



**Policy Title**  
**Bar Certification Policy**

**Policy Number**  
**SULC-1-032**

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| <b>Responsible Unit:</b><br>Office of Academic Affairs               | <b>Effective Date:</b><br>July 23, 2026     |
| <b>Responsible Official:</b><br>Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs | <b>Last Reviewed Date:</b><br>July 23, 2026 |
| <b>Policy Classification:</b><br>Academic Affairs                    | <b>Last Revised Date:</b><br>July 23, 2026  |
|                                                                      | <b>Origination Date:</b><br>Nov. 15, 2017   |

**I. Policy Statement and Rationale**

This policy specifies the earliest time after graduation when Southern University Law Center (SULC) will certify graduates for the bar exam.

**II. Policy Scope**

This policy applies to students seeking to have SULC certify their status, as graduates of SULC, to the bar admission organizations. The policy only addresses the timing of the certification in relationship to the completion of the student's coursework.

**III. Policy Compliance**

Students seeking a certification for a bar examination in violation of this policy will not receive a certification for that administration of the bar exam.

**IV. Policy Definitions**

**BAR CERTIFICATION:** The process used by bar admission organizations across the country to certify that an applicant for the bar examination is a graduate of an ABA-approved institution and/or otherwise has the character and fitness to practice law. The certification process may be procedurally different from jurisdiction to jurisdiction; however, all

jurisdictions require some action, on the part of SULC, to complete the certification process.

#### **V. Policy Implementation Procedures**

SULC cannot certify a student as a graduate until it has completed the processing of all grades for the academic term in which a student completes his or her matriculation at SULC. As such, spring graduates can generally be certified in time to take the July bar examination and fall graduates can generally be certified in time to take the February examination. However, due to the date the summer session ends, it is not possible to certify summer graduates for the July bar examination. This policy indicates the earliest certification for a bar examination can be completed after students complete their matriculation.

1. The earliest SULC will certify a fall graduate for a bar examination is the February immediately following the completion of their academic studies.
2. The earliest SULC will certify a spring graduate for a bar examination is the July immediately following the completion of their academic studies.
3. The earliest SULC will certify a summer graduate for a bar examination is the February immediately following the completion of their academic studies.

#### **VI. Policy Related Information**

No laws or board policies impact this policy.

#### **VII. Policy History and Review Cycle**

The policy was adopted on November 15, 2017. It was reviewed and updated on June 21, 2021. On July 23, 2026, the policy was reviewed and updated by placing it in the uniform policy format. The policy is subject to a five-year policy review cycle and shall be reviewed by the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. In addition, the Chancellor or faculty may suggest modifications to this Policy. Any changes will be submitted to the faculty for consideration, in accordance with the SUS Policy on Policies.

#### **VIII. Policy URL**

This policy is published on the Southern University Law Center website at <https://www.sulc.edu/page/sulc-policies>.

#### **IX. Policy Approval**

This policy was approved by the faculty on July 23, 2026.



Alvin Washington  
Chancellor, SULC

July 23, 2026  
Effective Date of Policy