

## Bar Loan FAQ's

### Why should I consider applying for a BAR Loan?

Bar Loans are intended to be used for expenses related to completing the Bar. Living expenses, Bar Review Courses and actual Bar costs are considered eligible expenses. This might be a good option for you if you don't have the funds available and are not receiving assistance for these costs from your future employer.

### How much am I eligible to borrow?

We have an \$8,000 cap in our office, as this is sufficient for most people. If you have higher expenses and would like to request that we make an exception, please send an email to [lawfinaid@umich.edu](mailto:lawfinaid@umich.edu). Your request should include the amount and a list of your living expenses. Please include actual Bar costs on the list. We recommend borrowing as little as you need.

### Which lender does the Financial Aid Office recommend?

The Financial Aid Office believes that all the lenders listed on our chart have comparable rates. Our office would be happy to explain the differences among lenders, which may assist you in determining which loan best suits your needs. You may borrow more than one time within an academic year. All lenders require a good credit history from you/and or your co-signer.

### Where can I find up-to-date interest rate information?

The following Web site offers current interest rate information:

[www.bankrate.com/cbsmw/ratehm.asp](http://www.bankrate.com/cbsmw/ratehm.asp). You can also check directly with the lender.

### How can I determine which loan is best for me?

Interest rates and fees can vary by lender. We would like to encourage you to visit the following Web site: [www.finaid.org/calculators/loananalyzer.phtml](http://www.finaid.org/calculators/loananalyzer.phtml). This comprehensive Web site allows you to compute the various terms set by each lender, using their listed interest rate, fees, and repayment period.

### I have chosen a lender and know how much I want to borrow, what do I do now?

Most lenders offer an online application process. If you feel more comfortable with a hard copy application, you may contact the lender to request one. In order to ensure proper processing, your application must be certified by the school before any lender will disburse funds.

### I have completed the loan application and have been approved. When will I receive the funds?


Disbursement of Bar Loans is different from academic year loans. The Bar Loan check will be mailed to your current address. You get to choose the disbursement date/dates. It is a good rule of thumb that the total process takes two to three weeks from submission of the application until funds are available.

### How can I obtain a copy of my Credit Report?

Any of the following national credit bureaus will send you a copy for a small fee.

Experian:	1-888-397-3742
TransUnion:	1-800-888-4213
Equifax Credit:	1-800-685-1111

## 2007-2008 BAR Loans Comparison Chart

	* Access Group: Bar Loan	* CITIBANK Bar Loan	Nellie Mae: Law Excel Bar Loan
<b>Phone Web site</b>	800.282.1550 <a href="http://www.accessgroup.org">www.accessgroup.org</a>	800.967.2400 <a href="http://www.studentloan.com">www.studentloan.com</a>	800.634.9308 <a href="http://www.nelliemae.com/schools/michiganlaw/">www.nelliemae.com/schools/michiganlaw/</a>
<b>Loan Limits</b>	Maximum: \$8,000	Maximum: \$8,000	Maximum: \$8,000
<b>Fees: insurance, origination and/or guarantee</b>	None	None	Two percent with a co-borrower Five percent without a co-borrower
<b>Interest Rates</b>	3 month LIBOR rate plus 2.55% ,3.75%, or 6.45% (determined by credit history) both while in school and in repayment	Prime rate minus .50% - plus 4.0% (determined by credit history) both while in school and in repayment	As of June 30,2007:  Prime plus 2.5%
<b>Repayment</b>	9-month grace period after graduation or when the student ceases to be enrolled at least half-time  Up to 20 years No pre-payment penalty	9-month grace period after graduation  Up to 20 years No pre-payment penalty	6-month grace period after graduation 2% repayment fee  Up to 20 Years No pre-payment penalty
<b>Eligibility</b>	Enrolled at least half-time  Available during third year of Law School and up to 9 months after graduation  Qualifying credit history	May be enrolled less than half-time  Available during third year of Law School and up to 12 months after graduation  Qualifying credit history	Enrolled at least half-time  Available during third year of Law School and up to 90 days after graduation  Qualifying credit history

\* = Lenders that offer loans to international students. Some require a US citizen as a co-signer. (Terms may be different than those listed above. Please contact the lender)

Please note that these terms and rates are subject to change. For current terms/interest rates please contact your lender.

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