

Technical Report on the October 2024 First-Year Law Students' Exam

November 25, 2024

The First-Year Law Students' Exam (FYLSX) consists of 100 multiple-choice questions. The multiple-choice exam assesses applicants' knowledge, skills, and abilities in three subject areas: Contracts, Criminal Law, and Torts. The October administration of this exam marks the second in which essays were not included in the exam. Ninety of the 100 multiple-choice items, 30 from each subject area, contributed to the applicant's total score. Also among the 90 scored items were 30 items used to equate the scores on the October exam to scores on the June exam. The June 2024 exam form will serve as the equating reference form for subsequent administrations.

Each exam item has a value of one point. The total number of correctly answered questions is the applicant's raw score. Tucker linear equating was performed on the raw scores from the June and October exams. Those equated raw scores were then scaled so that applicants who earn a scaled score of at least 560 passed the exam. The scale score range for the FYLSX is 0 to 800. For this administration of the exam, the scaling function is as follows:

$$\text{Scale Multiple Choice Score} = \begin{cases} 9.08 \times \text{Raw Multiple Choice Score}, & \text{Raw Score} \leq 62 \\ 8.56 \times (\text{Raw Multiple Choice Score} - 62) + 560, & \text{Raw Score} > 62 \end{cases}$$

Of the 228 applicants who took the exam, 61 had scaled scores of at least 560, and 167 applicants had scores less than 560. The pass rate is therefore 26.8%; approximately 6% lower than the rate from June.

Table 1 shows summary statistics for the October FYLSX. The reliability for the multiple-choice exam was 0.87. This value is considered acceptable for high-stakes examinations. Additional information for this exam can be found in the associated General Statistics included with this report.

Table 1 - FYLSX Summary Statistics

	Value
Number of Applicants	228
Mean	
<i>Raw Score out of 90</i>	52.6
<i>Scale Score out of 800</i>	474.2
Standard Deviation	
<i>Raw Score</i>	12.4
<i>Scale Score</i>	111.0
Reliability	0.87