The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization. COVID-19 is contagious and is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact.

The Utah State Bar’s Office of Admission is taking reasonable steps to safeguard applicants and staff and to protect against exposure to COVID-19 during the administration of the February 2022 bar examination. However, the Office of Admissions cannot guarantee applicants will not be exposed to or become infected with COVID-19.

Each applicant acknowledges there exists an inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 any place where people are present. Each applicant agrees to comply with all health and safety measures implemented by the Office of Admissions to reduce the risk of COVID-19 exposure and transmission during the exam administration.

The following safety measures are based on CDC guidance relevant to large indoor gatherings of both vaccinated and unvaccinated people.

I. COVID-19 PROTECTIVE MEASURES FOR FEBRUARY 2022 UTAH BAR EXAMINATION

A. Proof of Vaccination or Negative COVID Test Required to Take Exam

All applicants will be required to submit proof that they have been fully vaccinated in order to sit for the bar exam or comply with a defined testing requirement. The term “fully vaccinated” means that the person has taken all necessary shots for the vaccine to achieve its maximum efficacy, including any recommended booster shots. Requests for accommodation or exemption because of an established, pre-existing health condition will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

If no proof of vaccination is available, an applicant must submit proof of a Nucleic Acid Amplification Test (NAAT) for SARS-CoV-2 that has been taken within 48-hours of the first day of the exam, with the NAAT showing that the applicant is negative for COVID-19. There are many tests that fall into the category of NAAT tests, but for the purposes of the bar exam, the Office of Admissions will accept the following:

- Polymerase chain reaction (PCR);
- Reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR);
- Nicking endonuclease amplification reaction (NEAR);
- Transcription mediated amplification (TMA);
- Loop-mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP);
• Helicase-dependent amplification (HDA);
• Clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats (CRISPR); and
• Strand displacement amplification (SDA).

A NAAT will be considered valid if it was administered in a laboratory or point-of-care setting. Home tests will not be accepted in lieu of proof of vaccination. Here is a link to find vaccination and valid testing sites: https://govstatus.egov.com/or-oha-covid-19-testing

**B. Screening, Registration, and Personal Water and Hand Sanitizer**

• Office of Admissions will enforce adherence to the recommended six-feet social distancing during the screening process. Markers will be in place indicating where applicants are to stand in line for screening to ensure the proper minimum distance.

• Screening times will be staggered to decrease the number of applicants gathered in the lobby areas and during registration. Applicants will be notified of their designated screening time by notice posted to their user homepage prior to the exam. Applicants must not report to the screening area before the designated time.

• Office of Admission staff and proctors will wear face masks at all times.

• Applicants will be required to wear a face mask that covers the nose and mouth and does not have a valve. Masks will be required during the entire administration of the exam, including screening, registration, testing, and breaks. Applicants who do not have a face mask will be provided one for each exam day.

• Examinees will be allowed to bring their own clear plastic water bottle, as communal water dispensers will not be available in the exam room. Water bottles are subject to inspection, consistent with CDC best practices.

• Applicants will be allowed to bring a small, clear bottle of hand sanitizer for their personal use.

**C. Administration of the Examination**

• Applicants will be seated with at least six feet of distance from other seated applicants.

• Office of Admissions staff and proctors will wear face masks at all times.

• Applicants will be required to wear a face mask that covers the nose and mouth and does not have a valve. Masks will be required during the entire administration of the exam, including screening, registration, testing, and breaks. Applicants who do not have a face mask will be provided one for each exam day.

• Office of Admissions staff and proctors will wear gloves when handling test material.

• Hand sanitizer, tissues, and wastebaskets will be available in the testing rooms.

• Examinees will be released from their testing room one row at a time to limit gathering size in the hallway and lobby.
• Examinees will not be allowed to congregate inside the venue during breaks and will be required to return to their home, hotel room, personal vehicle, or remain outdoors for lunch.

• Once dismissed, applicants will be required to immediately exit the secure testing area and will not be permitted to re-enter.

II. COVID-19 APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS FOR FEBRUARY 2022 UTAH BAR EXAMINATION

All applicants for the February 2022 Utah Bar Examination must comply with the following requirements:

1. **By January 22, 2022** applicants must sign and upload a completed code of conduct agreement, agreeing to abide by the COVID-19 protective measures implemented for the examination. Applicants who do not submit a completed code of conduct form by the deadline will not be allowed to sit for the February 2022 examination.

2. Applicants will be required to wear a face mask that covers the nose and mouth and does not have a valve. Masks will be required during the entire administration of the exam, including screening, registration, testing, and breaks. Applicants who do not have a face mask will be provided one for each exam day.

3. Applicants are responsible for appropriately dispensing and using hand sanitizer available in the testing rooms. Applicants will also be allowed to bring a small, clear bottle of hand sanitizer for their personal use.

4. Applicants must maintain social distance (minimum of six feet) throughout the administration of the examination.

5. Applicants are responsible for following appropriate respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette.


7. Applicants must report to staff if they develop symptoms of COVID-19 (including fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, and/or new loss of sense of taste or smell) during the administration of the exam, to ensure appropriate public health measures may be implemented.

8. Applicants who become symptomatic during the exam will be removed from the examination room. The applicant’s emergency contact will be notified and their
testing may be terminated. Emergency medical personnel will be contacted, if appropriate.

9. Applicants exhibiting symptoms after the bar examination agree to comply with contact tracing instructions conveyed by public health officials. Applicants agree that upon request from public health agencies and for the purpose of contact tracing, the Office of Admissions may release their name, contact information, and exam seat assignment to appropriate public health officials.