



Lee Burgess: Welcome to the Bar Exam Toolbox podcast. Today, we're talking about things to consider if your jurisdiction has just adopted the UBE. Your Bar Exam Toolbox hosts are Alison Monahan and Lee Burgess, that's me. We're here to demystify the bar exam experience so you can study effectively, stay sane, and hopefully pass and move on with your life.

We're the co-creators of the [Law School Toolbox](#), the [Bar Exam Toolbox](#), and the career related website [CareerDicta](#). Alison also runs [The Girl's Guide to Law School](#). If you enjoy the show, please leave a review on your favorite listening app and check out our sister podcast, the [Law School Toolbox podcast](#). If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to us. You can reach us via the [contact form](#) on BarExamToolbox.com, and we'd love to hear from you. And with that, let's get started.

Alison Monahan: Welcome back. As we're seeing more and more jurisdictions switch to the UBE instead of a state-specific bar exam, many bar exam takers are being put in a strange position of taking a new bar exam, even if they're repeat takers. Or you might find out that all of the bar prep you've done throughout your law school career isn't all that relevant, because you're going to be taking a different exam when you graduate than you expected to when you started. So, what does this mean for folks taking the UBE for the first time?

Lee Burgess: Well, I think the first thing a lot of people have to decide is whether or not having your jurisdiction change to the UBE is a good thing, because it's kind of a mixed bag.

Alison Monahan: Right. And you also can't really do anything about it.

Lee Burgess: No.

Alison Monahan: So, let's look on the bright side.

Lee Burgess: Fair point. So, I think the first thing to look at is, there's the benefit of score portability. I mean, this is the whole idea of the UBE.

Alison Monahan: And this is a huge benefit.

Lee Burgess: We talk to a lot of people who have to move locations and sit for bars, and it can really hamper your ability to get a job. So, the idea that you can get a score and move it around the country is pretty powerful. Now, one thing you do have to remember is not all numbers are created equal because each jurisdiction gets



to set their own threshold. So, let's say you pass an exam like New York that has a score of 266, but then you want to go practice, I think, in Washington, which has a much higher score. If you only got a 267, you won't be licensed in Washington.

Alison Monahan: Yeah. So, starting at 260, that's where you can squeak in in various jurisdictions around the country. Interestingly enough, even if you do not pass in the jurisdiction you sit in... So, say you sit in New York and you get a 261, for example – you're not going to be passing in New York, but you can actually transfer that score to a jurisdiction with a 260 and wave in.

Lee Burgess: Yeah. So, there are a lot of options for folks. I think that the good thing about this, especially for individuals who have been struggling with the test, is sometimes, people just want to be licensed somewhere.

Alison Monahan: Right. Exactly.

Lee Burgess: There are plenty of jobs where you do not need to have an active license in the state that you're residing, and you can work for the Feds, you can do lots of different stuff. So, sometimes, if you get that 261 and you get that license in that state that you may never move to, that might just be what you need to do the work that you need to do.

Alison Monahan: Right. You can basically look at those 260 states, see who has the fewest requirements around CLE and other things and become licensed in that state, and it's totally fine. Even for me, when I was a lawyer, all of my cases were patent cases, and that is constitutionally all federal courts. So, I just had to be licensed in a state so that I could get licensed in a federal court. And then, I could basically... We just hired local counsel. All of our cases were in states we didn't practice in anyway. It didn't matter.

Lee Burgess: Right. Immigration law, all of these areas that are all federal law, you just have to be licensed in that state. Most US attorneys and people like that aren't even necessarily barred locally because they move around all the time, too.

Alison Monahan: Yeah, exactly. So, it can get a little tricky. You want to make sure you're not practicing unauthorized practice of law, which occasionally does happen in these in-house counsel type scenarios and things where someone's licensed in one place but not another. Although, often with in-house counsels, states do have rules allowing you if you're licensed elsewhere. So, point being, don't get



too demoralized if you didn't pass in one state. If you are able to go into another state, it might be worth your while to look into it.

- Lee Burgess: Yeah. I think the other benefit to sitting for the UBE is that you get to drop all that state-specific law. I mean, maybe if you'd steadied it and you were really excited about it, but...
- Alison Monahan: Well, that always makes it hard for people. I went to law school in New York, I clerked in Boston, and then I came and eventually sat for the California bar. I had never studied the California distinctions to anything. So, it's just all the stuff you have to learn on top of what you already learned.
- Lee Burgess: Yeah. So, the beauty is, they're just testing the common law.
- Alison Monahan: Yeah. That means you can just get any commercial outline that is sold and it will all have the same information in it, and you can just learn that information. There is nothing special you need to know for the UBE. I think it's a little more streamlined.
- Lee Burgess: Yeah. I also think it probably more closely correlates to what you learned in your law school classes too, because usually they're teaching the common law in most law schools.
- Alison Monahan: Yeah, they're just teaching a universal version of the law. Very few schools are really trying to give you the law of that state.
- Lee Burgess: Yeah. I think California schools do that, but California is so big and a lot of people stay to practice in California.
- Alison Monahan: Yeah. But if you go to school in most parts of the country, you're reading cases from all around, definitely, the country, sometimes even the world. I certainly remember reading cases from England and that kind of thing that illustrated a particular point. So, this will probably be just a more generalized, neutral version of the law.
- Lee Burgess: Yeah. So, if you find yourself having to take the UBE and this is a new test to you – maybe you've taken a bar exam or two and failed, and your state just switched over – what do you do?
- Alison Monahan: Well, I think the first thing you've got to do is figure out what's different. In some states, they've almost been using the UBE for a while. Illinois, for example



– okay, they did a few of their own state-specific essays, but they were basically using the MEE and they were using, I think, MPT. So, there, it's not that different. There may be pros or cons for you in terms of what you're better or worse at. So, I talked to someone the other day who was concerned that he was not great at the performance tests and they were going to put two of those on the UBE version. Wisely enough, he reached out and is getting help on that.

Lee Burgess: Right. Yeah, I think you really need to understand what this test is. If you had to see what was different between most jurisdictions, it's these 30-minute MEE questions. I think that these are often times shorter than a lot of jurisdictions who are doing state-specific testing still. So, you need to get comfortable with not only answering in 30 minutes, but how streamlined and specific that has to be, and that really needs to be learned. I think the performance test one is used by a lot of jurisdictions at this point.

Alison Monahan: They're typically not really writing their own.

Lee Burgess: Yeah. I think Pennsylvania still writes their own, California still writes their own, but even those are not that different than the MPT. So, I think that, for most people, they've had some experience with the MPT. Maybe they didn't get two of them, but they do have some experience. Then, everybody but our friends in Louisiana are all taking the multiple choice portion, which is pretty universal. So, even if your jurisdiction is switching, there's a good chunk of the test that you've probably had some exposure to.

Alison Monahan: Right. In some cases, states that did not necessarily have the best reputation for writing really quality exams, I think you'll find the UBE questions make more sense.

Lee Burgess: Yeah, it's true.

Alison Monahan: I'm not going to mention who those states might be, but there are some states that did not have a great reputation for really putting together quality essay questions. I think with the UBE, you can at least say, "Okay, this is a fair test. These have clearly been vetted. People have really thought about these questions." So, sometimes people, I think, find them more straightforward.

Lee Burgess: And it's important to note it's new to you, but not new to the world. So, there are plenty of resources and past exams and things that you can access. So, it's also important to remember that when it comes time to prepare, it's not like



this is a brand new, squeaky clean test that nobody's ever prepared anybody for.

Alison Monahan: Right. Exactly.

Lee Burgess: Alright. We also think it's important to think about what law is going to be different, because the one thing about the UBE is it does test some stuff that sometimes other jurisdictions don't test, like secured transactions, which is actually very heavily tested.

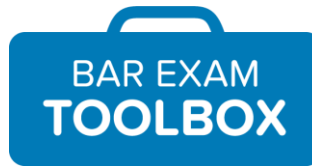
Alison Monahan: Yeah, I remember not liking that when I took that and Massachusetts tested that, and I was just like, "What is this again?"

Lee Burgess: That's one of those... It's kind of like the mortgages on property. They don't really teach that in law school.

Alison Monahan: No, but it's also one of those that once you sit down with it, it really, actually, is not that difficult. You just have to get past the language and figure out the basics on it.

Lee Burgess: But you do want to sit down and kind of audit what is included to see where it overlaps and where it doesn't, because one of the things that you're going to need to do when you start to study again is build on the knowledge that you already know. You're not starting over, even though it's the UBE, and maybe that's different from Illinois or whatever you were studying for before, but you also want to make sure that you share a bit of extra time to dive into some of these subjects that maybe you didn't know to get up to speed, because some of these are really heavily tested.

Alison Monahan: Yeah, absolutely. And one way to find out what's heavily tested is to look at a frequency analysis. Conveniently, there are options that will allow you to literally see, "Okay, this is what the UBE tests heavily." For example, you can get some outlines. I think they even have a free frequency analysis called [SmartBarPrep](#), and they will show you seven out of the last 10 tests have tested this topic whereas one out of the last 10 tests have tested this topic. Very useful. We have [The Brainy Bar Bank](#), where we have ranked everything by topic and subtopic and legal topic. So, you can drill down and say, "Okay, the UBE, for example, frequently tests secured transactions. They don't as frequently test whatever else that might be heavily tested on a different exam." So, I think just getting strategic about that and figuring out, "Okay, these are the areas that I don't really know that I need to know", is step one.



- Lee Burgess: Right. And if you want to go in and say, "Okay, family law is heavily tested. I didn't have to study for family law on my last exam." I can go into The Brainy Bar Bank and say, "Okay, what do they test on family law?", and then do a lot of questions on these topics, because the one thing I think is the biggest difference between the UBE and a lot of other tests is the precision in which you have to answer these questions, because you don't have a lot of time. You can't pad it, you can't do the brain dump.
- Alison Monahan: No. You basically have 30 minutes, and that is to read the question, start to formulate your answer, and write your answer. So, you're really probably writing maybe for 20 minutes-ish on a lot of these questions. That also means you have to know the law with a fair degree of precision. You don't have a lot of room to fudge and make things up the way that maybe you do in California, where it's a more complicated question – maybe you remember 80% of the law, you're fudging it on 20%. That doesn't really fly as much on the MEE questions. You just either have to know it or not know it.
- Lee Burgess: Yeah. I think the other thing that people get very frustrated by is the scoring keys that the [National Conference of Bar Examiners](#) releases, which are these kinds of treatises on all of these questions.
- Alison Monahan: Right. They're kind of funny.
- Lee Burgess: We talked about this on the podcast before, but evaluating your work based on these little mini treatises is something you have to get used to. So, one of the things you always have to understand is the materials that you're getting access to, because I think some people read that scoring sheet and they can't breathe because they're like, "I'm supposed to do what in 30 minutes?"
- Alison Monahan: "Wait. They want me to do citation? What is this?"
- Lee Burgess: I know.
- Alison Monahan: As we spoke about, this is generalized, across the board, standard law. They are not expecting you to cite cases on the UBE.
- Lee Burgess: Yeah. So, you've got to get used to it. And these little nuances, I think, can be really anxiety-inducing if you don't really understand what's going on.
- Alison Monahan: But the reality is, it's just an exam, and you have studied most of this, particularly if you prepared for the bar before, and it's really a question of



getting into that rhythm of writing these 30-minute essays and then moving on, because there's a lot to do. You have three hours and you have six different topics. You've got to be able to switch between those as well.

- Lee Burgess: Right.
- Alison Monahan: So, when you're preparing, you want to be thinking about writing two or three essays back-to-back to practice.
- Lee Burgess: Yeah. So, you may also find yourself searching for some bar help, whether it be a first time or a repeat taker. I think a lot of repeat takers find themselves in this position where they may have used a commercial bar program, but it was state-specific, and now they've got to take a different test and they're looking at their books and they're wondering, "Do I just do it again?"
- Alison Monahan: Yeah. Interestingly enough, I've learned that not all bar providers will actually give you, "You failed. You get the free course", if your jurisdiction switches on you.
- Lee Burgess: You should call your bar provider.
- Alison Monahan: Doesn't really seem fair, but that is what I was recently told by a student recently, so that's interesting. It's like, "Yeah, I just signed up for Illinois and I didn't pass, and now they won't give me the UBE materials."
- Lee Burgess: Interesting. I would call your bar review provider about that.
- Alison Monahan: Yeah.
- Lee Burgess: Yeah. You might also find that you want to do some tailored practice to solve some problems, especially if you are a repeat taker. So, you can learn a lot of lessons from what happened, let's say in Illinois, about what was pulling you down.
- Alison Monahan: You've got to look at these score reports.
- Lee Burgess: Yeah, even if it's not the same test, because you can see, "Oh, I rocked the MBE, but I tanked the essays." Well, that's going to be a problem. You better find a bar provider that's going to give you feedback on the writing. But maybe you can use similar tactics to study for the MBE again. Again, there's information to be had here. You're not starting over.



Alison Monahan: Yeah. So, we have a whole [podcast episode](#), in fact, on interpreting your score reports, I believe. But you want to be looking at things like, were your scores consistently low or were they all over the place? Then, that gives you a sense of, is it a timing issue, or is it a topic issue? You can find things out from these, and I think it's important to do that. Also, if your jurisdiction has recently shifted, your school may have resources that they're willing to provide to you. So, definitely go back and ask them what they're doing for recent grads who are in this position and now have to take a different exam than they expected to.

Lee Burgess: Yeah. Hopefully, the schools have a plan for that.

Alison Monahan: Hopefully. If not, you ought to talk to your school about that.

Lee Burgess: Yeah. You have a lot of phone calls, people that are listening who are in this position. But I think when you're making this decision to choose your bar review provider for this new situation, the considerations are still similar. If you're struggling with writing or have special circumstances, like you have learning differences or you get accommodations, and you're finding that the way you've been preparing for the bar hasn't been helping you, you still want to get individualized help, like a bar tutor or some courses that will help you do more focused work, because going back and just repeating the same thing you did in the new jurisdiction's probably not going to solve the problems.

Alison Monahan: Yeah. I think sometimes people wonder, do they need a new full course? There, I think it really depends on what materials you have from your previous attempt or attempts, and how close those were. So, if you're taking Illinois, like we said, they were basically using the MEE, they're using kind of an MPT, and then they're using the MBE. You can probably study off of those, plus a shorter outline, like something along the [Lean Sheets](#), [SmartBarPrep](#) type of world. But if it's a state where it was totally different exam and it was all pretty much state-specific, and suddenly you need to switch to the UBE world, then you may need more extensive materials.

Lee Burgess: I think you need to evaluate what you would get from repurchasing that large commercial bar program. So, make a list of what you need. One of the things that you need access to, MEE and MPT questions. Well, they're online cheap.

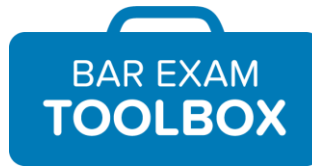
Alison Monahan: Right. You don't need to buy a course.

Lee Burgess: You don't need to buy thousands of dollars of courses. We sell that.





- Alison Monahan: We can sell you that for under \$300.
- Lee Burgess: Right, exactly. So, that is easy. Do you just need some outlines on the UBE? Again, SmartBarPrep – go on there, purchase the outlines.
- Alison Monahan: Frequency analysis, they've done them. It's good, it's solid, it's all the information you need. Just learn it.
- Lee Burgess: Right. So, again, let's say you want new MBE work – you can purchase AdaptiBar for, again, under \$300.
- Alison Monahan: I think they're over that, but basically.
- Lee Burgess: Okay. A little over \$300.
- Alison Monahan: A fairly nominal fee.
- Lee Burgess: A fairly nominal fee. So, at this point, even with a bunch of different resources...
- Alison Monahan: You're still under a grand.
- Lee Burgess: You're under a grand, which is going to be cheaper than pretty much almost all of the big bar review programs. So, you can use these piecemeal opportunities to create a cheaper option for you or allow you to spend less money on getting these materials and maybe some money on getting feedback.
- Alison Monahan: Right. Exactly.
- Lee Burgess: Which I think that if you have been struggling, if you've already failed, you may still want somebody to be able to guide you through this process.
- Alison Monahan: Yeah. I think you just want to be smart about it. I don't think just signing up for the same variety of the course that you already took elsewhere and failed a couple of times isn't going to necessarily help you pass the UBE.
- Lee Burgess: Yeah. And again, because you have to be so precise in your writing, if you've struggled with writing in the past, there's just no wiggle room. You've got to clean up your writing. You've got to typically get feedback to do that.
- Alison Monahan: Yeah. And I think too, you've got to do focused practice, particularly in these 30-minute essays, because they're so quick that you just have to be in that rhythm.



I think a lot of people struggle with timing issues, because it's easy just to go five minutes over on the first one, and then five minutes over on the second one, and suddenly you've got a huge deficit, you've got real problems, you're not going to finish. And you just can't do that.

Lee Burgess: No, I know. I was just talking to one of our tutors about a few students that are really struggling with the time management piece, and it's not just doing the work in the time, but it's this act of stopping yourself. We hear this over and over again: "I just can't stop."

Alison Monahan: "I just can't stop." It's like, "Really?"

Lee Burgess: Move your hands away from the computer, right? I think, for a lot of people, it is really challenging to force themselves to stop and accept that they can not finish. So, with this time crunch of the 30-minute questions, which are so fast, you really need to appreciate what you can write in that time period. Now, I will say that although these NCBE score sheets can be really overwhelming – the ones that are basically the treatises we were just talking about – some jurisdictions do publish student answers for some of the most recent tests. So, you can also spend a little time on Google and find some of these real answers to get a better idea of what students are actually doing. That might also be a check for you to be able to say, "Okay. This is what I need to be able to do in 30 minutes" or, "This is a great answer in 30 minutes. Maybe I can write a sort of good answer."

Alison Monahan: Yeah. I think a lot of this is about process. So, sometimes people, when they see 30 minutes, they think, "Well, I don't have time to make any type of outline. I just have to start writing." That is a terrible idea.

Lee Burgess: Bad idea.

Alison Monahan: Very bad idea. There's three to five minutes that you spend getting some type of outline on paper, which literally is basically, you've read the question, you've identified the basic legal issues, hopefully you know the law element by element, so you write down those elements, you maybe pair some facts with them. And then you have your outline, and then when you go through it, all you have to do is basically pull those pieces, those elements in as headers, do that discussion of the facts that apply to that, draw a conclusion, move on to the next one, and you just keep going.



- Lee Burgess: Yeah, absolutely. If you know this is coming down the pipeline and you are still scratching your head because you don't know what to expect, if you like listening to this podcast, you can go back through our archives and I walk through a number of MEE questions. So, you can get an idea.
- Alison Monahan: That sounds so exciting, Lee.
- Lee Burgess: I know Alison has listened to all of them.
- Alison Monahan: Yeah.
- Lee Burgess: While you're making bread. That's what you do when you make bread, you listen to me talking about these questions.
- Alison Monahan: But they are useful. I think it is useful to hear people think through these. We have our [Writing of the Week program](#) that people have found helpful in raising their scores because this a similar thing. It really just breaks down, "This is the law that you need to know to answer this question. Now, you answer the question, do your best, and then we come back together and we talk about it."
- Lee Burgess: Yup.
- Alison Monahan: On a video. And it walks you through, "You should have talked about this. This is why this fact mattered." So, I think that level of structure, particularly if you maybe didn't get that so much in law school, can help people understand that it's pretty formulaic.
- Lee Burgess: Yeah, I think that's very true.
- Alison Monahan: And I think a lot of it comes down to just really learning the law in a focused way, which is where something like those shorter outlines can really help, because they don't have that much material on them.
- Lee Burgess: Yeah. You just can't talk about everything and the kitchen sink. There's no time.
- Alison Monahan: No. No, there's really not. I mean, you can write a con law textbook or you can write a con law essay in 30 minutes.
- Lee Burgess: Yeah. One of them will lead you to passing the bar, one of them will not.



Alison Monahan: Yeah. The good thing is, these have to be more focused topics. So, it's not like in California where maybe they mix up three different topics and you might be talking about community property, and wills and trust, and family law, or something just totally insane.

Lee Burgess: Right.

Alison Monahan: Here, it's really more like, "Okay, this is the conspiracy question. There are three people. I need to talk about each one in turn. I need to go through that analysis." You don't have time to be rewriting rules and things like that, so don't do that. You've just got to think about the best way to structure your essay.

Lee Burgess: Yeah. The other thing you have to be really aware of is, we had some folks in our group... The tutors often times talk about concerns that students have raised, and I think there are some people who think it's a great idea to game the MEE and to only focus on five questions, and then just maybe not do the last question. That isn't a great approach in our opinion, but you have to try it to see that.

Alison Monahan: Yeah, I don't think that's going to typically be a very high probability pass event. Of course, you can bomb one essay and still pass. I'm just not sure you should make that your overall strategy, because you're really relying on those other five essays to be absolutely top notch, and you don't know what topics you're going to get. Maybe only four of the topics are things you're really comfortable with. So, I think you've got a better shot at raising your score from a one to a three by doing something than you do by just expecting to get fives across the board.

Lee Burgess: Yeah, I agree. So, I know we talked about this a little bit earlier in the podcast, but before we finish up, I wanted to go back to this idea of, are you forum shopping?

Alison Monahan: Right, because you can forum shop the UBE.

Lee Burgess: You can forum shop.

Alison Monahan: There's certain times that does make sense.

Lee Burgess: Yeah. I think, again, we talked about if you are really worried that you just need a license and it doesn't matter where it is – you may want to go to the easiest jurisdiction you can find. Typically, I would say the easiest is the lowest cutoff



score and a high pass rate. So, that's your goal. You can find out pretty much all of that information on the [NCBE website](#).

- Alison Monahan: Yeah. They even have a map that shows you the passing scores that are required in each jurisdiction.
- Lee Burgess: Yep. So, you can gather a lot of information. If you're going to choose to do that, I would make sure you call those bars. I think a lot of times people forget that you can still pick up the phone and talk to a human.
- Alison Monahan: Oh, yeah. You can get, like, actual information from them.
- Lee Burgess: Shh. Don't tell the California bar. We call them with questions a lot.
- Alison Monahan: Yeah, and they answer.
- Lee Burgess: And they answer. It's really helpful.
- Alison Monahan: The other week, we were trying to figure out if they were going to be mailing the score, or the essays, and one of our tutors just called them and they updated everyone that actually, "There'll be available online tomorrow at 6:00 p.m."
- Lee Burgess: So, good job, California bar. Saving trees, I appreciate that.
- Alison Monahan: Yes.
- Lee Burgess: And mail. Carbon footprint. But really, you're just like, "There's a person who has answers."
- Alison Monahan: And they know the answer to this question.
- Lee Burgess: Yeah. So, you can call these bars and say, "I reside outside of the state. I want to consider getting a license here. What are the requirements?" Because you also want to make sure that your MPRE meets the requirements.
- Alison Monahan: Right. Character and fitness might be more or less of a pain.
- Lee Burgess: Exactly. Sometimes you might need a referral from an attorney in that state. Do you know an attorney in the state?



- Alison Monahan: I had to get that in Massachusetts. It was a real pain.
- Lee Burgess: Yeah. So, do your homework, do your research, but I think there are a lot more options than there used to be. The other reason why I think you might want to consider forum shopping is for rules around accommodations.
- Alison Monahan: Yup. Those vary a lot. Some states are definitely notoriously...
- Lee Burgess: Accommodating.
- Alison Monahan: Less accommodating, shall we say? And some of those states are close to other states that are not so unaccommodating. So, if you have had issues asking for accommodations and not getting them in a certain jurisdiction, you might strongly consider going to a different one because once you pass, it doesn't matter.
- Lee Burgess: Right. And it's not just getting the accommodations. Some jurisdictions are notorious for not really having a great appeals process, which I've got to say, I don't know how that jives with the ADA.
- Alison Monahan: All the lawyers make the rules, I guess.
- Lee Burgess: I know. But you also want to understand, if they say no, do you have an opportunity to appeal? Do you have an opportunity to present more evidence? Because that also might make a big difference in whether or not you get the extended time or other accommodations that you're looking for.
- Alison Monahan: Right, and just the timeline on getting accommodations. What are the deadlines to apply? How soon are they going to tell you? Are you going to be dangling out there a week or two before the exam not knowing if you're going to get accommodations? Generally, this is something we always, always recommend you sort out as early as possible. But if you have waited till the last minute, there may be states that are more generous in letting you apply at the last minute.
- Lee Burgess: Absolutely. Alright, any final thoughts?
- Alison Monahan: Well, one thing I just want to address – what about people who are still in school and they know that their states are going to be switching? So, for example, surprisingly enough, Texas is switching to UBE soon.



Lee Burgess: I know. We were just at a conference talking to Texas law professors about this.

Alison Monahan: Yeah. So, that's always that. I thought they would be one of the last holdouts. That, to me, was an interesting exam. It's three days, it tests things like oil and gas law that people have been taking classes in. I think, in some cases, if you're still in school, this might impact the courses that you take.

Lee Burgess: I agree. If you don't know what's tested on the UBE, I would go look it up.

Alison Monahan: Yeah. I mean, instead of taking the Oil and Gas class, maybe you want to take Family Law or you want to take Secured Transactions.

Lee Burgess: Secured Transactions. Maybe an advanced Civil Procedure class. Civil procedure is almost always tested on the UBE as well.

Alison Monahan: It is the most heavily tested subject, which is fascinating because it's not that heavily tested in California.

Lee Burgess: No.

Alison Monahan: We found this out when we made The Brainy Bar Bank. We're like, "Huh, isn't that interesting? These do not align at all." In fact, I think we have some blog posts on exactly what topics and subtopics are commonly tested on the UBE versus California. But I think if you're still in school, you want to be thinking about, again, what resources is your school going to be providing to you? Is there a bar class where you're going to be doing MEE essays – I guess that's redundant – for practice? What are they doing? Presumably, they have a big program to support you in the current exam, but what are they doing to help you shift to this new exam? Do they have people on staff who know things about this? I would be asking these questions.

Lee Burgess: Yeah, I think that's a very good point. You should ask your bar reps that are coming and hanging out in your hallway before you sign up with a bar review program about what their plan is to change.

Alison Monahan: Right. Or if you've already signed up with one, what are they going to be doing?

Lee Burgess: Yeah.

Alison Monahan: So, none of these are questions that can't be answered. I think it's just something you want to think about.



Lee Burgess: Yeah. Alright. Well, with that, we are out of time, but I want to take a second to remind everyone to check out our [blog](#) at BarExamToolbox.com, which is full of helpful tips to help you prepare and stay sane as you study for the bar exam. We have lots of information on what the UBE is and how to study for it.

Alison Monahan: And podcast episodes.

Lee Burgess: Oh, and podcast episodes. You can also find information on our website about our courses, tools, and one-on-one tutoring programs to support you as you study for the UBE or California bar exam. If you enjoyed this episode of the Bar Exam Toolbox podcast, please take a second to leave a review and rating on your favorite listening app. We'd really appreciate it. And be sure to subscribe so you don't miss anything. If you are still in law school, you might also like to check out our popular Law School Toolbox podcast as well. We got a few nice reviews this week, and it really brightened my day.

Alison Monahan: It really did.

Lee Burgess: I know.

Alison Monahan: Someone said something very nice about the 200th episode, so thank you for listening.

Lee Burgess: Thank you. Yeah. Thank you for sending us nice notes. It does really... We read them and it makes our day.

Alison Monahan: Warms our heart.

Lee Burgess: It does warm our heart. If you have any questions or comments, or even suggestions for the podcast, please don't hesitate to reach out to myself or Alison at [lee@barexamtoolbox.com](mailto:lee@barexamtoolbox.com) or [alison@barexamtoolbox.com](mailto:alison@barexamtoolbox.com). Or you can always contact us via our website [contact form](#) at BarExamToolbox.com. Thanks for listening, and we'll talk soon!

#### RESOURCES:

[National Conference of Bar Examiners](#)

[SmartBarPrep](#)

[The Brainy Bar Bank: Streamlining Bar Study](#)

[Writing of the Week \(WOW\) Bar Essay Workshop](#)





[Lean Sheets](#)

[Podcast Episode 25: How to Interpret Your Bar Exam Score Report](#)

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[Podcast Episode 27: Tackling an MEE Question: Wills and Trusts](#)

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[Podcast Episode 41: Tackling an MEE Family Law and Conflicts of Law Essay Question](#)

[Bar Exam Toolbox Blog: Everything You Need to Know About the UBE](#)

[Bar Exam Toolbox Blog: Commonly Tested Bar Exam Topics – UBE vs CA](#)

[Bar Exam Toolbox Blog: Frequently Tested Topics on the California Bar Exam vs the UBE: Torts](#)

[Bar Exam Toolbox Blog: Frequently Tested Topics on the California Bar Exam vs the UBE: Civil Procedure](#)

[UBE Self-Study Program](#)