

FOURTH-YEAR Q&A

1. When will the rescheduled graduation be held?

The Nashville School of Law's 2020 graduation ceremony will be held on Saturday, August 29, 2020, at 11:00 a.m.

2. Where will the rescheduled graduation be held?

The graduation ceremony will be held at the Renaissance Hotel Nashville, 611 Commerce Street, Nashville, Tennessee 37203.

3. When will my degree be conferred?

Your degree will be conferred on Saturday, May 23, 2020.

4. When will I receive my diploma?

You will receive your diploma at the graduation ceremony on August 29, 2020 or by mail if you do not attend graduation.

5. Can I get a refund of my graduation fee?

The graduation fee covers a portion of multiple expenses related to the 4L year, including the diploma itself. All students are required to pay the fee, regardless of participation in the ceremony.

6. What about my tam, gown, and hood order?

All students are expected to wear academic regalia at graduation. If you have not already ordered regalia, you may do so [here](#) by May 20, 2020. If you are not planning to attend graduation, you may cancel regalia already ordered, but you must do so before May 20, 2020 to receive a refund.

7. When and where will I pick up my tam, gown, and hood?

Regalia will be delivered to NSL the week of August 17, 2020. You may pick regalia up at NSL the week of August 17, 2020 (Monday – Thursday 8:30-5:30). If regalia is not picked up, it will be at the ceremony on August 29.

8. When and where do I return my tam, gown, and hood?

You are responsible for returning your tam, gown, and hood to the School within one week following the ceremony. For your convenience, staff members will be available following the ceremony, and you may return your tam, gown, and hood at that time. It is your responsibility to make sure that one of the staff members marks down that your tam, gown, and hood have been returned.

9. Is there any limit on the number of guests I can invite?

No. There will be enough seating for everyone.

10. Do my guests need tickets?

No. The graduation ceremony is open on a first-come, first-served basis.

11. How early should my guests arrive?

The ceremony will begin at 11:00 a.m. Your family and friends should plan to be seated between 10:15 and 10:30 a.m.

12. Where should my guests and I park?

Public parking is available at several nearby parking garages and surface parking lots. Convenient parking spaces can fill up quickly.

13. Is there a dress code for graduation?

There is no formal dress code for the ceremony.

14. What time should I show up for graduation?

In order to stay on schedule, plan to arrive no later than 10:00 a.m. The ceremony will begin promptly at 11:00 a.m. The Board, faculty, and students will line up for the procession at 10:30 a.m.

15. Where do graduates go before the ceremony?

Dressing rooms at the Renaissance Hotel will be provided for students to change into their tam and gown. Please follow the signs to these rooms.

16. How long will the ceremony last?

The ceremony last approximately one hour.

17. Can my family and friends take photographs and videos?

Guests are welcome to take photographs and videos before and after the ceremony. They also may take photographs and videos during the ceremony. However, all guests must remain seated throughout the ceremony to ensure that everyone has an uninterrupted view of the ceremony.

18. Will I have my photograph taken when I receive my diploma?

Yes. Professional photographers will photograph each graduate as she or he receives a diploma. These photographs will be available for purchase several weeks following the ceremony. In addition, the photographers will be available to take group photographs of graduates and their guests before and after the ceremony.

19. Not all my family and friends will be able to attend the ceremony. Will it be video recorded?

Yes, the ceremony is recorded, and the video will be available to view online or to purchase.

20. When and how do I submit my pro bono hours for recognition?

You will receive an email during the first week of May with instructions for submitting your pro bono hours. The School recognizes at graduation the student with the most pro bono hours performed during his or her law school career.

21. When is the deadline for applying to take the bar exam?

The most authoritative information regarding the bar exam can be found on the Tennessee Board of Law Examiners' website [www.tnble.org]. The initial deadline for July 2020 applications is May 1, 2020, and the final deadline is May 20, 2020.

22. When is the bar exam going to be held?

The most authoritative information regarding the bar exam can be found on the Tennessee Board of Law Examiners' website [www.tnble.org]. Currently, the bar exam will be held on July 28-29, 2020 or alternatively on September 30-October 1, 2020. However, the BLE may still cancel the July bar exam if it "is not deployed by the NCBE or [Tennessee] remains under "Safer at Home orders." If the July bar exam is cancelled, "all applicants for the July exam will be moved to the October Exam and will be permitted to move their application to February 2021.

23. Where will be bar exam be given?

The most authoritative information regarding the bar exam can be found on the Tennessee Board of Law Examiners' website [www.tnble.org]. The July bar exam will be offered in Knoxville at the Knoxville Civic Coliseum, in Nashville at the Nashville Municipal Auditorium, and in Memphis at The Great Hall and Conference Center. The September 30-October bar exam will only be offered in Knoxville at the Knoxville Convention Center.

24. Can I take both bar exams?

According to the BLE, "[a]pplicants can sit for either the July Exam or the October Exam but not both."

25. Do I need to file another application if I decide to take the September 30-October 1 bar exam?

According to the BLE, you must "[u]se only the July 2020 application. Those who wish to sit for the October Exam **must** apply using the July 2020 application."

26. Am I entitled to a refund of the fees I have paid to take the bar exam?

According to Section 1(d) of the Tennessee Supreme Court's April 7, 2020 order, applicants may request a refund of their fees if the July bar exam and the September 30-October 1 bar exam are not offered.

27. How long can I practice under supervision in accordance with Tenn. Sup. Ct. R. 7, § 10.04?

According to Section 2 of the Tennessee Supreme Court's April 7, 2020 order, applicants who graduated between March 1, 2020 and July 24, 2020, and who have completed the application process may engage in supervised practice until November 15, 2021.