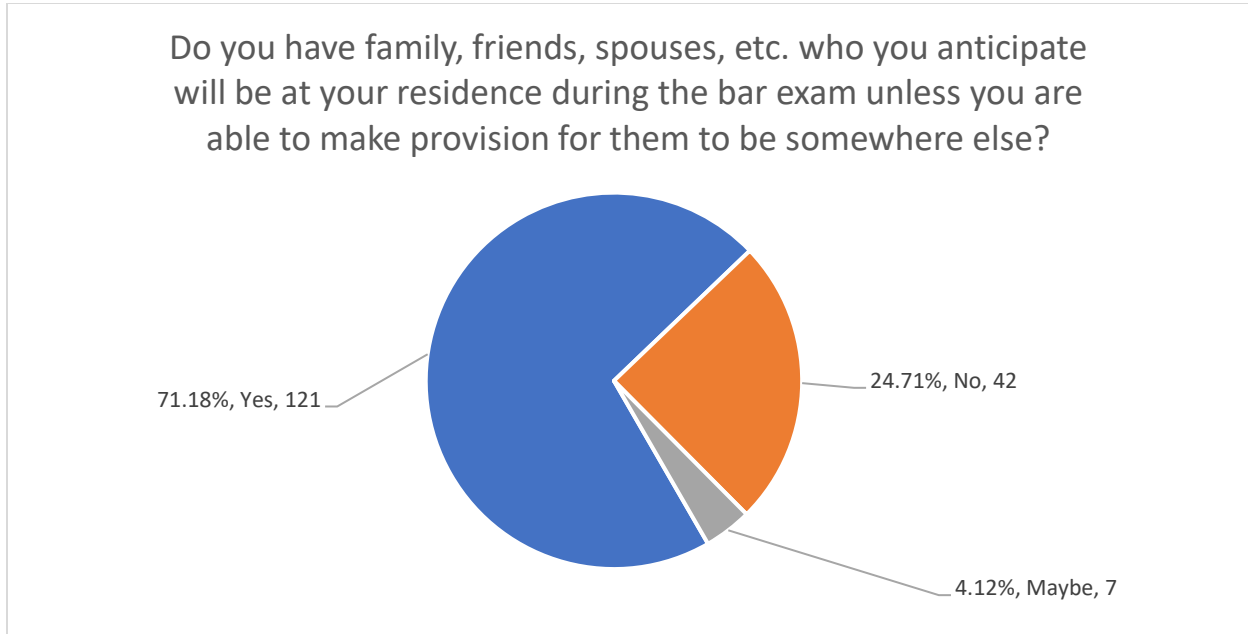


9

⁸ 145 respondents did not answer this question

⁹ 47 respondents did not answer this question.

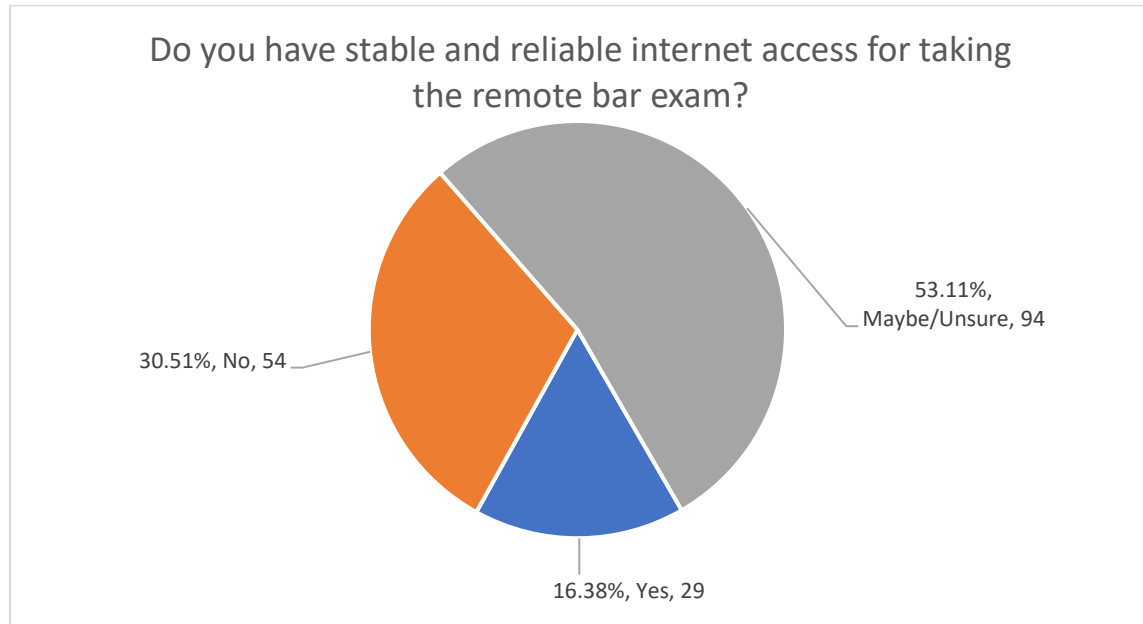
121 (71.18%) respondents anticipated having family, friends, spouses, or others at their residence during the bar examination, unless they are able to make provision for them to be somewhere else during the ongoing pandemic. 7 respondents did not answer this question, producing a margin of error of 26.55%.



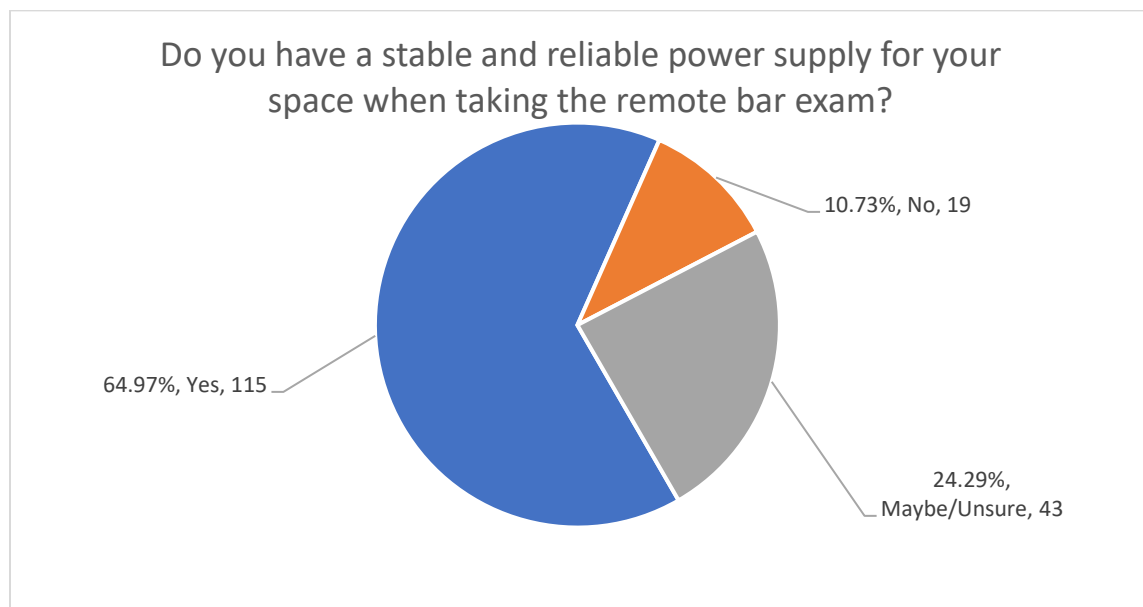
B. Access to Necessary Technology

Respondents expressed widespread concern about the state of their technology ahead of the online bar exam. Only 29 respondents (16.38%) reported that they have stable and reliable

internet access. This is because over half of respondents (94, 53.11%) are unsure if they have stable and reliable internet access for taking the remote bar exam.



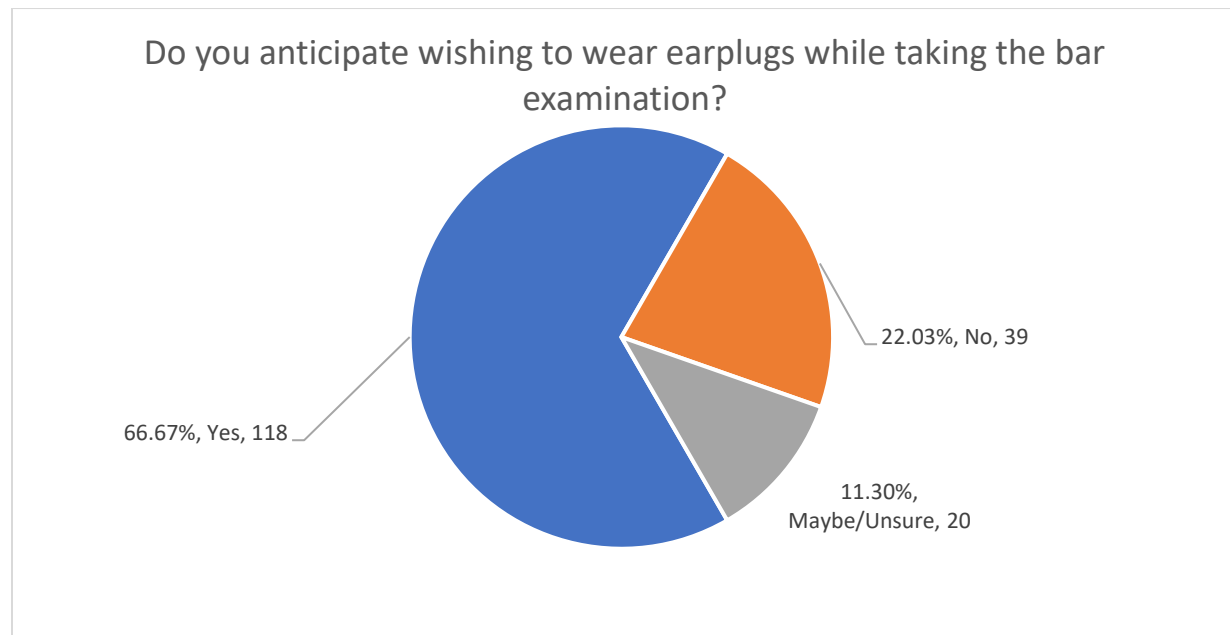
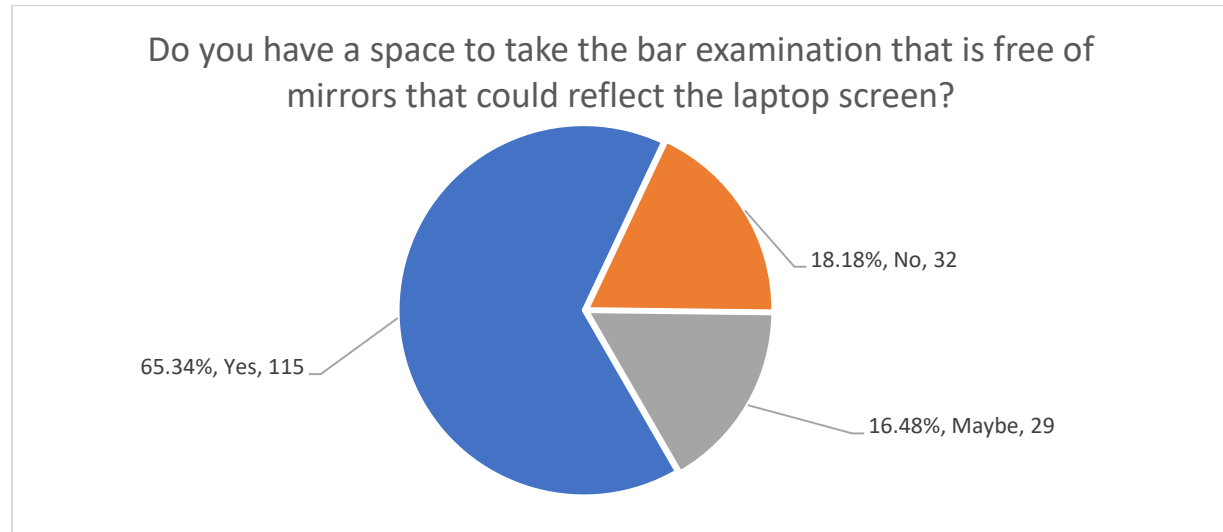
The number of respondents with access to a stable and reliable power supply is more encouraging. 115 respondents (64.97%) reported they have a stable and reliable power supply for taking the bar exam.



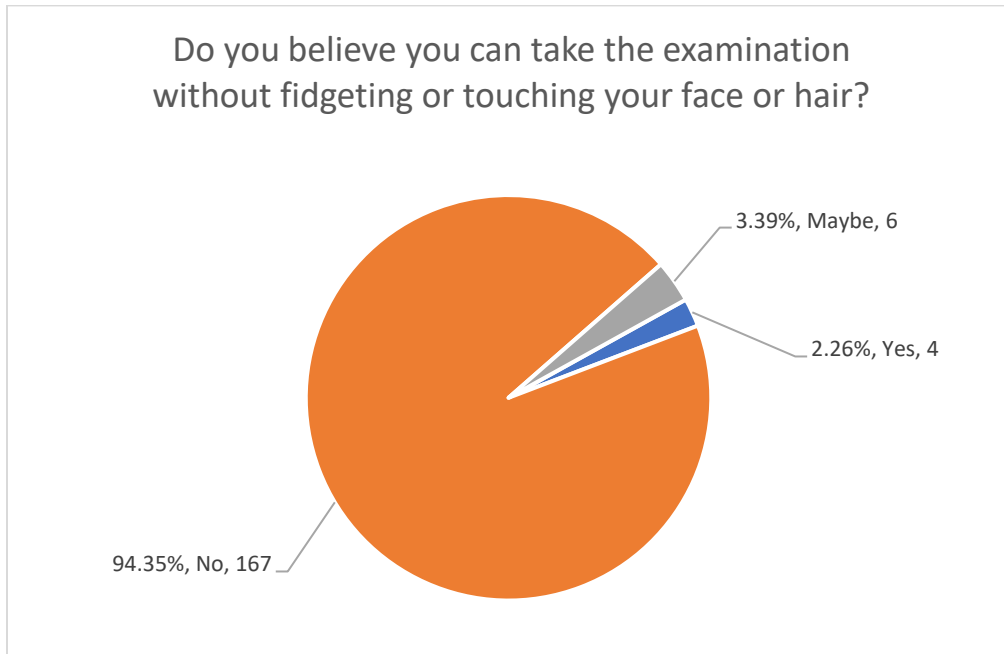
VI. Preparedness for Online Bar Exam Procedures

The transition to an online bar exam, and the attendant changes in the rules of exam taking, have placed respondents in the position of having to adapt their taught testing strategies or to overcome instinctive, nervous habits, lest they run the risk of being marked for failure.

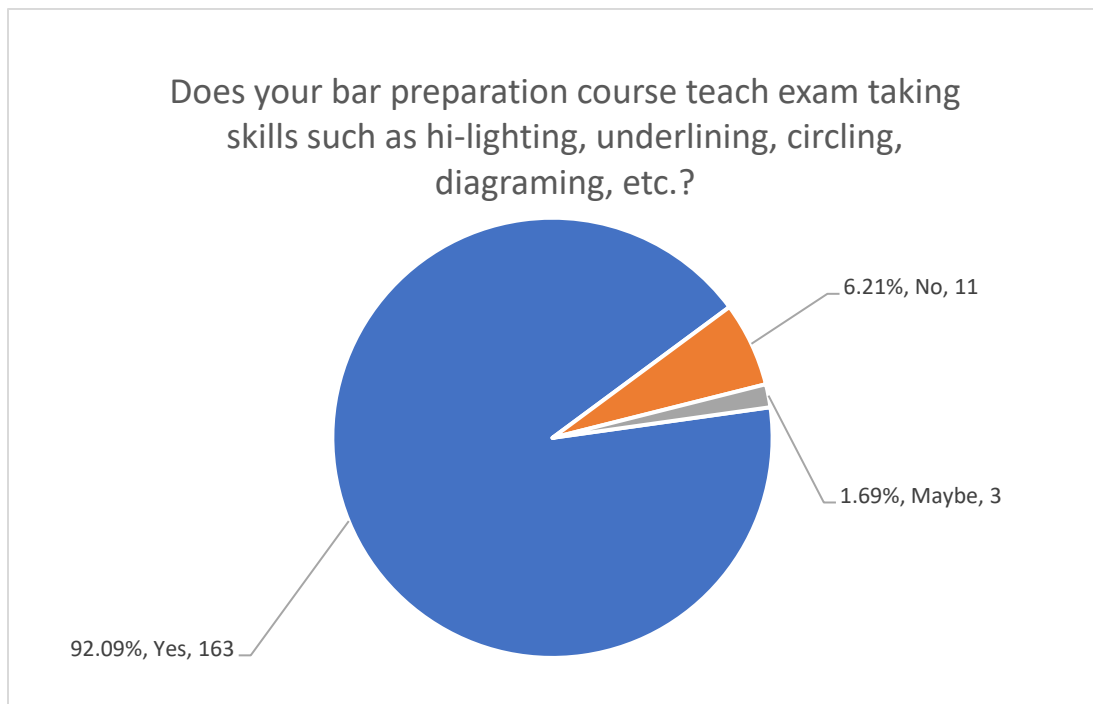
While 115 (65.34%) of respondents reported they have a space free of mirrors that could reflect the laptop screen, a nearly identical number of respondents indicated they anticipated wishing to wear earplugs during the exam (118, 66.67%).

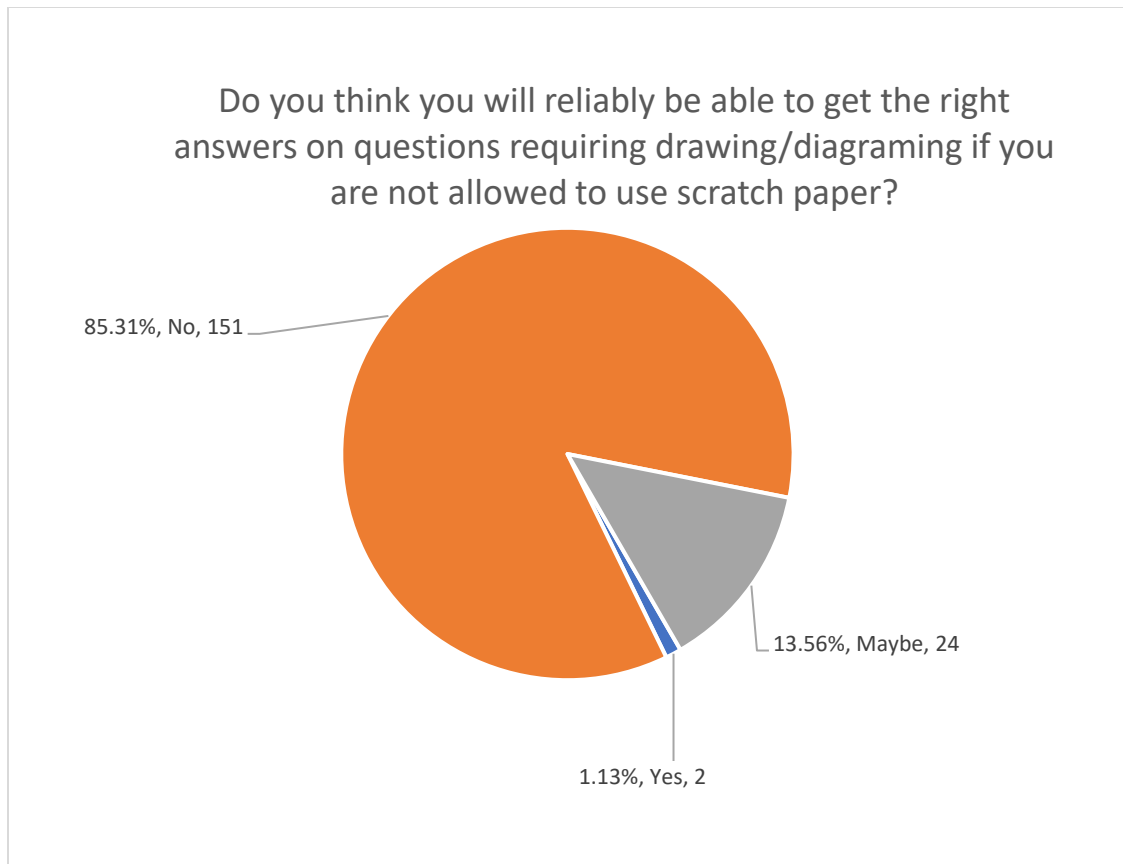


Nearly all respondents (167, 94.35%) do not believe they can take the online bar exam without fidgeting or touching their face or hair.



Further, respondents face having to re-learn how to answer questions. 163 respondents (92.09%) reported their bar exam preparation course taught exam skills such as hi-lighting, underlining, circling, diagramming, etc. Faced with the reality of not being permitted to use scratch paper to draw or diagram questions, 151 respondents (85.31%) do not believe they will be able to reliably get questions right that call for drawing or diagramming.





VII. Conclusion

Bar exam takers face unforeseen costs and challenges as a result of the institution of an online bar exam in October. These problems range from increased spending to compensate for inadequate testing facilities to crucial test taking strategies being rendered unlawful.

VIII. Statistical Quick Reference and Data Compilation

A. Statistical Quick Reference

Are you currently registered to take the remote October bar examination?		
Yes	168	94.92
Yes, but planning to withdraw	5	2.82%
No, because I withdrew my registration	4	2.26%
Total	177	
What is Your Age?		
22-26 years old	109	61.58%
27-35 years old	56	31.64%

35-42 years old	6	3.39%
42-50 years old	6	3.41%
Total	177	
What Gender do You Identify As?		
Female	120	67.80%
Male	57	32.20%
Total	177	
Are You a Member of the LGBTQIA+ Community?		
Yes	22	12.64%
No	143	82.18%
Prefer Not to Say	10	5.75%
Margin of Error from Nonresponse	2	1.14%
Total	177	
Race/Ethnicity		
White	110	62.15%
Non-White	67	37.85%
Total	177	
On a scale of 0 to 5, how up-to-date are you staying on the latest online bar exams news in Maryland or other jurisdictions (such as the rules test takers will have to follow, or difficulties test takers are experiencing preparing for or taking the test)? A 5 is staying highly up to date while a 0 is this being the first time you've heard about an online bar exam.		
5	107	60.80%
4	41	23.30%
3	24	13.64%
2	1	0.57%
1	2	1.14%
0	1	0.57%
Margin of Error (Nonresponding Respondents)	1	0.56%
Total	177	
Do you anticipate needing to spend additional money preparing for the remote October 2020 bar exam (this is different from paying for a testing space, i.e. do you need to buy a new computer, pay for faster internet, are you paying for specialized online tutoring, etc.)? If yes, how much?		
No	21	12.35%
Maybe, but unsure right now	73	42.94%

Diploma Privilege for Maryland

Less than \$250	16	9.41%
\$250-\$500	32	18.82%
\$500-\$750	8	4.71%
\$750-\$1000	7	4.12%
\$1,000-\$2,000	9	5.29%
More than \$2,000	4	2.35%
Margin of Error (Nonresponding Respondents)	7	3.95%
Total	177	
Do You Have to Obtain Alternative Insurance (health, dental, etc.) because of the pushback of the bar examination date?		
Yes	61	34.46%
No	87	49.15%
Maybe	29	16.38%
Total	177	
Preferred Resolution to the Ongoing Bar Examination Crisis		
Pure Diploma Privilege	112	64.00%
Diploma Privilege and Optional Bar Exam	31	17.71%
Email Bar Exam	28	16.00%
Short Term Diploma Privilege Conditioned on Sitting for Later Bar Exam	3	1.71%
In-Person Bar Exam	1	0.57%
Margin of Error (Nonresponding Respondents)	2	1.13%
Total	177	
Do you have a quiet place to STUDY for the bar exam without interruption?		
Yes	42	23.73%
No	114	64.41%
Maybe	21	11.86%
Total	177	
Do you have a quiet place to TAKE the remote October 2020 bar exam without interruption?		
Yes	32	18.08%
No	85	48.02%
Maybe	60	33.90%
Total	177	
Do you have a space in which you can take the bar examination uninterrupted for the entire duration of the exam?		
Yes	27	15.34%

Diploma Privilege for Maryland

No	73	41.48%
Maybe	76	43.18%
Margin of Error (Nonresponding Respondents)	1	0.56%
Total	177	
Do you anticipate that you will need to pay for a quiet space to take the remote October 2020 bar exam without interruption?		
Yes	66	37.29%
No	59	33.33%
Maybe	52	29.38%
Total	177	
If you do anticipate needing to pay for a quiet space to take the remote October 2020 bar exam in how much do you anticipate paying? (% calculated from # responding)		
Less than \$100	3	2.36%
\$100-\$250	29	22.83%
\$250-\$500	36	28.35%
\$500-\$750	5	3.94%
\$750-\$1000	2	1.57%
Unsure	52	40.94%
Total	127	
How many rooms in your residence allow you to shut out all humans/animals/other things that could create a distraction or noise?		
0	82	46.86%
1	67	38.29%
2	18	10.29%
3	5	2.86%
4	0	0.00%
5 or more	3	1.71%
Margin of Error (Nonresponding Respondents)	2	1.13%
	177	
Do you have roommate(s) that will be home during the bar exam unless you are able to make provisions for them to be somewhere else?		
Yes	110	63.58%
No	63	36.42%
Margin of Error (Nonresponding Respondents)	4	2.26%
Total	177	
If you answered yes to the above question: how many roommates? (% calculated from # responding)		

1	62	56.36%
2	24	21.82%
3	17	15.45%
4	5	4.55%
5 or more	2	1.82%
Total	110	
Do you have pets that will be home during the bar exam unless you are able to make provision for them to be somewhere else?		
Yes	111	64.16%
No	62	35.84%
Margin of Error (Nonresponding Respondents)	4	2.26%
Total	177	
If you answered yes to the above question: If so, how many? (% calculated from # responding)		
1	49	43.75%
2	48	42.86%
3	9	8.04%
4	5	4.46%
5 or more	1	0.89%
Total	112	
Do you have children that will be home during the Bar Exam unless you are able to make provision for them to be somewhere else?		
Yes	31	18.02%
No	141	81.98%
Margin of Error (Nonresponding Respondents)	5	2.82%
Total	177	
If you answered yes to the above question: how many? (% calculated from # responding)		
1	14	43.75%
2	13	40.63%
3	5	15.63%
4	0	0.00%
5 or more	0	0.00%
Total	32	
Will you need to arrange childcare or care services for the days of the remote exam?		
Yes	19	14.62%

No	100	76.92%
Maybe	11	8.46%
Nonresponding Respondents	47	26.55%
Total	177	
Do you have family, friends, spouses, etc. who you anticipate will be at your residence during the bar exam unless you are able to make provision for them to be somewhere else?		
Yes	121	71.18%
No	42	24.71%
Maybe	7	4.12%
Margin of Error (Nonresponding Respondents)	7	3.95%
Total	177	
If you answered yes to the above question: how many? (% calculated from # responding)		
1	66	51.56%
2	31	24.22%
3	18	14.06%
4	10	7.81%
5 or more	3	2.34%
Total	128	
Do you have stable and reliable internet access for taking the remote bar exam?		
Yes	29	16.38%
No	54	30.51%
Maybe/Unsure	94	53.11%
Total	177	
Do you have a stable and reliable power supply for your space when taking the remote bar exam?		
Yes	115	64.97%
No	19	10.73%
Maybe/Unsure	43	24.29%
Total	177	
Do you anticipate wishing to wear earplugs while taking the bar examination?		
Yes	118	66.67%
No	39	22.03%
Maybe/Unsure	20	11.30%
Total	177	

Do you have a space to take the bar examination that is free of mirrors that could reflect the laptop screen?		
Yes	115	65.34%
No	32	18.18%
Maybe	29	16.48%
Margin of Error (Nonresponding Respondents)	1	0.56%
Total	177	
Do you believe you can take the examination without fidgeting or touching your face or hair?		
Yes	4	2.26%
No	167	94.35%
Maybe	6	3.39%
Total	177	
Does your bar preparation course teach exam taking skills such as hi-lighting, underlining, circling, diagraming, etc.?		
Yes	163	92.09%
No	11	6.21%
Maybe	3	1.69%
Total	177	
Do you think you will reliably be able to get the right answers on questions requiring drawing/diagraming if you are not allowed to use scratch paper?		
Yes	2	1.13%
No	151	85.31%
Maybe	24	13.56%
Total	177	

B. Data

See next page.

				We want to be inclusive of all bar applicants and we understand that race and ethnicity is not binary. Please use this question to indicate all races or ethnicities that apply to you.	
Are you currently registered to take the remote October bar examination?		What is your age?	What gender do you identify as?	Are you a member of the LGBTQIA+ Community?	What race or ethnicity do you identify with? For the purposes of analyzing disparate impacts on different races and ethnicities we are asking you only indicate the race or ethnicity that best describes you. The following question permits multiple selections.
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.		22 to 26 years old	Male	No	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.		22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.		27 to 35 years old	Male	No	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.		22 to 26 years old	Male	No	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.		22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.		22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.		22 to 26 years old	Male		White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.		27 to 35 years old	Male	No	African American or Black
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.		22 to 26 years old	Female	No	Latinx, Latino/a, Hispanic
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.		22 to 26 years old	Female	No	African American or Black
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination, but plan on withdrawing my registration.		22 to 26 years old	Male	No	White

Do you have to obtain alternative insurance (health, dental, etc.) because of the pushback of the bar examination date?		On a scale of 0 to 5, how up-to-date are you staying on the latest online bar exams news in Maryland or other jurisdictions (such as the rules test takers will have to follow, or difficulties test takers are experiencing preparing for or taking the test)? A 5 is staying highly up to date while a 0 is this being the first time you've heard about an online bar exam.	Do you have a quiet place to STUDY for the bar exam without interruption?	Do you have a quiet place to TAKE the remote October 2020 bar exam without interruption?
Yes	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)	5	Yes	Maybe
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	No	No
Maybe	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	3	No	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	3	No	No
No	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)	4	Yes	Yes
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	No	No
Maybe	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	Yes	Maybe
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	No	No
Yes	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	5	Yes	No
No	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)	3	Maybe	Maybe
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	No	Maybe

	Do you anticipate that you will need to pay for a quiet space to take the remote October 2020 bar exam without interruption?	If you do anticipate needing to pay for a quiet space to take the remote October 2020 bar exam in how much do you anticipate paying?	Do you anticipate needing to spend additional money preparing for the remote October 2020 bar exam (this is different from paying for a testing space, i.e. do you need to buy a new computer, pay for faster internet, are you paying for specialized online tutoring, etc.)? If yes, how much?	How many rooms in your residence allow you to shut out all humans/animals/other things that could create a distraction or noise?	Do you have roommate(s) that will be home during the bar exam unless you are able to make provisions for them to be somewhere else?
I am currently living with some people and they are working from home as well so I cannot control what they do in a house they pay for.	Yes	\$100-\$250	Less than \$250		0 Yes
My neighbors are extremely loud. I can hear their conversations through the walls. My family is in Indiana and I start my clerkships the day after the bar so I can't go home and take the bar and come back	Yes	\$100-\$250	\$500-\$750		0 Yes
I live in a house with other people. It will depend on the day and the time. Other people in the house have to telework, eat, other house activities so it gets hard to be alone without interruptions while in the house	Yes	\$250-\$500	Maybe, but unsure right now.		1 Yes
I live in a one bedroom apartment with my dog and girlfriend who works from home.	Maybe		\$750-\$1000		1 Yes
I have a family and I can't exactly send them out to the movies or lunch during a pandemic. In between leases and living at family home.	No Maybe No Maybe	Unsure Unsure Unsure \$250-\$500	No Less than \$250 \$250-\$500 \$250-\$500		1 No 0 Yes 1 No 1 Yes
I live with a dog, a cat, and a fiance who has video conferences of her own all day because she is a teacher. We dont have a large house and it is hard to find a quiet space.	Yes	\$250-\$500	Maybe, but unsure right now.		1 No
If you are unsure or do not believe you will have a quiet space to take the bar exam without interruption, please explain why.	Yes	\$100-\$250	Less than \$250		0 Yes
The area I am living can be quite noisy at times.	No		Maybe, but unsure right now.		1 Yes

[illegible]

Do you have a space in which you can take the bar examination uninterrupted for the entire duration of the exam?	Do you believe you can take the examination without fidgeting or touching your face or hair?	Does your bar preparation course teach exam taking skills such as hi-lighting, underlining, circling, diagramming, etc.?	Do you think you will reliably be able to get the right answers on questions requiring drawing/diagramming if you are not allowed to use scratch paper?	Please use this space to address anything that you feel was not adequately addressed in this survey.	TESTIMONIAL: Please use this space to write anything that you wish for the Court and the SBLE to know. These will be submitted to the Court and the SBLE. We want your voices to be heard and this is the place to do that.
Maybe	No	Yes	Maybe		
No	No	Yes	No		
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
Yes	No	Yes	No		
No	No	Yes	No		
	No	Yes	No		Please do not forget those of us who are first-time test takers but are not 2020 grads. I was laid off from my previous JD-advantage job due to COVID.
No	No	Yes	No	With the circumstances it's hard to control what others are doing and with all local library's being close its impossible to avoid distractions. This is the hardest exam of my life and it would be unfair to try and force us to take it under these circumstances.	With the circumstances it's hard to control what others are doing and with all local library's being close its impossible to avoid distractions. This is the hardest exam of my life and it would be unfair to try and force us to take it under these circumstances. In addition, it unfairly places people with financial trouble behind other because of the limited resources. I am currently unemployed because my employer wants me to focus on a bar exam that was moved 3 times.
No	No	Yes	No		
No	No	Yes	No		Any rules that resemble the Tennessee rules are absolutely outrageous. There is no way someone can focus and concentrate on doing their best on the exam while worrying about such specific and restrictive rules i.e. giving my eyes a break from staring at the screen, touching my face or hair. Again, I believe this would be absolutely outrageous and put me in a very uncomfortable environment
No	No	Yes	No		

Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Male	No	African American or Black	African American or Black
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Male	Prefer not to say	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Female	No	Asian	Asian
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	African American or Black	African American or Black
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Female	No	White	White

Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5	No	Maybe
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5	No	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		4	No	No
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		4	Yes	Maybe
No	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam		5	No	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5	No	Maybe

I live in a first floor apartment with another MD bar examinee and two cats. I have no control over whether the cats make noise during the exam. Additionally, I have an abnormally loud wall mate, there is frequent loud landscaping outside my window, and my only solution to somewhat drown these distractions out is my loud AC until and ear plugs. However, they are not enough. Furthermore, in one day of studying my building's fire alarm went off three times. It is frequently loud in my room and this is the only location I have to study and take the exam.	No		Maybe, but unsure right now.	1	Yes
	Yes	\$250-\$500	\$250-\$500	0	Yes
	Yes	Unsure	Maybe, but unsure right now.	0	Yes
I'm unsure if I will have stable internet	Maybe	Unsure	\$750-\$1000	3	Yes
I live with my mom and sometimes my younger brother. Family inherently, especially dogs, unpredictably loud especially when we are all either laid off due to COVID or working from home.	Maybe	\$250-\$500	Maybe, but unsure right now.	1	No
I live in an apartment with my family and pets. I am also concerned about my personal internet capabilities.	Maybe	Unsure	Maybe, but unsure right now.	0	No

1 Yes		2 No			No		Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	No	
1 Yes		3 No			No		3 Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	
1 No		No		No	No		Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	
1 Yes		1 No			Yes		1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Yes		1 No		No	Yes		2 Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Maybe	
Yes		1 Yes		1 Yes	Yes		2 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes	

[illegible]

Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Female	No	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	African American or Black	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	Prefer not to say	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination, but plan on withdrawing my registration.	35 to 42 years old	Female	No	African American or Black, White	African American or Black, White

No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 No	No
Maybe	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 Yes	No
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		4 Yes	Yes
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		3 Maybe	Maybe
No	Diploma Privilege & the current state specific online component		4 Yes	Yes

[illegible]

Yes		1 Yes		2 Yes	Yes		1 No	Yes	Yes	Yes
No		No		No	Yes		1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes
No		No			No		Maybe/Unsure	Yes	No	Maybe
1 No		No		No	No		Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Maybe	Yes
Yes		2 No			No		No	Yes	Maybe	No

				<p>The decisions the Court and SBLE have made regarding my future and the future of my family have handcuffed my ability to provide a sense of stability and security. I cannot tell employers in interviews when I am available to start. I have already had to turn down one offer because of the start date. I am now being considered for a second job opportunity I may also miss out on. At a time when my husband may lose his government employment, when my family could lose its health insurance as a result, and when we are in the middle of a recession and jobs are hard enough to find as it is, the Court and SBLE have told aspiring members of the legal profession that they do not care about the mental, emotional, or financial health of its professionals. To suggest that forcing examinees to sit without scrap paper, notes, or comfort aides on a video camera for 6 hours over two days in absolute silence is in the best interests of the public or that it determines competency to practice law suggests the designers of the exam and its protocols have never even seen a movie featuring lawyers. The options of accommodations that could have been made - such as multiple open book MPTs, which are actually lawyering exercises - were several. The time for them is now running out. If the Court will not grant diploma plus, then I would implore the Court to make the vetting process for bar applicants reflective of actual practice before the bar. If we have been found properly educated, ethically qualified, and sufficiently versed in Maryland law, please let us begin serving our communities and allow us to provide our families with the security and stability they have been denied for months.</p>	
No	No	Yes	No		
				<p>This situation has been hard for me because I had a family member move into my one bedroom apartment this summer. It is a small space for two people to live in 24/7. They lost their job due to Covid19 and had to terminate their lease. I had to be the one to contact their leasing office and go through the termination process because of a language barrier. I also have been the one to help this family member apply to jobs and unemployment this summer. I had also planned on disconnecting from the world to study for the bar but with everything going on I've had to keep up with bar exam news and it has added a lot of stress to studying. The bar prep course ends on 8/22 so I have to keep studying for 6 more weeks without a study plan from the course. I will also need to buy a new laptop closer to October because this laptop screen is small and I usually use my monitor with it. I can't use it for the bar exam because it's a second screen and it does not have a camera. Usually buying a new laptop would be fine for me but I don't know if I will have enough since the money I saved for this summer now has to support two people.</p>	
No	No	Yes	Maybe	<p>What would be the protocol if the fire alarm in my apt building goes off? If a family member walks behind me during the exam would my score be canceled? My desk is in the living room so if they need the kitchen or bathroom they have to walk by me.</p>	
Yes	No	Yes	No		
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
				<p>The lack of a portable score & finding out beyond the late application deadlines for other jurisdictions placed a great burden on anyone who either does not live in MD or had not yet found work there. Essentially, it stripped the flexibility of taking a UBE exam from us & left us to either withdraw our applications or petition to another jurisdiction. This negatively affects job searches or job offers contingent on licensing & placed an undue burden in bar takers at an already stressful time.</p>	
Yes	No	Maybe	No		

Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	No	Maybe
No	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)	5	No	Maybe
No	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	4	Maybe	No

I currently live in Miami in a small apartment with my significant other (who is a Florida bar applicant) and her two cats. I had planned to remain in DC, but my job was deferred due to the pandemic and I needed to move in with her due to the resulting financial hardship. We live on a busy street, my neighbors like to play loud music during the day (as is their prerogative), and the cats are rambunctious and scream when they are ignored. Miami is currently the global epicenter of the pandemic, so there is no where else in the city I can go to study or take the exam while remaining safe. Also, today, there was a fire in my building and we were evacuated. I have no way of ensuring that none of my neighbors' apartments catch on fire on October 5 and 6.

No

Maybe, but unsure right now.

0 Yes

I have roommates in the house that are working from home and the house isn't quiet simply from the number of people in it.

Maybe

Unsure

\$750-\$1000

0 Yes

I live with 3 roommates. There is always noise and it's not a big space.

Maybe

Unsure

Maybe, but unsure right now.

1 Yes

1 Yes		2 No		No	Yes		1 Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	
2 Yes		1 No		No	Yes		2 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes	
3 No		No		No	Yes		1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	No	Yes	

Maybe	No	Yes	No	My employer has indicated that if the Diploma Privilege Plus Online Exam option is selected, I will be required to take the online exam, even though my employer does not need me to be barred in any other jurisdiction. Therefore, advocating for that solution does folks like me absolutely no good. There was no ability to choose a "second best" option for the administration of the exam, but if pure DP cannot be achieved, my preference would be for MD to follow Indiana's approach and do an open book/email exam. As a final point, for applicants like myself with ADHD, the inability to use scratch paper or physically annotate questions is crippling, especially with respect to the MPT. Digital scratch paper and digital tools for annotating documents (if offered at all) are simply not the same. If we are required to move forward with an online exam, I believe all test takers should be allotted additional time to reflect the added challenge of the digital format.	
Maybe	No	Yes	No		<p>My biggest fear is that the technology is going to give out during the exam. The software that is being used (as evidenced by all the other jurisdictions that are having issues) is not reliable and our licenses should not be based on whether the technology works.</p> <p>I also find it unreasonable that scratch paper isn't allowed. These questions are hard and it is unfair that we aren't allowed to diagram our answers. I'm a visual learner and to do this exam without scratch paper and diagrams is significantly harder. I understand that this exam is occurring during unprecedented times. However, the rules that are being suggested for this online exam are unfair and lack any insight into how lawyers are trained today.</p>
No	No	Yes	No		<p>The bar exam is stressful in normal circumstances. Adding the stress of covid-19 makes it exponentially worse. The Tennessee Bar guidelines are physically impossible. Fidgeting and touching your face is not an easy thing to keep yourself from doing. Also, not allowing the use of scratch paper would be cruel. We are taught to diagram problems out. Not being able to write notes out would be terrible</p>

Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Female	No	White	White	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	35 to 42 years old	Female	Prefer not to say	Alaska Native or American Indian	Alaska Native or American Indian, White	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White		

No	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)	5	No	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege or Email Bar Exam are the only two equitable solutions	5	No	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	No	No

I live with my husband in a small apartment. Even with doors closed, I can still hear him when he is on the phone for work. It is very distracting	Maybe	Unsure	Maybe, but unsure right now.	0	No
I share a three bedroom townhome with my husband and three school-aged children. My children are required to stream their school day virtually due to the pandemic. My husband's employer has their employees working remotely. All three bedrooms in my home as well as our basement will have someone either doing school work or working. My only choice is the main floor where there are no doors and where my dogs (who are not quiet) live.	Yes	Unsure	\$1,000-\$2,000	0	Yes
I live off of a very busy street where there is constant foot traffic and car noise at a stoplight right outside of my first-floor bedroom window.	Yes	\$100-\$250	\$250-\$500	1	Yes

Yes		1 No		No		Yes		1 Maybe/Unsure		Maybe/Unsure	Maybe	Yes
1 Yes		4 Yes		3 Maybe		No		Maybe/Unsure		Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes
2 Yes		1 No				No		Maybe/Unsure		Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Maybe

<p>Please carefully consider the issues that other states have faced with trying to administer the exam remotely. In theory, it seemed like a good solution. However, reality has shown that we are trying to force something that isn't a good idea. I can't even imagine the stress I would encounter if the software crashed on me during the test. I also can't imagine taking the test without any scrap paper - all of law school has taught me to outline answers and to diagram! It just really feels like it's getting to the point where we need to acknowledge that a remote exam is not feasible or equitable. Please consider Indiana's option of an exam via email. That seems like a great compromise. Graduates will still be forced to exhibit mastery of legal topics but in conditions much better suited to current circumstances. It also is much more similar to the actual practice of law and has the potential to be a much better indicator of an applicant's readiness to enter the legal profession. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this pressing issue.</p>				
No	No	Yes	No	
				<p>we did not ask to be put in this position. We have worked so hard over our educational careers to get to this point. Many of us have been trying to prepare for this exam since May. Many of us have already developed styles for outlining essays, highlighting key points in MBE questions and mapping out complex property concepts. Some of us do have to write down damages for contracts. This is how we are conditioned; this is what we learned over most of our education.</p> <p>Some of us have exhausted our bar prep materials prematurely. Personally, I have to engage a tutor because the first weeks of bar preparation, occurring in May and early June, contained numerous practices that I cannot get back. I am terrified that I won't remember what I spent so much time trying to learn. Now that I am working full time, I don't have time to go back and try to find a way to start over. I stand to lose progress in three areas of the law that I started before the delays began. To mitigate that, I will incur an additional expense that I did not plan on and frankly am not sure that I can really afford. I'm too afraid not to have the tutoring because I can't afford to lose my job if I don't pass the exam.</p> <p>Remember that we have homes, we have lives, we have families. These things cannot easily be screened out for an online exam. Personally, because my children's educations are just as important as my own, I have to sacrifice space in my home to allow them to attend their classes over the two dates in October. That means I will have to pay for a hotel room and depend on whatever internet they provide, or find another facility that will allow me quiet access. I am not even sure where to begin as COVID is ramping up once again and it is unclear if businesses will remain open if the rates do not drop. I cannot take this at my office as I am not allowed to install software on their devices.</p>
No	No	Yes	No	
No	No	Yes	No	

[illegible]

[illegible]

				<p>in a diagram to help problem solve. We continue this habit throughout law school and are taught this in preparation for the bar exam. In every exam situation throughout law school I have been given a physical copy of the questions to mark up/highlight/diagram. I cannot imagine having to write an essay without outlining by hand first. The MPT prompts often have so much material that I do not know how I am going to be able to sort through the material without taking notes. In addition to outlining essays by hand, some of the MBE practice questions are so complex that it's practically impossible to understand the parties and the transactions without physically mapping them out.</p> <p>In addition to this concern, I have concerns about a stranger watching through my camera. The "cyber attack" on Michigan's bar exam has only enhanced these concerns. If there has not been a secure enough system developed to prevent "cyber attacks," the possibility of hackers is not out of the realm of possibilities. Giving a proctor access to my camera and/or computer could potentially open me up to the possibility of hackers. I have genuine concerns about not only opening up my camera and computer to the proctors, but also the world. We should not be forced to compromise our privacy to take a bar exam.</p> <p>My last main concern is the provision of not looking away from the screen. While I have always considered myself an adequate test taker in law school, I have found that looking away from the question/answer for a few seconds is sometimes the best way to regain my thoughts and attention. Additionally, I have recently been tested, shown signs for ADHD, and am currently being treated for it. Part of the ADHD test itself was tracking eye movement to see how many times you looked away from the screen. I feel that this presumption of cheating if you are looking away from the computer</p>
Maybe	No	Yes	No	<p>I would just like to point out that while the online exam may seem like a good solution the rules around the test are contrary to every problem solving process we have been taught in law school. Additionally, while the SBLE is trying to "protect the integrity of the profession" they are asking us a candidates to adjust in ways that have never been asked of other candidates before. Besides changing our study schedule twice, we also have to essentially relearn all of the methods we have learned in law school and so far in bar preparation to adhere to their policies and rules. Furthermore, the presumption of cheating is offensive to me personally as someone looking to enter a field based on integrity.</p>
Yes	No	Yes	No	For me the largest concern is webcam requirements. My laptop does not have a functioning camera, so I will need to purchase a new one.
Yes	No	Yes	No	
				<p>I've been trying to adjust to an online bar exam. Given the timeline, this is likely my only shot at being licensed to retain my federal job (they require 14 months to licensure and we are likely to receive our October scores too late to adequately study for the February Bar - if there is one). I learned to manage my nerves while lower enlisted in the Army, especially experiencing combat in Iraq. I am beyond anxious that this iteration of the Bar Exam will fail due to its online nature. I've kept up with failures in Nevada, Indiana, Michigan, the American Board of Surgery's licensing exam and LSAC losing over 140 scores from LSAT examinees after the test was administered online. Many of these jurisdictions had months to plan. I'm fearful that the vendors chosen by NCBE are not up to par. I'm fearful that my power will go out, like it did this week while I studied Barbr. Some BLEs have stated that an outage would result in failure of the exam. I'm fearful that I will have to answer my screaming child or he will accidentally walk into my room during the exam resulting in a failure. Had there been no COVID and the Exam been administered in person this year, I have no doubt I would pass on the merits. My anxiety is through the roof that something beyond my control will result in Bar failure, my loss of job and health insurance for my son, forcing me to find another position during this economic downturn. I faced unknowns in Iraq willingly because it was part of the job, but law school and licensure has generally been predictable. I know COVID has forced us all to get comfortable being uncomfortable, but I hope the Court of Appeals and SBLE can work with examinees to protect both the public and themselves by exploring an alternate route to licensure with added CLEs and supervision.</p>
No	No	Yes	No	
No	No	Yes	No	
				<p>I do not have access to a printer and wonder how I will be able to access the Exam materials if using the "CLOSED book" function on ExamSoft.</p>
No	No	No	No	<p>I constantly look up when I am thinking and I Constantly look at my keyboard, when typing really fast. Not being able to look up or down, will c</p>
				<p>I constantly look up when thinking and constantly look down at my keyboard when typing really fast. Not being able to look up or down, will create more unnecessary additional stress for me.</p>

Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	Latinx, Latino/a, Hispanic	Latinx, Latino/a, Hispanic
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Female	No	Asian	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Male	No	White	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	Yes	African American or Black	

[illegible]

	No		No		No		No	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	No	No
	No		No		No		No	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes
	1 Yes		1 Yes		2 Yes		Yes	1 No	Yes	Yes	No
	1 No		No		No	Yes		1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	No	Yes
5 or more	Yes		2 Yes		3 No	Yes		Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	Maybe
	2 Yes		1 Yes		1 Yes	Yes		1 No	No	Yes	No
	No		No		No	Yes		1 Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes

					Having done several practice quizzes while bar prepping I have noticed that on quizzes that are administered solely online (without a highlight function) I score substantially lower than on quizzes provided in practice books which allow me to highlight and underline. On the online quizzes my score range from 40-70 percent whereas on the written quizzes my scores range from 70-80 percent. Highlighting and underlining is a skill that was taught in law school as a way to ensure we could answer complex hypos accurately, not having the ability to do that would seriously hinder my ability to retain certain information from the hypothetical in addition to slowing down my ability to answer questions accurately.
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
Yes	No	Yes	No		
No	No	Yes	No		
					Everyone is in a tough spot here, students and decision-makers both. We are operating under near unrealistic circumstances. With that in mind, it is my personal belief that diploma privilege is the only logical option. Normally, I would not be opposed to an online exam. However, when my entire career is on the line (not to mention hundreds of thousands of dollars), the risk of the unknown of the exam test-taking procedures and potential connection issues is too much to leave to chance. Therefore, I am completely in favor of diploma privilege.
Maybe	Yes	Yes	No		
Maybe	Maybe	Yes	Maybe		
					I have paid out of pocket for the Bar Prep which is giving me tips on how how to take the exam if I had a paper copy in hand, or at the very least a scratch piece of paper. If all of our predecessors had the ability to take notes on the physical exam, how is an exam without that option fair? Better question, which part of this exam exemplifies our ability to practice law? This is not about standards, this is about our employability and capability to enter our careers! No one is trying to cheat the system and if they are, I hope you see they will expose themselves!
No	No	Yes	No		
No	No	Yes	No		

Maybe	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	Maybe	Maybe
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	No	No
No	Not opposed to the online bar exam because of safety precautions, but there are so many variables that can't be accounted for. For example, even if someone had	2	Maybe	Maybe
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	4	No	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	No	No
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	3	No	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	3	No	No

	Yes	\$100-\$250	Maybe, but unsure right now.	0	No
I live in a one bedroom apartment with my husband, who is currently working full time from home, and our dog, who will bark whenever she sees or hears anyone outside.	Yes	\$100-\$250	Maybe, but unsure right now.	0	Yes
I live with other people who are forced to work from home due to the corona virus and cannot tell them not to work so I can take a test.	Maybe	Unsure	Maybe, but unsure right now.	0	Yes
My apartment has thin walls and I have two cats that insist on sitting on me or my laptop whenever I'm working	Yes	\$250-\$500	Maybe, but unsure right now.	0	No
I have 2 dogs and 3 roommates.	Maybe	Unsure	Less than \$250	0	Yes
	Maybe	Unsure	Maybe, but unsure right now.	1	Yes
My spouse works from home and my neighbors/traffic are very loud.	Maybe	\$100-\$250	Less than \$250	1	Yes

	No		No		No	No		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
1 Yes		1 No		No	Yes		1 Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	No	
4 Yes		1 No		No	Yes		4 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	No	No	
Yes		2 No		No	No		No	Yes	Maybe	Yes	
3 Yes		2 No			Yes		3 No	Yes	Yes	No	
2 No		No		No	Yes		2 Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Maybe	
1 Yes		1 Yes		1 Maybe	Yes		2 No	No	Yes	No	

Maybe	No	Yes	No	Impact on employment, loss of job offers	
No	No	Yes	No		The bar exam, prior to the pandemic, was already a huge source of stress, but what the SBLE and the Court of Appeals are doing to us regarding the remote administration of the exam is cruel. I have had to push my job start date twice, compromising my job security and my income for two months. My health insurance has also been compromised in the middle of a global pandemic! Lastly, the rules coming out about what is allowed and what isn't, is yet another huge source of stress, one that seems completely out of touch with real life applicants. We, applicants and our families, are all trying our best to stay afloat during these unprecedented times, and the message we are getting from the Court and the SBLE is that they not only not care about us, but they prioritize monetary profit over our wellbeing and professional prosperity.
No	No	Yes	No	Not being allowed to fidget or touch your face and or hair will disqualify many people like myself who have anxiety. That is not something I am able to control and would be an absurd basis for cancellation of exam results.	
No	No	Yes	No	The stress of studying, dealing with the pandemic, and not knowing the details of how the test will be administered is just outrageous	The remote bar exam is not a fair and accurate way of determining minimum competence.
No	No	Yes	No	Most of us are also being forced to work during our bar prep.	
Maybe	No	Yes	No	I would like to see more mention of First generation students who face added pressures in the legal world. I would also like to see a question pertaining to jobs being delayed or pushed back because of Covid.	Due to Corona my employment offer has been moved back to January 2021, as such I was unable to remain in my apartment and was forced to move home to my parents house. My parents home is on a small island off the eastern coast of Florida. As hurricane season is starting I fear I will not have reliable internet and power during the exam. With storms like this we have very few days notice and as such I would likely not be able to move evacuate the state to get reliable power and internet.
No	No	Yes	No		Many of us have spent a large amount of money on commercial bar-prep programs. The methods being taught require test takers to be able to map out answers in some manner (on the exam or scratch paper). My program has literally stated that failing to take the time to map out answers is the quickest and easiest way to make mistakes. If I cannot apply the best practices that I am learning then how else should I prepare?

Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White		
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	Yes	White		White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White		White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Male	No	White		
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Male	No	White		

No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 No	Maybe
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		3 No	Maybe
Maybe	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		4 No	Maybe
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 No	No
No	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam		5 Maybe	Yes

I had hoped to get a hotel room to take the bar exam in, somewhere in the suburbs since I live in the city (and next to train tracks) but because of COVID, hotel prices are sky high since they aren't getting much business and with the timing of the sessions I would have to stay 3 nights (night before, night between, and night after) since the times don't work out with check in/check out times.	Yes	\$250-\$500	Maybe, but unsure right now.	0	Yes
Household pets, partner who works, distractions throughout neighborhood (yard work etc)	Yes No	Unsure	Maybe, but unsure right now. No	2 1	Yes Yes
Family in home, public spaces are closed due to covid	Yes	\$250-\$500	Maybe, but unsure right now.	0	Yes
	Maybe	\$250-\$500	\$250-\$500	0	Yes

1 Yes		1 No			No		No	Yes	Yes	No	
1 Yes		2 No		No	Yes		1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes	
1 Yes		2 No		No	No		Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	No	Yes	
1 No		No		No	Yes		3 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	No	Yes	
2 No		Yes		1 Yes	Yes		1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Maybe	Yes	

No	No	Yes	No		<p>I had set aside my entire summer to prepare for and take the bar exam (including budgeting myself to pay bills through September), because of the delay to October I now have to begin my clerkship August 12th, and study in the evenings rather than full time as I had planned. This was my only choice to be able to pay my bills, delaying my star date past September was not a choice for me.</p> <p>Furthermore, it is now August 1st, and we know nothing of the format of the exam, the restrictions we will be placed under, or what resources we will have access to. We cannot adequately prep for an exam with this many unknowns surrounding the formatting.</p>
Yes	No	Yes	No		<p>Please show that you care about the mental health and do not promote classism by allowing diploma pro ledges, rather than forcing already adequate (and mostly passed MPRE) students to stress over whether they will be barred or not due to circumstances out of their control. Do not punish the mothers, the fathers, the disabled and sick, or the non wealthy who can not afford to accommodate the strict commands already employed by various other states. Be better, Maryland.</p>
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
Maybe	No	Yes	Maybe		
Yes	No	Yes	Maybe		<p>My wife and I cannot safely bring in a nanny or other help for our one year old because my wife has bad asthma and we can't risk her getting Covid. It is extremely hard to raise a child while she works and I have to study for the bar exam. An online exam will not do anything to help us. Regarding the need for the exam to provide assurance to the public—I disagree that anything more than law school and supervised practice, and CLE is necessary. I plan on doing tax law; I practiced in tax as an IRS Enrolled Agent for three years before law school, have taken six JD tax courses and will have an LLM in tax from NYU before practicing as an attorney. Isn't that enough assurance to a client that I am competent at tax law—would they care that I didn't pass an exam that has 0 questions or essays on tax law? What does a closed book exam have to do with being a lawyer for any type of lawyer—especially for those in fields not tested on the exam.</p>

Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Male	Prefer not to say	White	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	Southwest Asian or North African (formerly known as "Middle Eastern")	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	African American or Black	African American or Black
No, I am not registered to take the bar examination because I have withdrawn my registration.	27 to 35 years old	Female	No	African American or Black	African American or Black
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Male	No	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	35 to 42 years old	Male	Yes	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	African American or Black	African American or Black

No	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)	5	Yes	Maybe
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	Maybe	Maybe
No	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	4	No	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	Yes	Yes
Yes	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	5	No	No
No	In-Person Bar Exam	3	Yes	No
Maybe	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	5	Yes	Maybe
No	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	5	No	Maybe
Yes	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)	3	Maybe	Maybe
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	No	No

I will be taking it likely from my apartment - it is difficult to predict at this time if there will be silence and no interruptions. I'm mostly concerned about the internet and the online software.	Maybe	\$250-\$500	Maybe, but unsure right now.	0	No
I have a large family and we are living in a small home in which it is difficult to find quiet space to work	Maybe	\$100-\$250	\$1,000-\$2,000	1	Yes
I live in a basement apartment as this is what I could afford after Graduating with Covid 19 delaying my job prospects. As much as I can ask my upstairs landlords to be respectful while I study and take the exam, it is difficult to secure a quiet place. The walls are very thin and I can hear everything from a sneeze to a full conversation. I live in a loud and busy neighborhood and I have windows just a few feet from the street, on the ground level. Ambulances and police sirens are frequent and there is no guarantee what will happen that day. In addition, I share my internet connection with my upstairs landlords and their are occasional delays because of everyone is working from home.	Maybe	Unsure	\$250-\$500	0	No
	No		Maybe, but unsure right now.	3	Yes
My apartment is constantly having construction and it makes even studying really difficult.	Yes	\$500-\$750	\$250-\$500	0	Yes
	Yes	\$250-\$500	\$250-\$500	0	No
My family is home most days because my parents are not working full time as a result of the pandemic. It can be quite distracting with them here, so I have to move my study space around at times to find quiet. I am unsure of whether they will be able to leave our home during the bar exam to ensure that it will be quiet.	Maybe	\$250-\$500	Maybe, but unsure right now.	2	No
It will depend on whether my sister's family has found a place to live by then.	No		\$750-\$1000	1	Yes
	No	Unsure	No	1	Yes
I have a large family which includes two children under the age of 5. It is not feasible for me to take this exam without interruption because of the activity within my home. It is also impossible for me to find somewhere else to take the exam considering the current global pandemic.	Maybe	\$250-\$500	Maybe, but unsure right now.	0	Yes

	Yes		1 No		No	No		Maybe/Unsure	Yes	No	Maybe
	4 Yes		2 Yes		1 No	Yes		4 No	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Maybe
	No		No		No	No		No	No	Yes	No
	2 Yes		1 No		No	Yes		2 Yes	Yes	Yes	No
	1 No		No		No	Yes		1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	No
	No		No			No		No	No	Yes	No
	Yes		2 No		No	Yes		2 Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	3 Yes		1 No		No	Yes		3 Yes	Yes	Maybe	Yes
	1 Yes		1 No		No	No		Maybe/Unsure	Yes	No	Yes
5 or more	Yes		1 Yes		3 Maybe	Yes		5 or more	Yes	Yes	Maybe

				<p>The October test date has been financially, emotionally, and professionally difficult. If we do take the online bar (or email) in October, I am unsure if we would have our scores back in time to know if we need to retake the exam again in February. Will that still cost the same? The pandemic was obviously an unforeseen, unimaginable thing that has changed everything. I do not blame BLE's for any of this, but certainly think that Diploma Privilege is the only appropriate answer for allowing educated, competent law school graduates to join the profession we've worked so hard for. This is in no way asking for a free pass or minimizing the importance of competency. These crazy times call for changes and adjustments to keep us living and well. The way this process of taking the bar exam, changing dates, unprecedented formats, hearing of other states (Michigan for example) attempting this online exam and having it crash, has made me extremely worried that I will not financially be able to pass this exam. I have never been this anxious or unwell. I am worried that the Bar Exam- due to the uncertainty of the format (Crashing internet, software, fidgeting or touching my hair or thinking too much about that, etc.) and lack of resources, (scrap paper etc.)- is going to force me to choose a different path than being an attorney, the profession I have dreamed about and worked extremely hard for. The delay in time (and potentially more) is putting an insurmountable financial strain on us. I cannot afford to continue to be out of work and keep paying close to \$1,000 to retake this exam several times. Again, this is not the BLE's fault, however, they can choose to mitigate the situation by granting Diploma Privilege and holding us to the highest standard. No one is trying to "get away" with not taking the bar exam here... we want to be able to do our jobs despite a pandemic.</p>	
Maybe	No	Yes	No	I am extremely concerned about the prohibition of scrap paper. For multiple choice questions, essays, and especially the MPT, scrap paper, outlining, highlighting, crossing, etc. is vital. Not only is it how we have prepared to take this exam, but it is the only way to effectively organize our thoughts to answer the questions.	
Maybe	No	Yes	No	I am having to work full time to support myself and my dependents while studying for this exam that was originally scheduled for July. The constant changes in the exam schedule affect my entire households planning. And scheduling. Many of us have not budgeted for the constant elongation to the timeline of this test. Student loans don't pay themselves.	
No	No	Yes	No		
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
No	No	Yes	No		
No	No	Yes	No		
				<p>I am very worried about this online exam. I am a visual learner and processor and I draw diagrams to help me get the correct answer on things. So not being able to do that worries me. Additionally, my living environment will make it more difficult to succeed on this exam because there is construction going on in my apartment, and while studying I have been relying on noise cancelling headphones just to get by.</p>	
No	No	Yes	No		
No	No	Yes	No		
Maybe	No	Yes	No	Great survey. Thank you!	
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
Yes	Yes	Yes	No		
No	No	Yes	No		

Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	Yes	Southwest Asian or North African (formerly known as "Middle Eastern")	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination, but plan on withdrawing my registration.	27 to 35 years old	Female	No	White	Middle Eastern (Israeli)
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	42 to 50 years old	Male	No	White	White

Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5 Yes	Maybe
Maybe	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	4 Maybe	No
No	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)	5 Yes	Maybe

I live on the first floor of my apartment building next to an area that is gardened 2-3 times a week and it is very loud. Further, our building's fire alarm goes off frequently and I am nervous it will happen during the exam.					No		Maybe, but unsure right now.	1	Yes
While I can study and take breaks to allow my dog to go out - I cannot take the full bar exam uninterrupted.					No		No	1	No
Will be at home. Disruptions can occur any time regardless of planning.					No		Maybe, but unsure right now.	1	Yes

1 Yes		2 No		Maybe	No		Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes		2 No			Yes		1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Maybe	Yes
1 Yes		1 No			Yes		1 Yes	Yes	No	Yes

				<p>Thank you for taking the time to reach through these testimonials. As has been stated, the pandemic has caused severe hardships for people throughout our country, as well as the world. Something like the bar exam may seem like a minuscule issue, but for law school graduates, it is one of the biggest issues in our lives. The delay and switch-over to a remote exam has caused a great deal of financial and mental hardship for me and my peers. Please consider diploma privilege, as it is the only equitable solution, especially during this emergency time. In developing rules for the remote exam, please consider easing the rules to allow applicants to wear earplugs, to be able to fidget, and to allow physical scratch paper. During exams, I subconsciously touch my face, hair, etc. It is a nervous habit. I know people who cannot control those movements due to disabilities. Making that a fail-able offense is discriminatory and unfair. For me, earplugs would be necessary as I live on the first floor of an apartment, next to a parking lot, where there is constantly noise. Earplugs would help me drown out any excess noise and to focus on the exam. Further, physical scratch paper should be available. Our bar review courses literally focus on us diagramming and writing things out in order to work out questions. Outlining on paper for me is imperative to help me form my essays. Not allowing physical scratch paper will put test takers at a disadvantage. If you are concerned that these issues will result in cheating, it should show that administering an online exam is just simply infeasible. Emergency diploma privilege should be granted during this time as a start, and abolition of the exam as a whole should be a further discussion. Please listen to the voices of us as future members of the profession and make the transition to licensure a more fair and equitable route. Thank you.</p>
Yes	No	Yes	No	<p>I was in a room with my phone. I wanted to ensure that I could write more eloquently and decided to scrap that survey and move to my computer instead. I bounded up the stairs of my new townhouse, pressed the power button my laptop and much to my frustration found that my laptop would not turn on. I attempted again and again and 20 minutes after my original attempt to turn on my laptop, it updated and turned on. This is a minor example of the fear that bar examiners are facing when taking the bar exam. I am a privileged individual who happens to own a home, with one other individual and one pet. However this is not the case for many people who would like to join this elite profession. The bar examination process is meant to test the aptitude of the individual taking the exam and their ability to understand the law. With administering this remote exam, the exam is instead testing the wealth of those who wish to partake and how lucky any one particular person is that day. If there is any issue outside of our control, this would be irrelevant during an in person exam, but could be the end of our exam if remote. If the power goes out, if the internet goes out, if my neighbor comes by and my dog barks, and the ifs go on and on. I would implore that the state of Maryland the bar examiners take into consideration the impact of the uncertainty of this exam can have on individuals. I am registered for the remote exam, however I am deeply disappointed in the manner by which these decisions have been made. While I am lucky enough to have the funds, paying the same amount for the UBE and for this remote exam which is not transferrable (but is now reciprocal) is a financial hit that many of us cannot take. I would implore the state to take extraordinary measures in these extraordinary times and consider that in the best of circumstances this exam is not the best measure of a graduates aptitude. Diploma privileges is the only fair and equitable way to ensure that any graduate that has passed their law school courses, has taken the ethics exam and is in good standing is qualified regardless of income, status, health issues,</p>
				<p>The proposed rules and regulations for the remote bar exam are especially challenging for those who are neurodivergent. As someone who requests accommodations for ADHD, the idea that I am unable to move, use scratch paper, gaze off into the distance or twirl my hair which I do without thinking, are unimaginable. Further, these rules will take away from a candidates ability to focus on answering the questions and will instead place an inordinate amount of pressure to focus on "acting correctly." For those of us who hyperfocus, I know that my focus will most likely be on whether or not I am twirling my hair and will disadvantage my already challenged mind from being able to correctly answer the questions regarding the actual law.</p>
No	No	Yes	No	
Maybe	Yes	Yes	No	

Maybe	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)	5	No	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	No	No
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	3	No	No
No	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)	5	No	No
Maybe	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	1	No	Maybe
No	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	4	Yes	Maybe

	Maybe	\$100-\$250	Maybe, but unsure right now.	1	Yes
	Yes	\$100-\$250	Less than \$250	0	Yes
I have a roommate who is a teacher and will be working from home, including teaching virtually during that time. We live in a 1 bedroom apartment.	Yes	\$500-\$750	Maybe, but unsure right now.	1	Yes
Currently live with other family members including kids and pets. The area where I live often experiences loss of power, meaning I will certainly be disconnected to internet for at least a portion of the exam and I won't be able to control that.	Yes	\$250-\$500	Less than \$250	1	Yes
I live with my family, who are working from home; plus the home phone	Maybe	\$100-\$250	Maybe, but unsure right now.	0	No
Sometimes my house is quiet, but sometimes it isn't - noisy neighbors, frequent construction, pets.	No		Maybe, but unsure right now.	0	No

[illegible]

					<p>Some individuals are experiencing internet disruptions as well as power outages due to storms throughout the day and evening. We are currently seeing impacts from Tropical Storm Isaias where internet providers are reaching out to customers with notices that there will be unavoidable internet disruptions. It is frustrating enough to know that I could be flagged for cheating if I sneeze and my head goes down or my dog barks because he's a dog and everything excites him. But now I must process through the reality that I may also fail due to loss of internet connection.</p> <p>The exam is scheduled for October: Hurricane season. Being directly on the east coast and susceptible to the strong likelihood of power outages and loss of internet for unknown periods of time, I am very fearful that I will lose power, lose internet, and fail the exam due to something completely out of my control. At this point, it is impossible to administer the exam under equal testing conditions which guarantees that the only thing it is accurately predicting is access to resources, not competency to practice law.</p>
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
No	No	Yes	No		<p>I want to believe in the profession that I have chosen to be a part of, but it has become increasingly difficult to do so. I feel support from fellow attorneys and law graduates, but there seems to be a distinct lack of support from the SBLE. These are unprecedented times. I never thought that March would lead into August, and it now seems like any picture of normalcy or the "new normal" as they call it will not come until 2021. I don't mean to be pessimistic or to seem that I am lacking all faith in the SBLE, but it's difficult for me to believe that a remote bar is the right choice for these times and circumstances.</p> <p>My fellow law graduates and I knew that we had to take a bar examination at the end of our three year law school journey, but we could have never anticipated these circumstances that call to question the very equity and value that such an exam even has. The exam this year will not measure competence. It will measure resources. We are all many times more stressed and anxious than would seem fathomable to those who took the exam even last year. Many of us are primary caretakers of family members during these COVID-19 times. Many of us have had or know someone who has COVID-19. Many others have to deal with the fact that their kids will not be going back to school in the fall, and will instead be learning virtually from home. Still others live in cramped quarters and will have to balance studying and taking the exam with roommates and family members that also live with them and will be working remotely from home.</p> <p>I do not say all of this to gain sympathy; we law graduates are a gritty and resilient group. We will do what is necessary, and if that means that we study when we can, when things are quiet, and the kids are done with lessons, and we finally have the available office space in our homes, then that is what we will do. We will do what we must do to pass an exam that determines our so-called competency and future.</p>
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
No	No	Yes	No		I urge you to please consider mailing the bar exam, as in many of the exam takers real lives, it is impossible to find a 100% quiet space inside our homes, and we won't be able to guarantee our internet speed or power throughout the duration of the exam. We also must be able to circle, highlight and diagram the hypos in order to organize the facts on them before we can even attempt to answer a question.
Maybe	Maybe	No	Maybe		
Yes	No	Yes	No		

Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Female	No	White		
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	Southwest Asian or North African (formerly known as "Middle Eastern")		
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Male	No	African American or Black, White		African American or Black, White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	42 to 50 years old	Female	No	African American or Black, White		African American or Black

No	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	4	Yes	Yes
Yes	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	5	No	No
Yes	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	5	Yes	Yes
No	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	3	No	Maybe

	No		No	1	No
I dont have enough money to support myself while waiting to take the bar in October and my start date was pushed back a little. As a result, I had to move in with my family in a different state where there is always an average of 5-8 people over, including young boys (10-16 years old) who are very loud and dont understand the importance of staying quiet so I could study because they dont understand the impact that the exam has on my future	Yes	\$250-\$500	Maybe, but unsure right now.	0	No
	No			2	Yes
	Yes	\$250-\$500	No	2	No

No		No		No	No		Yes	Yes	No	Maybe	
Yes		3 Yes		2 No	Yes		4 No	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Maybe	
2 Yes No		2 No No		No No	Maybe No		1 Yes Maybe/Unsure	Yes Yes	Maybe No	Yes Yes	

				My clerkship start date has (luckily) not been pushed back, but this means that I will be working full-time for the three weeks preceding the exam and taking two days off within my first month of work. I am also trying to juggle starting a new job, moving across the country, and other personal obligations with studying for a bar exam that was supposed to be finished before all of these events.	
Yes	No	Yes	Maybe		
No	No	Yes	No	I have an inflammatory bowel disease and the bathroom restrictions will be problematic	<p>I am a first generation university graduate and first generation law school graduate. I have done everything right. I studied hard to beat the odds and get into a good law school and graduate with good grades. I did internships and externships non stop to gain experience. I have taken the MPRE and Maryland bar component and passed both. But now on top of a global pandemic that's ravaging the country and the risks it poses to me as a high risk individual, I have to also worry about the bar exam and all the little rules including not being able to use scratch paper which is what all bar preps train you to use. Virtual scratch paper is not the same! The fact that we are so resilient in advocating for ourselves should show you that we are competent attorneys who will do great in advocating for their clients. Not to mention, everyone in this state has participated in some of the highest ranked clinics in the country. We are competent and the only thing that test will do right now, is set those of us without a quiet area to study or take the test and with bad internet up for failure. Please be kind to us at a time when it is much needed and grant us diploma privileges.</p> <p>I support a Diploma Privilege option for students who applied to take MD's 2020 July Bar exam along with the option to take the modified bar exam. Giving applicants two options allow test takers to choose from an exam that is portable in a limited capacity, or to complete the necessary requirements that a Diploma Privilege would require and begin work in the legal profession. The Diploma privilege option is a necessary option for the prospective lawyers who experience hardship because of the national emergency and affords the chance to work for pay while taking the steps to earn their attorney license. Two pathways to becoming barred help mitigate risks associated with mandating just a virtual bar exam in October like ensuring an even playing field for all test takers.</p> <p>During a virtual bar exam, ensuring an even playing field for test takers is absolutely impossible. One example that comes to mind is the size of a test taker's monitor. Test takers with the ability to use a large (tv like monitor) have a clear advantage over someone who may only be able to take the exam on a small laptop screen. Particularly for the MPT and MEE, A larger monitor allows for test takers to have more information on the screen at one time and makes it easier to stay organized. A larger monitor is just one example not mentioned in the original petition, but for this reason and all the others mentioned by the petition, the Court of Appeals must allow the option for a Diploma Privilege. Mandating an electronic bar exam with no option other than postponing our test date to a future date creates undue hardships for many students. Adding the option of a diploma privilege to the scheduled virtual bar exam option is the most effective reaction to the national emergency caused by COVID19, and evens the playing field for all prospective 2020 Maryland bar candidates.</p>
Maybe	No	Yes	Maybe		
No	No	Yes	No		

	Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	35 to 42 years old	Female	Yes	White	White
	Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Female	Yes	White	White
	Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Male	No	White	White
	Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Female	No	White	White

No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		4 No	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 No	No
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		4 No	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 Maybe	Maybe

[illegible]

Yes		2 Yes 1 No		2 Yes	Yes Maybe		1 Yes 1 Yes	Yes Yes	Maybe No	Yes Yes
3 Yes		3 No		No	Yes		3 No	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	No
Yes		3 No			Yes		1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes

				I live with my partner and two children. My children have been home 100% of the time since March 13th and I have no place to study outside of my home. Additionally, my partner works from home and spends most of his day in phone conferences. There is nowhere in our home where he can work where I can't hear him talking. He would have to take 2 days off of work to allow me to take the exam without his background noise. I also have no idea how I am going to keep my children quiet and away from my home office for the two days of the exam.
Yes Maybe	No No	Yes Yes	No No	
				You have an alternative for the Maryland Bar Exam already; that is, the Maryland Law Component test. Why not just take that and make that the Bar Exam? Why are we learning federal rules/jurisprudence if we are NOT getting the benefit of a portable exam score, as we were promised when we signed up to take the UNIFORM Bar Exam. That was the whole benefit of the bargain. Now that portability is no longer an option, we should be spending our time learning and brushing up on MARYLAND law, which we would be able to do if you changed the Bar Exam to the Maryland Law Component test in entirety.
No	No	No	No	
Maybe	No	Yes	No	I live in a small house with 3 animals (2 dogs and a cat) and my fiancé who is also taking the MD bar in October. We only have one room with a door (our bedroom). I cannot guarantee that the house will be quiet. Our internet is also spotty at times. I do not feel that this situation will be fair for bar takers.

Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White	Latinx, Latino/a, Hispanic
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	Asian	Asian
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Male	No	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Female	No	Asian	Asian
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Male	No	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Female	No	African American or Black	African American or Black
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White	
No, I am not registered to take the bar examination because I have withdrawn my registration.	27 to 35 years old	Female	No	White	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	Yes	African American or Black	Latinx, Latino/a, Hispanic
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	Yes	White	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	35 to 42 years old	Male	No	African American or Black	African American or Black
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	Yes	Southwest Asian or North African (formerly known as "Middle Eastern")	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	Asian	

No	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)		4 Yes	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 Yes	Maybe
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		4 Maybe	Maybe
Maybe	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		4 No	Yes
Maybe	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 No	Maybe
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 No	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 Yes	Yes
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 No	Maybe
No	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam		4 Maybe	Maybe
Yes	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)		5 No	No
Maybe	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		4 No	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 No	No
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 Yes	Maybe
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 No	No
Maybe	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 No	Yes

I live with a dog and a roommate, so silence is unlikely and we do not have stable WiFi. I was offered the ability to take it at my law firm, but there's the risk of background noise. My parents' houses are also noisy with dogs and people and I don't have a desk or office to use at their homes.	Maybe	Unsure	Maybe, but unsure right now.		1 Yes
I will be living w my parents and we have two large dogs who may interrupt the test and get my exam flagged by the AI by barking.	Maybe	Unsure	No		3 Yes
I live with my family and walls are not sound proof and construction constantly happens in the area.	No	Unsure	Less than \$250		1 No
	No	Unsure	Less than \$250		1 No
	Yes	\$100-\$250	Maybe, but unsure right now.		1 Yes
I have to remain in my apartment due to the pandemic. A quiet space to take the bar exam without interruption cannot be guaranteed in my apartment.	Yes	\$500-\$750	\$250-\$500		0 Yes
	No	Unsure	\$250-\$500	5 or more	Yes
	No				1
I live with my husband, who will be teaching remotely during the fall, and I have two dogs and two cats. I also live in a neighborhood where lots of renovation is taking place, so it's impossible to predict if someone within earshot of my house will be taking down trees, putting up fences, in demolition/rehab, landscaping, etc.	Maybe	\$100-\$250	Maybe, but unsure right now.		2 Yes
	Yes	\$750-\$1000	\$1,000-\$2,000		0 Yes
I have two pets at home and a partner who is also working from home. We don't have enough work spaces for us each to be in separate rooms.	Yes	\$100-\$250	\$250-\$500		0 No
I have two kids who will be online schooling.	Maybe	Unsure	\$500-\$750		0 Yes
I live on the first floor of my building and there is constant street/parking lot/gardening noise	Maybe	Unsure	Maybe, but unsure right now.		1 Yes
	No		Maybe, but unsure right now.		1 Yes
	No		Maybe, but unsure right now.		1 No

					No	No		No	Yes	Yes	Yes
1 Yes 3 Yes No No			1 No 2 No No No			Yes		3 Maybe/Unsure 3 Maybe/Unsure Maybe/Unsure	Yes Maybe/Unsure Yes	No Yes No	Yes Yes Yes
					No	No					
					No	Maybe		1 Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes
2 Yes 2 Yes			1 No 1 No		No No	Yes Yes		2 No No	No Yes	Yes Yes	No Yes
1 Yes			4 No		No	Yes		1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes
1 Yes Yes			1 No 2 No		No	No Yes		No 1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes Yes	No Yes	Yes Yes
2 No			Yes		2 Maybe	Yes		1 No	No	Yes	No
1 Yes 1 Yes			2 No 2 No		Maybe	No No		Yes No	Yes Maybe/Unsure	Yes Yes	Yes No
No			No		No	Yes		4 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes

					<p>I tested positive for the coronavirus at the end of July, the week in which I finally intended to begin my 10 week bar prep course, however due to the symptoms of the illness (exhaustion, fevers, body aches, shortness of breath, and complications with my asthma) I was unable to start the course for an additional two weeks, which has added to the stress of preparing for the October Bar in particular. Illness aside, it has also been difficult finding the motivation to study with all of the constant changes and uncertainty surrounding whether or not there will even be a Bar.</p> <p>Personally, I would prefer an open book, email administration of the exam similar to Indiana. I am also in the relatively unique position of not yet having achieved a passing score on the MPRE (I took it in March for the first time and have not been able to retake it). This presents a different challenge for me to be admitted to the Bar. Will I have to wait until the next administration of the exam? If I take and pass the MPRE in the fall will I be granted DP? Had there been a normal exam this uncertainty would not exist for me. I would like to see these questions answered and this situation addressed.</p>
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
Maybe	No	Yes	Maybe		
Yes	No	Yes	No		
					<p>As a result of multiple delays in the administration of the bar, my start date for my first full-time legal job was delayed by several months. As such, I have had to take on a full-time job to cover the cost of bills, which include the cost of bar prep. Now, I am working a full-time job during a global pandemic and attempting to study full-time for a bar exam the administration of which has yet to be successful in other states. Please consider the vast scenarios of hardships that new legal graduates are currently in, and provide a solution based in equity and reliable data. Such solutions may include implementing a program geared towards transitioning lawyers into practice during a time when new law students are lucky to even have a job.</p>
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
					<p>Refusing to grant the class of 2020 pure diploma privilege would be an act of extreme, wanton, unnecessary cruelty on the part of the Court and the SBLE. Shame on you for refusing to take proper action until this point. May God have mercy on all of your souls.</p>
No	No	Yes	No	The fact that we will not be able to use scratch paper is very concerning	The fact that we will not be able to use scratch paper is very concerning. This rule must be changed!
Yes	No	Yes	No		
Maybe	Yes	Yes	No		
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
					<p>I attended law school in DC, but came home to MD to practice. The solution should be inclusive for all people wanting to practice in Maryland, regardless of where they attended law school.</p>
Yes	No	Yes	No		
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
				I hand wrote all through law school. It will be hard to sit in one spot without moving and use the laptop. I have 2kids who will be home. Getting a sitter is expensive and with COVID, is not wise.	We want a diploma privilege.
No	No	Yes	No		
					<p>I live on the first floor of an apartment building where there is constant noise happening outside my window. Further, my roommate is also going to be taking the MD bar exam and we don't know if the software will be able to handle two people using the same WiFi and it is a great worry. Further, the delay of the bar exam has caused severe economic hardship as I have had to take out additional loans to stay afloat as well as to assist in having to buy health insurance. Diploma privilege is the only equitable solution to allow us to begin our professions and to earn a living. A remote exam is likely to have a bunch of problems (as we saw in Nevada, Indiana, and Michigan) and it will not be a fair examination as people do not have equal access to resources to succeed on the remote exam. Please grant diploma privilege.</p>
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
No	No	Yes	No		
				<p>I am a disabled applicant. Postponing the bar exam for five months has been extremely difficult for my health. While I was anticipating postponing an important surgery for two months, five months was far too long and I am experiencing significant pain and hardship because I am unable to go for surgery before the exam so as not to interrupt my studying. It is upsetting to me that the Court has not considered disabled or chronically ill applicants when considering online bar exam needs. Nearly every disabled applicant I know has put off important medical exams or procedures due to this delay.</p>	
Maybe	No	Yes	No	I am an MD applicant in California. California is experiencing rolling blackouts. I do not anticipate having any ability to control when these blackouts occur. I am seriously concerned about this.	

Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination, but plan on withdrawing my registration.	27 to 35 years old	Female	No	African American or Black	African American or Black
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Male	No	Asian	Asian
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	Yes	Alaska Native or American Indian, Latinx, Latino/a, Hispanic	Alaska Native or American Indian, Latinx
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Male	No	White	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Female	No	African American or Black	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Female	No	African American or Black	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	African American or Black	African American or Black
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Male	Prefer not to say	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Male	No	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Male	No	White	White

Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	No	No
Maybe	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	Yes	Maybe
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	No	Maybe
Maybe	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	5	Maybe	Maybe
Maybe	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	5	No	Yes
Yes	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	5	No	No
No	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)	5	No	Maybe
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	3	No	No
Yes	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	5	Yes	Yes
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	No	No
Yes	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)	5	No	No

[illegible]

No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
No	No	No	No	No	Yes	4 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	No	Yes
Yes	3 No	Yes	Yes	Yes	3 Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2 No					Yes	2 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	4 No	Yes	3 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
No	No	No	No	Yes	2 Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes
No	No	No	No	2 Maybe/Unsure	2 Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	No	Yes	Yes
4 Yes	1 Yes	1 No	Yes	4 Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
No	No		Yes	2 Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
2 No	No		Yes	1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Maybe		Yes	Yes
3 Yes	2 Yes	2 No	Yes	4 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

No	No	Maybe	Maybe	Impossible to study with the coronavirus pandemic looming over my life	
Yes	No	Yes	No		
Yes	No	Yes	No		
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
Maybe	No	No	No		
No	No	Yes	No	People now have to work and prepare for the bar when they otherwise would not (not me, but many of my friends). Additionally, those of us who had higher paying firm jobs last year do not qualify for subsidized health insurance through the state, and therefore I'm now paying over \$300/month with no other option because I cannot work.	I implore the court to adopt an option that creates equity and balance. As things stand now, there is no way for the exam to administered fairly in a manner in which all things are equal for everyone.
Maybe	No	Yes	Maybe		
No	No	Yes	No		This is concerning diploma privilege provisions based on a read from Delegate Julie P. Carr: I went to law school out of state at an ABA accredited school. So because of my decision 3 years ago, I may not be able to be included in the potential diploma privilege plan? University of Baltimore is ranked 126th in the nation yet their students can bypass the bar exam but out of state students can't? Just curious.
No	No	Yes	No		The risks involved with taking an online exam via clearly questionable software, given what occurred with Michigan's bar exam and ExamSoft's other prior issues, render holding such an exam not feasible. Diploma privilege, with perhaps the option to take the exam in order to port scores, is a much safer option. There are other potential issues that may arise, such as if scores are lost after they are submitted due to data corruption, which happened with the LSAT. In addition, there are ethical concerns regarding the collection of data. To top all of this off, some of us do not have reliable Internet access, are forced to study in noisy conditions, and may need to spend additional money for childcare and other expenses.
No	No	Yes	No		Does an online bar exam justify these concerns? I would say "No."
No	No	Yes	No		These are extraordinary times we are living in and they call for commensurate measures. The sky will not fall if diploma privilege, with adequate safeguards, is ordered. Rushing to place the exam on questionable software, on top of all the other issues mentioned, is misguided and susceptible to disaster, yet alone significant hardships for many of us.
No	No	Yes	No		Studying and taking the exam under these conditions is incomparable to anything any attorney has ever experienced. It is time for appropriate measures to be initiated.
Maybe	No	Yes	Maybe		Thank you for your consideration and I hope you and your families are safe.
No	No	Yes	Maybe	Replacements for the Bar exam	
No	No	Yes	No	The proposed online rules are contrary to 3 years of law school and 3 months of bar prep instruction. Some of the questions are explicitly designed to be charted, and we probably won't be able to use any scratch paper.	I realize that passage of the bar is a time honored rite of passage and an important step in being acknowledged as a lawyer. I believe that pure diploma privilege is just for certain people who face more serious hardships than I do, but at the same time I do think the class of 2020 should be subject to some sort of assessment to demonstrate minimum competency.
No	No	Yes	No		I think the Court needs to cut the class of 2020 some slack. Whether that entails lowering the cut score or doing an email based exam is up to the SBLE, but we as a class have faced more hardships and barriers to entry than any other group of law students in the history of the bar exam. This should be considered by the Court and SBLE.

Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 No	No
Yes	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)		3 Maybe	Maybe
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		4 No	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 No	No
Maybe	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)		4 No	Maybe
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 No	No
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 No	No

I am sharing my residence with my spouse, child, and dog. My spouse works from home and must engage in conference calls throughout the day. My dog will bark at passers by. My child cannot be guaranteed to keep silent during th testing period, especially in light of the inability to safely play with other kids.	Maybe	\$250-\$500	\$1,000-\$2,000		0 Yes
I am currently living with my parents. They sometimes leave me alone but otherwise do not understand how intensive studying is. When it comes to the exam itself, I am probably going to have to ask them to leave the house for the exam days, both for a quiet Space as well as increased internet access.	No		Maybe, but unsure right now.		2 No
	Yes	\$250-\$500	\$250-\$500		0 No
I live off of a very busy street with constant traffic noise. This includes cars blaring music when they are stopped at the stoplight in front of my house.	Yes	\$100-\$250	Less than \$250		0 Yes
I have animals, loud neighbors, and step-children.	No	\$250-\$500	Less than \$250		0 No
Because I live in a one bedroom apartment with my husband who is working from home full time until spring of 2021, and has to constantly take calls and videoconferences.	Yes	\$250-\$500	\$250-\$500		0 No
	Maybe		More than \$2,000		0 No

1 Yes		1 Yes		1 Yes	Yes		2 No	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Maybe
Yes		2 No		No	Yes		2 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	No	Yes
Yes		2 No			Yes		1 No	No	Yes	No
2 Yes		1 No					No	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes
2 Yes		2 Yes		2 No	Yes		1 No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes		3 No		No	Yes		1 No	Yes	Yes	No
No		No			Yes		1 No	Yes	Yes	No

				<p>concerning. First, this option exposes takers to considerable risk of failure due to technological failures. I have spoken with my internet provider who cannot assure me that the internet will not go down or be subject to an automatic update at the time of the exam. This presents a serious risk of failure based on something other than the merits of the exam or my ability.</p> <p>Second, Examsoft (as well as the other 2 providers) has failed to demonstrate they are capable of ensuring exam software will work as intended and/or that will prevent cyber attacks on the takers' computer. Examsoft has a history of in reliability and even recent attempts by test-takers to explore the software's functionality have demonstrated that there are unaddressed bugs that prevent it from working as intended. This software also requires takers to give the software administrator access, which could easily expose any or all computers being used to a significant risk of breach by a third party.</p> <p>Third, my bar prep course, which I have been using since graduation, does not prepare takers for an online exam. Instead, this program instructs takers to diagram answers and make excessive use of marking up the exam. A recent lecture was added to the curriculum, which was intended to allay concerns about an online bar exam. This lecture basically informed me that this is a tough situation and hopefully the majority of questions will not be too complicated. Digital scratch paper is not an equivalent to either marking up the exam or diagramming an answer. The use of digital scratch paper would only slow takers down to such an extent that it would eliminate any benefit derived due to loss of time.</p> <p>I, like most takers in this situation, have put in countless hours of preparation. Now our efforts may be for naught, should the software fail, computers are hacked, or our testing strategies are rendered</p>
No	No	Yes	Yes	
Maybe	No	Yes	No	
No	No	Yes	No	
No	No	Yes	No	
Yes	No	Yes	Maybe	
No	No	Yes	No	<p>We continue to respectfully ask the Court and the SBLE to consider the extreme hardships that are being placed on us by this online administration of the bar exam. Our professional careers are being jeopardized and delayed, our finances are being drained, and the uncertainty of the format, coupled with the inability of prep courses to teach us the right skills in time, are all causing extreme anxiety and frustration. Please, consider the extraordinary circumstances that we're facing, and grant us diploma privilege to be able to start our careers. I am a public interest attorney who is eager to help the people I spent 7 years studying to fight for, and I fear for my job security and my financial ability to remain housed and able to maintain myself until my first paycheck.</p>
No	No	Yes	No	<p>I am extremely worried about my information's safety being compromised</p>
No	No	Yes	No	<p>The hardship on my family. I live with an older family member in a very small place. They are currently working remotely because of serious underlying health issues that put them at a higher risk. I have to ask them to take two full days off work so I can take the bar. They will not be able to leave their room because the sound will be audible where I am taking the test. They will have to forfeit vacation days and pay because of the bar exam. I have no where else to take the bar, and they have no where else to go to do their work. The decisions about the bar impact more than just test takers.</p> <p>The emotional and psychological toll of the pandemic and watching remote bar fail in other jurisdictions while we move ahead is so difficult. It is hard enough to study; studying for something that we know is going to be a train-wreck during a global pandemic feels impossible. We heard so much about caring for our mental health in law school; why hasn't that same support and understanding been shown now?</p>
No	No	Yes	No	<p>First, I, like many others, am unable to afford a new computer right now. My start date for my job has been pushed back by months. My computer is older, and it works ok for normal usage, but I do not know if it will be able to handle a remote exam. I have seen reports that the exam crashes computers. I am terrified my computer will crash during the exam, causing me to fail the exam and lose all my photos and documents.</p> <p>Second, I am extremely uncomfortable with the privacy policy and terms of use provided by ExamSoft. I feel under duress to sign off my consent because how can I become licensed without signing off? I do not feel safe having my face recorded for hours and the information going through AI or having random people look at the recording. I don't know where or for how long my data is retained. Who else gets to see it? I don't feel safe knowing that if my information is compromised, ExamSoft says it will not be liable. It feels like we are guinea pigs. There have been and will continue to be numerous security issues. None of that feels addressed.</p> <p>Finally, there has been no statement of what the bar exam's purpose is, exactly. What is the bar exam's purpose? This is a serious question. What is the actual function of the exam? It has been shown to not measure competency. The idea that all attorneys leave the bar exam to be generalists is an outdated idea. The bar doesn't measure if one will be an emotionally intelligent attorney for a client. The bar doesn't measure the late nights of research. It doesn't measure the hours spent practicing in front of the mirror before speaking to a room of negotiators or in front of a panel of judges. It doesn't measure the passion attorneys have for their work. The bar is nothing like legal work. What is the bar measuring?</p>

Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	42 to 50 years old	Male	No	White	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Male	No	African American or Black	African American or Black
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Female	Yes	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	35 to 42 years old	Male	No	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	Asian, White	Asian, White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Female	No	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	African American or Black, Latinx, Latino/a, Hispanic	

Maybe	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)	5	No	No
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	3	No	No
No	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	5	No	No
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	No	No
No	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)	5	No	Maybe
Maybe	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	Yes	Yes
No	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)	4	No	Yes
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	Yes	Yes

	Yes	\$250-\$500	\$250-\$500	1	No
	Yes	\$100-\$250	\$250-\$500	0	Yes
I live in an extremely noisy, dangerous area with near daily gunfire, loud music, and fairly heavy traffic. My 80+ year old house is not insulated well enough to block out that noise, not to mention the noise that comes with having pets. My mother was kind enough to help me build a study space in our garage, but that is only helpful to avoid the noise of other people being in the house, not the environmental noise I mentioned.					
I live in a one bedroom apartment in downtown Miami with my girlfriend (also a 2020 law grad) and her two very loud cats. My upstairs neighbor blasts music during the day, and there's also the usual sounds of a busy street coming in through the walls (traffic, people yelling, and, inexplicably, a brass band). Since Miami is a COVID hotspot, I can't go anywhere else to take the exam, and I can't escape the sounds of the cats, my neighbors, and downtown while in my apartment.	Yes	\$100-\$250	\$250-\$500	0	Yes
	No		\$250-\$500	0	Yes
I have children and animals that I am trying to get a sitter for and board the animals due to testing requirements					
	Maybe	Unsure	\$250-\$500	0	No
	No		\$250-\$500	1	No
	No		Maybe, but unsure right now.	1	No
	No		Maybe, but unsure right now.	5 or more	

	Yes	5 or more	Yes	1 Yes	Yes	2 Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes
1 No			No	No	Yes	1 No	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes
1 Yes		3 No		No	Yes	1 No	Yes	Yes	Yes
1 Yes		2 No		No	Yes	1 Maybe/Unsure	No	Yes	Yes
Yes		2 Yes		2 Yes	Yes	1 Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	Maybe	Yes
No		No		No	No	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Maybe	Yes
Yes		2 No		No	Yes	1 Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	No	No
No					Yes	3 Yes	Yes	No	Yes

				There are many questions that require marking the question to help get to the correct response. Without scrap paper this will be almost impossible.	Diploma Privilege is the best answer but a very close second is an email style essay exam like Nevada recently completed. My former clinic partner just took that exam and was able to put her headphones on and shut out the world. She was able to use scrap paper and still work within a time limit. To me this most closely resembles the practice of law. You show me a lawyer who writes a memo to the client or partner without double checking the law and I will show you a lawyer soon to be disbarred.
No	No	Yes	No		Taking a remote bar exam is unfair to the people with limited resource. Everyone is suppose to be on the same playing field but with this exam it's so unfair that it almost seems to be in place to keep minorities out.
No	No	Maybe	No	People who tested positive for COVID lost study time or may lose study time if they are sick.	concerns that have already been brought up (which I concur with), I am extremely concerned about the impact that the online format will have on examinees with disabilities.
					After more than 15 years of symptoms, I was diagnosed in late 2019 with a rare condition that prevents my heart and brain from pumping blood appropriately in response to changes in position or situations of serious physical or mental stress. My condition has progressed to the point that, left untreated, I experience spells of extreme dizziness and fainting approximately 5-10 times per day. It can quite easily be managed, though, through the use of certain prescriptions, constant access to water and sports drinks, and shifting positions as needed to keep myself comfortable.
					These interventions are seemingly not allowable under the proposed rules for taking the online bar exam. When the accommodations request form was due, I did not need to submit one; at the time, MD was still scheduled to take an in-person bar exam, and I would not have needed permission to have a beverage with me or potentially been accused of cheating for shifting in my seat to find a comfortable, stable position. The accommodations request form has not been reopened since the switch to an online exam, which means I will have to choose between taking the bar exam in October or avoiding a possible medical emergency.
No	No	Yes	No	I would have LOVED to see a question along the lines of "SBLE has not reopened the accommodations request form since switching to an online format. Do you have a condition that requires different or additional accommodations during an online exam [versus the accommodations the person would've needed had we taken the exam in person, as anticipated when the accommodations request was due]?"	The delay in licensure also has devastating implications for my employment prospects. I was unable to apply for jobs for a significant portion of the typical window for clerkship, fellowship, and general employment applications for the Class of 2020; I was busy dealing with a series of family emergencies which in part included the process of receiving my own diagnosis and my brother's diagnosis and treatment for advanced-stage Hodgkin's lymphoma. I
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
					Good Day Your Honor,
					I am a Naval Officer and for the past 4 years an evening law student. I took this path knowing that it would be a difficult road. I took it not expecting a handout and to work hard to accomplish the goals I set out. One of those goals was passing the bar. However, due to events stemming from COVID 19, I am caught in a terrible dilemma. I cannot postpone taking the examination until February or I will lose out on a career opportunity in the JAG Corps. On the other hand, I feel it nearly impossible to pass the remote exam without scratch paper and reliable internet. I have tried to make other arrangements to test in a safe location, but those are proving extremely difficult. Furthermore, as a cyber security specialist, I have little to no confidence that any of the software companies can provide a reliable testing platform for the largest jurisdictions.
Maybe	No	Yes	No	Part of my study And testing system for the past 4 years Has been to thoroughly write out notes for issues and diagramming potential rules for those issues. I am sincerely concerned that any online note taking will slow me down and cause me significant points.	I want to be clear and reiterate that I am not looking for a handout. I am looking for an equitable solution that meets the needs of showing competency beyond passing our law school curriculum and preventing massive harm to those of us dealing with extraordinary issues during this time. I would not put my Sailors in this position, and I hope that you find a reasonable solution for this October's examinees.
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
Yes	No	Yes	Maybe		
Yes	No	Yes	Yes		

Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	African American or Black	African American or Black
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Male	No	White	White

Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Male	No	White	
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Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White	White
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Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	Prefer not to say	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination, but plan on withdrawing my registration.	27 to 35 years old	Female	No	White	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White	White

Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White	White
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Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Female	No	African American or Black	
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Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	Yes	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White	

Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		4 No	No
No	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)		4 No	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		3 No	Yes
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 Yes	Yes
Maybe	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 No	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		4 No	No
Maybe	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 No	Maybe
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 Maybe	Maybe
Maybe	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 Maybe	Maybe
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		5 No	Maybe
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		0 Yes	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)		4 Yes	Yes

I have children full time	Yes	\$100-\$250	Less than \$250	1	No
	Yes	\$250-\$500	Maybe, but unsure right now.	0	No
	No		Maybe, but unsure right now.	1	Yes
I believe I do, but I have two very active and noisy cats who do not get along and cannot be in the same room. So if I take the office there will be a lot of meowing and jumping and scratching doors cause one cat wants to escape the bedroom but can't cause the main apt has the other cat	No		No	1	Yes
I live with multiple people in a small apartment on the ground level. There are normally garbage trucks, moving vehicles, fire alarms, dogs barking, etc. There is no possible way for me to ensure a quiet space.	Yes	Unsure	\$250-\$500	0	Yes
I live with two roommates. We do not have a home office and my room is not big enough for a desk.	Yes	\$100-\$250	Maybe, but unsure right now.	1	Yes
I live with three other people and two dogs. There's no such thing as uninterrupted quiet time.	Yes	\$250-\$500	\$500-\$750	0	Yes
	Maybe	Unsure	Less than \$250	0	Yes
The law school may be opening the library for 2020 grads for these purposes. Otherwise, I don't live alone and there are constant interruptions and noise	No		No	0	Yes
	Maybe			2	No
My house is entirely open plan and I live with my girlfriend. There is nowhere for me to Take it that won't restrict her access to the kitchen or the bathroom.	Yes	\$250-\$500	No	0	Yes
	No		No		No

Yes		1 Yes		1 Maybe	Yes		4 No	No	Yes
Yes		1 Yes		2 Yes	Yes		1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	No
1 Yes		1 No		No	Yes		1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	No
									Maybe
1 Yes		2 No		No	No		Yes	Yes	No
									Yes
2 Yes		2 No		Yes	Yes		1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes
1 Yes		2 No		No	No		Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes
3 Yes		2 No		Yes	Yes		3 No	Yes	Yes
1 No		No		Yes	Yes		1 Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	Yes
1 No		No		No	Yes		1 No	Yes	No
									Maybe
No		No		No	Yes		1 No	No	Yes
									Yes
1 No		No		No	Yes		1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes
No		No		No			Yes	Yes	Maybe

				<p>What guarantees have been made that this software will not compromise our laptops? How do we know that ExamSoft has not given itself access to our hard drive that remains even after their software is uninstalled? Why provide waivers and release of liability forms - it seems NCBE and SBLE's across the country are only focused on protecting themselves and not bar applicants.</p>	<p>It is impossible to fully satisfy all requirements and restrictions for this exam. After studying for several months, relying on methods and tips that require use of scratch paper, I find out I can't use it. The restriction on touching my face or fidgeting is unavoidable because I will sneeze or cough requiring me to cover my face or slightly move and I'll end up flagged for cheating. On top of that, I live with my family which includes a teacher that will be holding virtual lessons, and a 14 year old that will be starting her high school classes virtually. There are two other adults in my household and a dog that barks consistently because that's what dogs do. The most quiet place I can go is my room but it is not soundproof and I will likely hear everything and everyone, making it extremely difficult to focus on the exam. We do not have stable internet. It periodically goes out several times during the day. I even had concerns taking my final exams before graduating law school because the connection dropped midway through my exam. It could be even more detrimental if a storm comes through. We always lose power when it thunderstorms. But a stronger storm, like tropical storm Isaias, left us without power and internet for hours. What if a midday storm knocks out my internet and power leaving me with no way to access the exam on time or submit it on time? For these reasons and a multitude of others, granting Diploma Privilege is the only equitable and appropriate course of action.</p>
No	Maybe	Yes	Maybe		
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
					<p>I live in a small one bedroom apartment with my girlfriend that works remotely and our dog. I am currently set up in the bedroom as that is the only room in our place and I am going to have to explain to her that I need to take the mirror off the wall. I have to tell her that if she enters the room at all or if she is a little too loud in the living room that my exam may be disqualified. A remote bar exam is not the "best worst" solution. The "best worst" solution is diploma privilege. Period.</p>
Maybe	No	No	No		
				<p>I'm worried about the successful application of the bar. I am worried about the inequity. I am privileged and lucky to not be facing so many challenges. But that isn't the same for all applicants and I dislike how unequal this is. The exam has already had a disproportionate impact on minorities and those with lower socioeconomic standing and now with the remote exam it's only increasing that impact and yet those having us take the exam don't seem to care about that as much as cheating.</p>	<p>Many applicants have ADHD and Anxiety disorders. Tests are hard enough to stay focus during and manage the anxiety while testing. But to be constantly worrying about internet connection and if the exam will even work or if it will crash. How with a disorder are you expected to bounce back quickly and focus when the exam working, you're score could be impacted by the total loss of focus after such an event. A panic attack could be triggered and that takes time to come back from. Time in an exam you don't have. Additionally how does the SBLE plan to protect our answers? Other remote tests have lost applicants answers in their entirety what happens if that occurs? Are we forced to take the exam again and pay for everything again because someone else lost our answers?</p>
Yes	No	Yes	No		
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
No	No	Yes	No		
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
				<p>In addition to the increased anxiety levels that will cause me to fidget or play with my hair, I do not have an office or anywhere else particularly comfortable for sitting long periods of time for an exam, meaning I will definitely have to adjust my seating now and then to get through the exam. I'm also concerned because I can't control my internet or even my computer's automatic updates. When the updates want to install, my whole computer freezes and I have to do a hard shutdown. It then takes 20-40 minutes to restart while installing updates. I'm terrified my computer will do this during the exam. Buying a new computer won't fix the problem either - automatic updates are a 'feature' of Microsoft Windows (and I can't justify buying a Mac for one exam). My job also got delayed because of the pandemic/bar delays. I'm also making less money until I pass the bar. It's also a clerkship, and now I'm stressed about how a delayed start impacts my resume when, by next August when a clerkship typically ends, I will not have worked a full year. I'm extra concerned about my resume, too, because I expect the job market to be tight.</p>	<p>Preparing for the Bar is a stressful event in the best of circumstances. With pandemic protocols, stress levels are increased exponentially. It is difficult to study for an exam without knowing how or if it will take place. Normally, I would be spending every day at the library with my bar exam prep class (which I also had to pay over \$2000 for and is teaching me unusable techniques). Now, I'm studying at home with multiple distractions and worrying about how to minimize those distractions during the exam. I'm also disappointed and stressed out by the lack of transparency during this situation. Instead of providing clear and frequent updates, the SBLE has been nearly silent. I get the majority of my information from advocacy groups and tracking twitter feeds. Our profession emphasizes the benefits of gathering information, managing risks, and practicing with professional responsibility, yet the responses to those of us newly entering the profession (who have expressed concerns regarding online testing protocols, AI hacking concerns, and live-proctor stalking concerns, amongst other) have ranged from opaque to downright unwelcoming. Especially at a time when people are struggling, and many of those struggles are leading to legal problems, it seems we should be encouraging new lawyers, not making our situation harder.</p>
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
				<p>It's also important to take into consideration that some of us had to move in with family with one or more working from home. Therefore they will be audibly on the phone during the exam as they are when we are studying and I can't ask them to ignore their appointments and work so I can take the test undisturbed for two days. Also having to share internet connection with family working from home has made the internet very unreliable even while studying. The internet company truck is in our neighborhood almost everyday because of the strain on the network due to more people working from home during the pandemic.</p>	
Maybe	No	Yes	No		
					<p>The SBLE suggested taking the exam in a library, law school, or office. In Baltimore those are all still closed. I'm particularly shocked at the library suggestion, I'm not aware of any that are open.</p>
No	No	Yes	No		
Yes	Maybe	Yes	Maybe		

Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Male	No	Asian	Asian
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	African American or Black	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	African American or Black	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Male	No	African American or Black	African American or Black
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Male	No	White	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	Latinx, Latino/a, Hispanic	African American or Black, Latinx, Latinx
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Male	No	African American or Black	African American or Black
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Male	No	African American or Black	African American or Black
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	African American or Black	African American or Black
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Male	Yes	Asian	Asian
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Male	No	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	White	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Male	Yes	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	Yes	African American or Black, White	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	African American or Black	
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Male	No	White	White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	African American or Black	African American or Black
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Male	No	White	

Maybe	Email Bar Exam, Pure Diploma Privilege, Online Bar Exam (last resort)	5	Yes	Yes
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	3	Yes	Yes
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	No	No
Yes	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	3	No	No
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format)	5	No	No
Maybe	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)	4	No	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)	5	No	No
Maybe	Temporary Diploma Privilege (Temporarily admitted to practice on condition that bar exam is taken by a certain date, such as 12/31/2021)	4	No	Yes
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)	4	No	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)	5	Maybe	Maybe
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)	5	Yes	No
No	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	5	No	No
Yes	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	5	No	Maybe
Yes	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	5	No	Maybe
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)	5	Yes	Maybe
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)	5	Maybe	No
No	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam	3	Maybe	Maybe
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)	5	No	No
Maybe	Whatever decision made, should be inclusive to all MD bar takers regardless of if they went to a MD law school or Not for Diploma Priv.	3	Yes	Maybe
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)	5	No	No

	No		Maybe, but unsure right now.	2	No
I have a roommate who works full time and will be home while I'm taking the exam. I have no where else to because libraries are closed.	No		Maybe, but unsure right now.	2	No
I don't live alone and everyone is working/functioning from home at the moment.	Yes	Unsure	Maybe, but unsure right now.	0	Yes
	Yes	\$100-\$250	\$250-\$500	0	Yes
	Yes	\$500-\$750	Maybe, but unsure right now.	0	No
I live in a small apartment with another person who now works from home. Noise from outside and other neighbors can typically be heard from inside the apartment as well.	Maybe	Unsure	\$500-\$750	0	Yes
	No		\$500-\$750	1	Yes
I live in rowhome in Baltimore City	Yes	\$100-\$250	No	0	Yes
I live in an apartment building which has multiple things that could happen such as crying of babies next door, random music coming from neighbors apartments, to things happening on the street right in front of my balcony since I'm street level. There are a wide range of distractions that could occur because of me living in such a tight proximity to neighbors who are not only all working from home, but daily caring for young children which you can't guarantee how they might behave.	No		No	0	No
The rules for the remote bar exam are incredibly strict. I do not have an acceptable quiet space for that long of a time window during a pandemic.	Maybe	Unsure		0	Yes
I share an apartment with 4 other roommates.	Yes	\$250-\$500	More than \$2,000	0	Yes
my husband works from home.	Maybe	\$100-\$250	\$500-\$750	1	Yes
	Maybe	Unsure	No	1	No
I live at home with my parents. They babysit my 2-year-old niece several times per week. She's runs around screaming most of the time, which can be heard throughout the house.	No	Unsure	Maybe, but unsure right now.	2	Yes
The software is worrisome because any sound gets detected and it is not necessarily an option to be in a completely silent space during this pandemic. If you live in a shared home or have to go to a public environment, other people are inevitably going to be making noise.	Yes	\$250-\$500	Maybe, but unsure right now.	0	Yes
I primarily used libraries and my university to study which I no longer have access to. I also did not have wifi in my apartment as I was intending to use the university's where I pay tuition.	Yes	\$250-\$500	\$500-\$750	1	No
I live in a one room apartment with s/o and animals	Yes	\$100-\$250	\$250-\$500	0	Yes
Everyday noises around the house, issues with power outages	Maybe	\$250-\$500	\$250-\$500	1	No
I have a pet (will try to find someone to take care of them during the exam), but I also live in downtown Rockville and fire trucks and police cars drive by with sirens on frequently.	Maybe	Unsure	Maybe, but unsure right now.	1	

No	No	No	Yes	2 Yes	Yes	No	Maybe
No	No	No	Yes	2 Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	No	Maybe
1 No	No	No	Yes	1 No	No	Yes	Yes
4 No	Yes	3 Yes	Yes	3 Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes
Yes	4 No		Yes	1 No	No	Yes	Yes
1 Yes	1 No		No	Yes	Yes	Maybe	Maybe
2 Yes	2 No		Yes	2 Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Maybe
1 Yes	2 No	Yes	Yes	1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes
1 Yes	1 No		Yes	1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes
No	No	No	No	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes
1 Yes	1 No		Yes	1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes
4 No	No	No	Yes	1 No	No	Yes	No
1 Yes	2 No	No	No	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	No	No
Yes	1 No	No	Yes	1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Maybe	Yes
2 Yes	1 No	No	Yes	2 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Maybe	Yes
1 Yes	2 No		Yes	1 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Maybe	Maybe
No	No	No		No	Yes	Yes	Yes
1 Yes	2 No	No	Yes	1 No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Yes	2 No	No	Yes	2 Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	No
Yes	1 No	No	Yes	1 Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes

Maybe	No	Yes	Maybe	Hurry up and have some compassion.
Maybe	No	Yes	No	
No	No	Yes	No	
No	No	Yes	No	
Maybe	No	Yes	Maybe	
No	No	Yes	No	
Maybe	No	Yes	No	
Maybe	No	Yes	No	
No	No	Yes	No	
No	No	No	No	
No	No	No	No	Not being allowed scratch paper nor ear plugs is an absolutely unfair and possibly detrimental request/demand for the bar exam! Furthermore, the Maryland bar DPP (if allowed) should be extended to all Maryland residents, not just Maryland law school graduates. Maryland residents who went out of state for law school should be treated the same as in state law students. Ultimately, both parties are residents of the state and should be treated fairly when wanting to practice in their home state. Otherwise, are we supposed to get barred in another state after applying to Maryland's bar and studying for it? That wouldn't make much sense and to have us pull our Maryland bar app, resubmit to another random state, and then study for their bar even if we don't want to practice there is a completely unreasonable suggestion.
No	No	Yes	No	What the outcome for Maryland residents who went to law school out of state would be regarding DPP? How will we be included?
No	No	No	No	I don't have money to purchase food and my employer just rescinded my offer. I need to be licensed by September to get back my offer.
No	No	Yes	No	Please help us in this situation. We can't fight for justice for whom need it if we can survive.
Maybe	Maybe	Yes	No	
Yes	No	Yes	Maybe	I had to start my judicial clerkship on August 12, because I didn't want to inconvenience my judge, I was running out of money, and my school health insurance terminated at the end of July. I had to buy a plan from a private carrier, which was cheaper than what was on the exchange, with the caveat that it is not ACA-complaint and doesn't cover pre-existing conditions. It's not an ideal health plan for a pandemic. The stress of studying for the bar and acclimating to my new job has caused considerable stress, resulting in the loss of sleep, appetite, and weight. Further, the stress has caused my autoimmune disease to flare. If diploma privilege isn't the solution, I plan to defer taking the bar until February with the hope that studying will be easier when I'm not simultaneously learning a new job.
No	No	Yes	No	This worldwide pandemic has touched so many of us in so many different ways. While a slim number of people may be able to defer until February to avoid taking the bar during this tumultuous time, not all of us can. We need to work. We need health insurance. We need a bit of stability in our lives. We deserve it. It is not clear who would be harmed by allowing us new lawyers to get out there and get our hands dirty. We wouldn't be without supervision as diploma privilege can and does require that and just like any other year, if someone messes up while practicing they will get their license taken away. Day in and day out we hear stories of people in our lives dying, becoming sick, or becoming further displaced by this pandemic. However, through it all, we are supposed to be studying for the biggest exam of our lives while also finding appropriate accommodations (in a time when so many spaces are still closed or are only allowing a limited capacity) so as to not violate the rules that have been proposed for the proctoring of an online exam. Please. Show a bit of kindness and mercy for us graduates. We have given it our all these past three years and have been thrown so far under the bus of this pandemic that I am afraid some of us will not make it out. The decision of our futures is in your hands, so please, use your power wisely. Thank you.
Maybe	No	Yes	Maybe	
No	No	Yes	No	We are going through an incredibly difficult time, our family members are sick, jobs are being pulled, and the world is burning. Please grant Diploma Privilege so we can give our attention and talent to other people and issues that need it more.
Maybe	No	Yes	No	In doing a remote exam at home, it is almost impossible to positively assure that there will be no issues during testing day including noise from the street/sounds from neighbors (will be an issue if no ear plugs are allowed,) as well as internet issues because technology is reliable and great until it is not. I cannot imagine what it would be like if the internet connection messed up for whatever reason and I lost all my progress. Also, not being able to move during the exam when during an in person exam one is able to take a bathroom break. Also, we don't have a safeguard of a manual handwritten exam in the event that something goes wrong. I would hate to be penalized and have to retake the exam due to issues outside of my control.
Maybe	No	No	No	
Maybe	No	No	No	

Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Male	No	White	White
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Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Male	Yes	White	White
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Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	Asian, White	Asian, White
Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	22 to 26 years old	Female	No	African American or Black	
No, I am not registered to take the bar examination because I have withdrawn my registration.	42 to 50 years old	Female	Prefer not to say	White	White

Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	27 to 35 years old	Male	Prefer not to say	White	
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No	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)	4	No	Yes
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)	1	No	No
Maybe	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)	5	Yes	Yes
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)	4	No	Yes
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)	3	No	No
Yes	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)	5	Maybe	Maybe

I would have to rent a hotel room or some sort of office arrangement.	Yes	Unsure	Maybe, but unsure right now.	1	Yes
I could no longer afford to live in my apartment and was forced to move back home with my parents into their already cramped condo. We are a multigenerational house as we are also taking care of my grandfather who's wife (my grandmother) passed away last month.	Maybe	Unsure	Maybe, but unsure right now.	1	Yes
	No		\$250–\$500	1	No
	No		\$250–\$500	1	Yes
	Maybe	Unsure	Maybe, but unsure right now.	0	Yes
I have a large family and live at home. There is often a lot of noise even if I am in my room alone.	Yes	\$100-\$250	\$1,000-\$2,000	1	No

[illegible]

					<p>row to save my life growing up, but I could always talk my way out of a paper bag if necessary. I wanted to be a criminal lawyer since probably age 8, or whenever I was old enough to be able to pick a career. I came to Maryland from North Carolina with the understanding that I would be able to have a reciprocal score in North Carolina. I currently do not have a post-bar job (Public Defender's budget is currently frozen) and I decided that taking the October bar exam would give me a better position to quickly obtain a job in Maryland. However, a parent's health has quickly deteriorated since COVID so it would be helpful to have the option to move back. I originally planned to take the July exam, then changed my mind to likely defer until February so that I could have a reciprocal score. I was working at a firm as a law clerk and decided that was the best idea until February. Then I thought that the February exam might not happen, so I found a replacement for work and my bosses graciously let me take off to study for the bar in October. This seemed fine, but now the exam company's possible inability to administer the bar in October gives me tremendous uncertainty about my next steps. I love Baltimore and Maryland. The people have been very welcoming and I consider it my home. However, the pandemic and uncertainty of the bar exam and my future ability to practice make me question whether I made the right decision to move to this state. I am fortunate to have some financial support, but my resources are quickly dwindling. If something doesn't work out soon, my short-term solution will likely be to work on the family farm. There isn't necessarily anything wrong with that, and I'm thankful to have a potential job. However, it's crazy to me that my lifelong dream to practice law (and often unpopular stray from my family's wishes that went along with it) should feel closer than ever, but it feels so far away. There are many things that we should be worrying about right now, SBLE's ability to administer the bar exam should not be one of them.</p>
No	No	Yes	No		
Maybe	No	Yes	No	Many of us have had to delay our employment due to the continued delay of an exam. My employer needs me to start as soon as I have taken the bar. I fear if MD decides to simply push the exam to 2021 I will lose my job that I worked so hard to get.	
					<p>As a test taker, I'm extremely concerned with my ability of my laptop to handle such a proctoring program, particularly since I have seen numerous 2020 graduates I know from other states like Florida whose fairly new computers were either unable to handle the program, overheated, or had the program completely shut down or destroy their computer. I'm concerned that, even if my computer is able to handle the stress of the program- that there is a chance that some sensitive information (including my social security number, financial and banking records, and credit card information), may be hacked or leaked through hackers accessing my computer through weaknesses in the proctoring program. I have already had to discuss with my family and other classmates taking the Maryland Bar exam the possibility of having to purchase a new laptop solely for the purpose of this exam so there is no sensitive information that can be mined in case of a hack. Between the cost of having my Internet service upgraded and potentially having to purchase a new computer solely for this exam, I am looking at spending an additional \$350 or more in order to take this exam.</p> <p>Additionally, I am nervous about what will happen if I am unable to access the bar exam server for a number of reasons, including a failing on the server's end (such as occurred in Michigan) or if there is a power or Internet outage on my end. I currently live in a</p>
Maybe	No	Yes	No	I currently live in a Southern coastal state that frequently receives hurricanes from the months of July to October. We sometimes have less than a week's notice if a hurricane hits, and our world can be rocked, with family having to stay over at my house to shelter, having to prepare sandbags and shutters, and power outages lasting a week or more. I'm nervous that- as an out-of-state test taker- if such a hurricane should hit and I lose power or Internet access because of a storm during the day of the online bar exam, that no accommodations will be made for me and I will be told that I have to wait until the next administration of the Bar exam, which I cannot afford to do. If there is such a hurricane, I have nowhere not in my immediate area that I can evacuate to that will have a guaranteed stable Internet connection or power source, and no rooms in which to take the exam where I won't be bothered by family members.	
Yes	No	Yes	No		
No	No	Yes	No		
Maybe	No	Yes	No		<p>The entirety of my educational career has included being able to diagram, outline, and mark up tests by hand. The inability to use scratch paper and pencil is the most daunting change to this ever evolving set of test circumstances. I am struggling to change a behavior that was taught in Gradeschool, undergraduate, law school and the bar exam prep course.</p>

Maybe	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam		5 No	No
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)		5 Maybe	Yes
No	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam		No	No
No	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)		5 No	Maybe
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)		4 No	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)		5 No	No
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)		5 No	No
No	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam		5 Yes	Yes
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)		5 No	No
No	Diploma Privilege, Plus an Optional Bar Exam		4 No	Maybe
Maybe	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)		4 No	No
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)		3 Yes	Yes
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)		3 No	Yes
No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)		4 No	No
Yes	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)		5 Yes	Maybe
Yes	Email Bar Exam (Questions emailed to test-takers, then they email their answers back; open book and no proctors; see Indiana for an example of this)		5 Yes	Maybe
No	Temporary Diploma Privilege (Temporarily admitted to practice on condition that bar exam is taken by a certain date, such as 12/31/2021)		4 No	No

I live in a toxic environment with toxic foreign unsympathetic loud parents and their friends who come over every afternoon to drink and party. Even with noise cancelling headphones, I can still hear them. Since I want to focus on passing the bar exam, I am not looking for a job, especially one that would require me to work in a public area since, according to my several health care specialists, I am immunocompromised and do not want to risk being constantly exposed to public places like the library.

Yes \$750-\$1000 More than \$2,000 0 Yes

No \$250-\$500 \$250-\$500 0 No

I live in a one bed room apartment with another person and we are both planning on taking the bar exam. There is also construction outside or people in the hallways.

Yes \$250-\$500 \$250-\$500 0 Yes

Yes Less than \$100 \$250-\$500 0 Yes

I live with someone who must work from home and has a customer service job. We live in a small apartment and I can hear him making calls all day no Matter how far I distance myself. I also live with a dog who barks frequently.

Maybe Unsure Maybe, but unsure right now. 0 Yes

Maybe Unsure Maybe, but unsure right now. 2 Yes

A lot of family at home, in a small house, can't tell family to leave the house while they are working from home on Monday and Tuesday

Yes \$100-\$250 Less than \$250 0 Yes

No Less than \$250 1 Yes

Yes \$250-\$500 \$500-\$750 1 Yes

Maybe Unsure No 1 Yes

I have 3 roommates and 2 dogs in a townhome. Loud neighbors as well.

Maybe Less than \$100 Maybe, but unsure right now. 0 Yes

No \$250-\$500 1 Yes

No Maybe, but unsure right now. 1 Yes

No Unsure \$1,000-\$2,000 2 No

I have a roommate and two cats.

Maybe Unsure Maybe, but unsure right now. 2 Yes

My girlfriend and I are both taking the bar on the same day (she is taking DC's bar). We live together and will have to take the bar at the same time in our 1 bedroom apartment.

No No 2 Yes

I live in a noisy area and I can hear my neighbors conversations on a daily basis. I live with my family and I cannot get 20 mins of peace without some sort of interruption.

Yes \$500-\$750 More than \$2,000 0 Yes

3	Yes		1	No		Maybe	Yes		4	No	No	No	Yes
	Yes		1	No		No	Yes		3	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
1	Yes		1	No			Yes		1	No	No	Yes	No
1	Yes		2	No			No			Maybe/Unsure	Yes	Yes	Yes
1	Yes		1	No		No	Yes		1	Maybe/Unsure	Yes	No	Maybe
3	No			No		No	Maybe		2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
1	No			No		No	Yes		1	No	No	No	Yes
1	No			No		No	Maybe		1	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
3	No			No			Yes		1	No	No	Yes	No
1	Yes		1	No		No	No			Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	No	Maybe
3	Yes		2	No		No	Yes		3	No	No	Yes	Yes
2	Yes		1	No		No	Yes		1	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
1	No			No			Yes		2	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
	Yes		2	No		No	Yes		2	Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	No	Maybe
1	Yes		2	No		No	Yes		1	Maybe/Unsure	Maybe/Unsure	Maybe	Yes

				Bar examinees who are granted with "extended time" are subjected to a stricter requirement than students without accommodations, making it more difficult for them to take a 2-day test without a reliable or stable internet connection or a quiet place to study. "There will be a virtual proctor and you will need to stay on screen for the MEE and MBE. There will be an off-screen break for the MPT. All details have yet to be worked out so this office has yet to send notifications." This statement differs from the FAQ's for the October 2020 Maryland Bar Examination which states, "Each examinee's testing location must have Wi-Fi access to check-in and begin each session of the exam and at (or after) the close of the exam to submit examination answers, but the applicant is not required to maintain an active internet connection throughout each session." See page 1 of FAQs. Why are examinees with granted testing accommodations held to a higher standard than those who were not granted testing accommodations? This seems unjust and SBLE should grant accommodations to create a leveled playing field between accommodated testing bar examinees and non-accommodated testing bar examinee applicants.
No	No	No	No	Students who were granted with accommodated testing for the scheduled July 2020 Maryland Bar Exam now have different accommodations that does properly "accommodate" those bar examinee for a remote bar exam.
				I have severe OCD, Tourette Syndrome, and ADHD. There is no way I will be able to stay still for a camera due to my physical tics and no way that I will be able to complete the exam without using scrap paper to diagram problems due to my ADHD.
Maybe	No	Yes	No	I have severe OCD, Tourette Syndrome, and ADHD. There is no way I will be able to stay still for a camera due to my physical tics and no way that I will be able to complete the exam without using scrap paper to diagram problems due to my ADHD.
No	No	Yes	No	
Maybe	No	Yes	No	
No	Maybe	Yes	No	
Maybe	No	Yes	No	
No	No	Yes	No	
Yes	No	Yes	Maybe	
No	No	No	No	
Maybe	No	Yes	No	
Maybe	No	Yes	No	
Maybe	No	Yes	No	
No	No	Yes	No	
Maybe	No	No	No	
Maybe	No	Yes	No	
				I lost my job offer because of Covid. I am having a hard time getting past the initial screening for any positions because the first question is always "are you licensed to practice law in Maryland?" I have to say no and then never hear from the firm or agency again. I am basically as likely to get a job as a lawyer as someone who never attended law school. I have \$160,000 in debt that becomes due beginning in November. I understand that it was my decision to take these loans but I worked hard and got a job offer. Losing my offer because of Covid was difficult but not being able to get past initial screening for the few jobs that are available is completely unfair and extremely dangerous.
Maybe	No	Yes	No	
				Leaving those of us who having BEEN studying for the Bar exam since May hanging by a thin thread is extremely cruel, unfair, and create additional unnecessary feelings of anxiety, fear and depression. Just when we think we have answers, in an instant it all changes again, now it may change for a 3rd time. Studying for an already stressful exam while family and friends are dying and/or being hospitalized on a weekly basis is enough to deal with but not knowing when I will be able to be barred and find a job is agonizing. Especially when debt collectors (loan repayment) are looming in the background to collect the minute this nightmare is over. We are not asking for Diploma Privilege as a cop out but more so as a viable option to end a series of problems that have sprang up due to covid. If law school across America can make adjustments to giving their final exams due to a GLOBAL PANDEMIC then I believe the SBLE can make reasonable adjustments as well. After all, if we all get sick or die from taking them exam then that is an even bigger issue/ class action lawsuit coming directly your way.
No	No	Yes	No	

	Yes, I am registered to take the bar examination.	42 to 50 years old	Female	No	African American or Black	African American or Black

No	Pure Diploma Privilege (no exam in any format, with DPP being inclusive of repeat takers and out of state test takers)	4. No		Maybe

I do not live alone; however, if I might be able to take the exam in a quiet place at UMB.	No		\$750-\$1000		0 Yes

1. No			No		No	Yes		1. No	Yes	Yes	Yes

					The Court should consider the mental health of the bar applicants. The pandemic has likely dramatically increased the stress and anxiety that typically accompany bar preparations. People are experiencing depression, diagnosed and undiagnosed. The desire to study or focus on a given day or period of time may be uncontrollable despite best efforts. The abnormal testing conditions, constantly evolving specifications, and uncertainties add to this stress. These are anything but normal studying or testing conditions and people are not ok.
Maybe	No	Yes	Maybe		