Passing the Bar: A Quick Reference Guide For Today’s Law Student  
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Know What Resources are Available to You

It is a good idea to take an inventory of the resources available to you before you begin studying. Think about who your support network can be, and what you can lean on each person for. Is there someone you can call to vent to? Is there someone (or a pet?) who might let you teach them some doctrine? Is there someone you can reach out to when you just need a break and want to do anything other than talk about the law?

You should also know what resources your law school makes available to you. Most law schools will continue to offer support to graduates as they study for the bar, even though you are technically not students anymore. Find out about tangible support like study space and locker availability, as well as whether other resources such as counseling and health services, and a food pantry, are still open to you.

The most valuable resources may be the academic support/bar support professionals at your law school. Most law schools have someone designated to support students through the bar exam. This person is an expert at guiding recent graduates through this stressful time, and can help you stay on track. They will provide you with advice based on their experience working with other people in your position, and not just anecdotes or stories about what they did when they studied for the bar. This experience is invaluable.

Some schools provide one-on-one mentorship programs, others provide regular workshops to bar studiers, while others provide opportunities to do simulated exams in a test environment. Sometimes schools will provide snacks, dedicated study space, and supplemental bar review resources. If you are not familiar with what your school offers, reach out to your academic support department to ask. If your school does not offer something that you think would be helpful, it doesn’t hurt to ask for it.

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