Adding Legal Research to the Bar Exam: What Would the Exercise Look Like?


**Article Categories:** Working with External Stakeholders

**Keywords:** Analytical Skills; Competencies; MacCrate Report; Practice Ready; Research Skills

**Reviewer’s Summary:**

This article proposes the addition of an interactive legal research exercise to the bar exam. Meyer reviews various assessment and measurement methods and concludes that an improved simulation element offers the most reasonable option for enhancing the ability of the bar exam to predict practice readiness. Meyer also discusses how a legal research exercise that tests several fundamental lawyering skills would remedy deficiencies in the Multistate Performance Test portion of the bar exam. The final section of the article describes what an interactive legal research exercise would look like and provides two specific examples (an exercise based on federal law and an exercise based on Michigan law).

**Summarized by:** Timothy Gallina, SMU Dedman School of Law - Underwood Law Library, in 2020.