

April 30, 2020

Dear Students,

I write to share the following announcement from the New York Court of Appeals.

To alleviate the hardship on bar applicants, on April 28 the Chief Judge approved a comprehensive and streamlined program designed to provide temporary authorization for qualified law graduates to engage in the limited practice of law.

Practice orders promulgated by the Appellate Division departments will allow all covered candidates employed in New York to work under the supervision of a qualified attorney in good standing who has been admitted to practice law in New York for at least three years. Temporary authorization will be available to all first-time takers of the bar examination, including both J.D. and LL.M. candidates, irrespective of their graduation year.

The temporary authorization program is intended to carry qualified candidates through their swearing-in date, so long as those candidates pass their first bar examination no later than 2021 and promptly seek admission to the bar following the release of exam results.

This program will supplement existing practice order programs that authorize specified candidates to engage in the supervised practice of law, which will be unaffected by this temporary measure. Formal authorization and implementation of the program will follow in the near future.

For the full announcement, as well as to keep track of developments with the New York bar exam, [please visit the Court's website](#).

Best regards,

Craig M. Boise

Dean and Professor | College of Law