

Rummel, Erin

Subject: Graduation & Bar Updates (February Edition)



UNIVERSITY *of* MARYLAND
FRANCIS KING CAREY
SCHOOL OF LAW



February 2025

Dear Erin,

Ceremonies to mark the conclusion of our graduates' time in law school will begin with a **Champagne Toast** on **Tuesday, May 20 at 5:30 pm** and will conclude with the conferral of degrees at the **Maryland Carey Law Hooding Ceremony** on **Friday, May 23 at 11:30 am**. Additional celebratory events will take place in between. Please visit the law school's [graduation page](#) to access the complete schedule.


Each month leading up to graduation, you will receive this Graduation and Admission to the Bar Updates Newsletter. In it, you will find tasks you must complete in anticipation of graduation, important information regarding celebratory events, bar admission updates, and more.



"Your education is a dress rehearsal for a life that is yours to lead."

Dean Smith

Erica Smith, J.D., LL.M. (she/her/hers)
Associate Dean for Student Services
University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law



GRADUATION TASKS YOU MUST COMPLETE

During the month of **February**, you should focus on completing the following tasks:



Order Your Regalia

All graduates participating in the Hooding Ceremony must wear approved academic regalia. Academic regalia consists of a gown, tassel, tam, and hood.

Academic regalia is available to be purchased [here](#). LLM's and MSL's should order the "Master Package - Ship to Your Residence" and JD's should order the "Doctor Package Ship to Home."

To guarantee the appropriate size and timely arrival, all regalia orders must be placed no later than **Wednesday, April 30**. Regalia will be directly shipped to your shipping address. Please note that regalia cannot be rented, but it may be borrowed from previous graduates.

[Purchase Regalia](#)



Graduation Cords

If you would like the Office of Student Affairs to order Graduation Cords for your student organizations and/or co-curricular team, you must complete the survey [here](#) on or before **Friday, April 11**. Surveys received after this date may not be included in the cords order. Only one form should be submitted per organization/team. Please check your budget with SBA for cord purchase prior to filling out the survey. For questions, please email osa@law.umaryland.edu.

[Purchase Regalia](#)

Procedure for Disclosing Additional Character & Fitness Issues

If you need to supplement your law school application because you failed to disclose matters that should have been disclosed when you applied, OR if you need to disclose events that occurred after you submitted your application and/or after you enrolled, please follow the instructions [here](#).

Law School Diploma

The name on your diploma will be your official name as it appears on university records. You can view this detail in your SURFS account. If you would like to request a name on your diploma that is different from what appears on the University records, you can submit a [Request to Change Personal information](#).

Invitation Letter for US Visa

Are you in need of an invitation letter for a family member/friend coming from overseas to attend your graduation? If so, please request a letter or letters from [Ms. Amanda Barnes](#), Office Manager for Student Services, and provide the following information about your guests:

- The names of each guest and their relationship to you (parent, aunt, uncle, other family member, friend)
- The date guests are expected to arrive in the US and the date of their expected departure.
- The address where each guest will be residing while in the US.
- Name and address of the embassy to which the letter(s) should be addressed.



Navigating Bar Licensure in New York

Wednesday, February 26 from 1:00 to 2:00 pm on Zoom

Becoming a licensed attorney goes beyond graduating with your J.D. This session will walk you through the steps to licensure and help you find the information you'll need to meet all the requirements for becoming a licensed attorney in New York.

Questions? Email max@accesslex.org.

[Register](#)

Navigating Bar Licensure in California

Tuesday, March 4 from 3:00 to 4:00 pm on Zoom

Becoming a licensed attorney goes beyond graduating with your J.D. This session will walk you through the steps to licensure and help you find the information you'll need to meet all the requirements for becoming a licensed attorney in California.

Questions? Email max@accesslex.org.

[Register](#)

Navigating Bar Licensure

Tuesday, March 11 from 12:00 to 1:00 pm on Zoom

Becoming a licensed attorney goes beyond graduating with your J.D. This session will walk you through the steps to licensure and help you find the information you'll need to meet all of the requirements for your specific jurisdiction.

Questions? Email max@accesslex.org.

[Register](#)

All About the Uniform Bar Exam (UBE)

Wednesday, March 26 from 12:00 to 1:00 pm on Zoom

The overwhelming majority of jurisdictions have adopted the Uniform Bar Exam (UBE). This session will cover each component of the UBE, including the Multistate Bar Exam (MBE), the Multistate Essay Exam (MEE), and the Multistate Performance Test (MPT).

Questions? Email max@accesslex.org.

[Register](#)



BAR ADMISSION UPDATES

Bar Admissions Reference Guide

Check out this [Quick Reference Guide](#) for popular UMB jurisdictions. If you have questions about this guide, please reach out to [Professor Yarbrough](#), Director of Bar Programs and Academic Achievement.

DC Bar Announcement July 2025

There is a new seating capacity limit in place for the DC July 2025 bar exam administration. Only 2,200 seats will be available on a first come, first served basis (no law school limitations yet). Registration opens **Saturday, March 1** and closes on **Monday, March 31**. There is no late registration. More information on the DC bar exam admissions is available at <https://admissions.dcappeals.gov/home>.



Whom to Contact

Law School's [Office of Registration and Enrollment](#)

- Eligibility for Graduation

UMB's [Office of the Registrar](#)

- Graduation Application
- Name Changes/Updates

[Office of Student Affairs](#)

- General Graduation Inquiries

[Professor Micah Yarbrough](#)

- Bar Admission Inquiries

If there is something missing from the Weekly Student Services Newsletter that you would like to see added, [please let us know](#).



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