

Dear GW Law Student,

I hope this email finds you well, and that you are getting excited about completing your law studies this semester. Many moons ago when I took the California Bar, the one thing my bar course kept emphasizing was "HAVE A PLAN!" They encouraged me to have a plan for everything from where I was going to study to how I was going to eat during the breaks each day of the bar exam. For that reason, I am writing with some things you might consider as you make your plans to ensure the summer goes as smoothly as possible. If you have any questions about the content of this email, please reply or [self-schedule a 1-on-1 virtual meeting!](#)

How Are You Going to Pay for This?

Students who financed law school through loans and other forms of financial aid must plan for how they will sustain themselves during the period immediately following graduation. This includes everyday living expenses (including rent) for the time you will be studying for the bar. There are other expenses related to seeking bar admissions, too, such as application fees and a commercial bar review course. Next month, the [GW Law Financial Aid Office](#) will be sharing application information about a Bar Exam Preparation Loan available to recent graduates. The loan amount will depend upon need and fund availability. The annual interest rate will be 0.5%, and repayment and interest begins six months following graduation. Borrowers will have up to five years (60 months) to repay. In addition, there are various private bar loans available to recent graduates. While we cannot advertise any specifically, a simple web search for bar loans will yield many results.

Bar Loans: Some graduates take out "Bar Study Loans" for amounts between \$12,000 and \$16,000 to cover expenses to get you through the summer. These loans are based on credit-worthiness and often come with limitations on the borrowing amount, overall debt, as well as varying grace periods and APRs. While we cannot recommend any particular lender, you can find several by using a simple Google search.

Are you Taking a Bar Course?

If you haven't already done so, you should register for a bar study course. Most students take Barbri, Kaplan or Themis but there are other bar courses you could consider.

What is Your Plan for Requesting Accommodations? Law students who received testing accommodations for law school exams are not guaranteed to receive testing accommodations for the bar exam. The documentation used to request accommodation from GWU may not be sufficient for the jurisdiction where you seek admission. Be certain to review the documentation criteria established by the jurisdiction on the Board of Bar Examiners website. Should your documentation not meet the required standard, you could be denied accommodation on the bar exam. Review information on this [webpage](#). By way of reminder, the University's Disability Support Services (DSS) Office has retained the documentation submitted to support your request for accommodation at the University and is the repository for all of the documentation supporting your request for accommodation while at the Law School. GWU DSS staff can verify receipt of accommodation and complete forms, if applicable, to support a request for accommodation on the Bar exam.

Seeking employment? What is Your Plan After the Bar? Students still in search of a job should actively be consulting with the Career Center. Click [HERE](#) to book an appointment with the Career Center. Any one of the Counselors can help you talk through and evaluate your options!

Confirming your Employment - What is Your Plan After the Bar? The Career Center doesn't have any information related to your post-graduation employment. If you have secured employment, congratulations! Please update your information in [Core](#) so we can stop emailing you about this! If you are still searching, I strongly suggest you consult with the Career Center. Click [HERE](#) to book an appointment with the Career Center. Any one of the Counselors can help you talk through and evaluate your options!

Key Information for Transfer Students

Law students who began their legal studies at another institution might benefit from a refresher of the 1L curriculum. While your bar review course will cover these topics in great depth this summer, it will be at an incredibly fast pace. Plan on pre-reviewing your understanding of torts, civil procedure, criminal law, property, constitutional law, and contracts. Most commercial bar review courses offer FREE upper-level student review

materials that are well suited for this purpose. Watch the video content, and skim through the outlines.

State-Specific Information

What's Your Plan for Registering for the CA Bar?

Our records show you plan to sit for the CA bar exam. If you have not done so, please consult the [State Bar of California website](#). The CA bar exam will be administered on July 30–31, 2024. Applications are available March 1. The timely filing deadline is April 2, and the final filing deadline is June 1.

What's Your Plan for Registering for the DC Bar?

Our records show you plan to sit for the DC bar exam. If you have not done so, please consult the [DC Bar Admissions website](#). Applications will open on April 5, 2024. The application deadline is May 9th.

What's Your Plan for Registering for the NY Bar?

Our records show you plan to sit for the NY bar exam. If you have not done so, please consult the [New York State Board of Law Examiners website](#). The NY bar exam will be administered on July 30-31, 2024. The application filing deadline is March 31.

What's Your Plan for Registering for the VA Bar?

Our records show you plan to sit for the VA bar exam. If you have not done so, please consult the [VA Bar Exam website](#). The VA bar exam will be administered on July 30-31, 2024. The filing deadline for applications is May 10.

What's Your Plan for Registering for the RI Bar?

Our records show you plan to sit for the RI bar exam. If you have not done so, please consult the [Rhode Island Bar Exam website](#). The RI bar exam will be administered on July 30 - 31, 2024. The application filing deadline is May 1.

What's Your Plan for Registering for the TX Bar?

Our records show you plan to sit for the TX bar exam. If you have not done so, please consult the [Texas Board of Law Examiners website](#). The TX bar exam will be administered on July 30-31, 2024. The timely filing deadline

was on February 1. The late filing deadline is April 1, and the final filing deadline is May 1.

What's Your Plan for Registering for the SC Bar?

Our records show you plan to sit for the SC bar exam. If you have not done so, please consult the [Supreme Court of South Carolina Office of Bar Admissions](#) website. Applications for the July SC bar exam were due by January 31, 2024.

What's Your Plan for Registering for the IL Bar?

Our records show you plan to sit for the IL bar exam. If you have not done so, please consult the [Illinois Board of Admissions to the Bar website](#). The next filing deadline is April 1, 2024. The final filing deadline is April 30.

What's Your Plan for Registering for the IN Bar?

Our records show you plan to sit for the IN bar exam. If you have not done so, please consult the [Indiana Supreme Court Board of Bar Examiners](#) website. The exam will be administered on July 30-31, 2024. The filing deadline is April 1. The late filing deadline is April 15.

What's Your Plan for Registering for the MD Bar?

Our records show you plan to sit for the MD bar exam. If you have not done so, please consult the [Maryland Courts State Board of Law Examiners website](#). The MD bar exam will be administered on July 30-31, 2024. The filing deadline is May 20.

What's Your Plan for Registering for the MA Bar?

Our records show you plan to sit for the MA bar exam. If you have not done so, please consult the [Massachusetts Bar Admissions website](#).

What's Your Plan for Registering for the FL Bar?

Our records show you plan to sit for the FL bar exam. If you have not done so, please consult the [Florida Board of Bar Examiners bar exam website](#). The FL bar exam will be administered on July 30-31, 2024. The timely filing deadline is May 1. The late filing deadline is June 3 and the final filing deadline is June 17.

Multiple Jurisdictions - What is Your Plan for Registering for the Bar Exam?

Our records show you have not determined which bar to sit for. If you need help making this decision, please make an appointment with Andrew Realon [here](#) or with your career counselor [here](#).

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As the semester is nearing its end, we urge everyone to update their information in CORE. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Have a restful Spring Break!

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