



NOVA SCOTIA BARRISTERS' SOCIETY

BAR EXAMINATION

POLICY ON APPLICANT IDENTIFICATION AND RELEASE OF GRADES

1.1 Bar Examination

1.1.1 The Nova Scotia Barristers' Society's Bar Examination is offered twice a year - July and January.

ID Number

1.1.2 At the outset of the Bar Examination, applicants are provided with a Memorandum, containing a confidential I.D. number. The Society maintains the master list.

Anonymity Maintained

1.1.3 Applicants write their I.D. number on their Examination papers, rather than their names. The applicants' identities are not known to the Examination markers, as the applicants are identified only by I.D. number.

2.1 Date for Release of Grades

2.1.1 The release of grades for the July Bar Examination will be close of business on the first Thursday of October. The release of grades for the January Bar Examination will be close of business on the first Thursday of April.¹

Exceptional Circumstances

2.1.2 In exceptional circumstances (such as an unforeseen delay in receipt of the Bar Examination grades by the Society), the Director, Admissions and Professional Development will determine the date for release of grades and will notify all applicants of that date.

Post on Website

2.1.3 At the close of business on the first Thursday of October and April, or such date as set by the Director, Admissions and Professional Development in exceptional circumstances, grades (pass/fail) are posted on the Society's website (www.nsbs.org), by Examination I.D. number.

Appeal Period

2.1.4 Applicants have thirty days from the date of posting on the website to appeal a failing grade.

Grades Sent by Standard Mail

2.1.5 Within seven days of the date of the posting of the Bar Examination results, applicants will also receive written confirmation of their grade. Grades will be sent by surface mail marked "Personal and Confidential." These marks will be sent to the address indicated on the approved address sheet distributed at the Examinations, unless the Society is notified otherwise.

Mark Not Released by Telephone

2.1.6 Under no circumstances will results be released by telephone, neither will applicants be permitted to send a courier to collect their confirmation of grade.

Approved by the Credentials Committee – October 31, 2008

Revised by the Credentials Committee – December 10, 2009

¹ The rationale for releasing the grades at the close of business is consideration for unsuccessful applicants, especially those in firms with more than one applicant. The hope is that this should limit the time spent in a "celebratory atmosphere" on a date the applicant will not feel like celebrating. Thursday was chosen so that Society staff will be available to speak to unsuccessful applicants the following day, if they so desire.