

Cardiff University (CU)

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: 5 years
Date: 30 April 2025 11:57:28

[REDACTED]!

From: [REDACTED]cardiff.ac.uk>
Sent: 30 April 2025 10:39
To: [REDACTED]cardiff.ac.uk>
Subject: RE: 5 years

Yes, I don't think they are that concerned about what an institution decides to do re their awards.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]cardiff.ac.uk>
Sent: 30 April 2025 10:39
To: [REDACTED]cardiff.ac.uk>
Subject: RE: 5 years

Thanks, so in theory, this could be interpreted as they could keep taking the assessments to get the diploma but not be eligible to be called to the Bar...

From: [REDACTED]cardiff.ac.uk>
Sent: 30 April 2025 10:28
To: [REDACTED]cardiff.ac.uk>
Subject: 5 years

The BSB state:

“Candidates studying the vocational component must pass assessments in all subjects within five years of the date of enrolment in order to be called to the Bar.”

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
School of Law & Politics
Cardiff University
Law Building
Museum Avenue
Cardiff
CF10 3AX
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Ysgol y Gyfraith a Gwleidyddiaeth
Prifysgol Caerdydd
Adeilad y Gyfraith
Rhodfa'r Amgueddfa
Caerdydd
CF10 3AX
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]BarStandardsBoard.org.uk>

Sent: 21 August 2025 11:07

To: [REDACTED]cardiff.ac.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED]BarStandardsBoard.org.uk>; authorisations <authorisations@BarStandardsBoard.org.uk>; [REDACTED]BarStandardsBoard.org.uk>

Subject: RE: Humble Request for a Two-Year Extension to Complete Bar at Law Program

Dear [REDACTED]

I recently contacted AETOs to inform them of our decision to consider extensions applications to the "five-year rule" currently in place for completing the vocational component of Bar Training.

I have also been passed the details of a small number of students who have contacted the Bar Standards Board directly, seeking such an extension because they believe they have extenuating circumstances, beyond their control, which has meant they have been (or may be) unable to complete the vocational component within five years.

To gather a complete picture of all requests, I would appreciate if you could complete the below table with any student extension requests that have come directly to you [REDACTED]

<u>Student Name</u>	<u>Student Number</u>	<u>AETO</u>	<u>Vocational Component Commencement Date</u>	<u>Vocational Component Expiry Date</u>	<u>Outstanding Assessment</u>
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*We do not need you to share any medical records with us, we just need a record that you have seen these and agreed that they have extenuating circumstances based on them.

Before completing / returning the above to us, please can you ensure that the students have given their written consent for such information to be shared with the Bar Standards Board, and provide us with such relevant evidence when replying to this message.

I will be contacting those students who have applied directly to the Bar Standards Board, seeking their permission to share these with their AETOs, and will send you're their names if they are not already on your lists above, to request the above or further information.

Whilst we consider our long-term approach to such applications, I am mindful that for these students this will be a particularly stressful time, and so I am seeking further information to determine if for these students, it would be appropriate to provide extensions, albeit based on exceptional and limited circumstances.

I appreciate that this is a tight deadline, but if you could please let me have the above information (and consents) by close of play Monday 1st September, I would be very grateful.

Once I have the information that I need, I will be contacting each student to confirm that we are looking into their applications.

We are limiting this approach to those students who have already applied for exemptions, and once we have agreed our longer-term approach we will be in touch.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanking you in advance,

Kind regards,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
The Bar Standards Board
289-293 High Holborn, London WC1V 7HZ
[REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]BarStandardsBoard.org.uk

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From: [REDACTED]cardiff.ac.uk>
Sent: 19 August 2025 14:51
To: [REDACTED]BarStandardsBoard.org.uk>
CC: authorisations <authorisations@BarStandardsBoard.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Humble Request for a Two-Year Extension to Complete Bar at Law Program

EXTERNAL This email originated outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Thanks [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]BarStandardsBoard.org.uk>
Sent: 19 August 2025 14:37
To: [REDACTED]cardiff.ac.uk>
CC: authorisations <authorisations@BarStandardsBoard.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Humble Request for a Two-Year Extension to Complete Bar at Law Program

Hi [REDACTED],

I'm afraid I can't help you with this one. But, I am forwarding your e-mail to the Authorisations Team who will be able to advise.

Best Wishes,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Bar Standards Board
Phone: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@barstandardsboard.org.uk

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From: [REDACTED]cardiff.ac.uk>

Sent: 18 August 2025 08:55

To: [REDACTED]BarStandardsBoard.org.uk>

Subject: RE: Humble Request for a Two-Year Extension to Complete Bar at Law Program

EXTERNAL This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi [REDACTED],

I was wondering if you could clarify a point regarding what a past student has said (highlighted below). It was our understanding that we have no discretion regarding the five year rule for completing assessments in order to be eligible to be called to the Bar. [REDACTED] I can make some queries about late appeals, but before I do could you please provide some clarity on the five year rule.

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]StandardsBoard.org.uk>
CC: [REDACTED]
Subject: Bar training - the original five-year rule
Date: 01 September 2025 11:14:34

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for the guidance which you have provided to my colleague, [REDACTED], about the BSB's five-year rule. I understand the BSB will need to make its own decision in relation to this. However, I just wanted to express some concern about the prospect of a requirement which does not appear to allow for any discretion, being revisited to apply retrospectively. I remember it was the subject of much consideration and debate before it was introduced.

best wishes
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
School of Law & Politics
Cardiff University
Law Building
Museum Avenue
Cardiff
CF10 3AX
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Ysgol y Gyfraith a Gwleidyddiaeth
Prifysgol Caerdydd
Adeilad y Gyfraith
Rhodfa'r Amgueddfa
Caerdydd
CF10 3AX
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: "5-Year Rule"
Date: 23 October 2025 10:16:14

Just FYI

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
School of Law & Politics
Cardiff University
Law Building
Museum Avenue
Cardiff
CF10 3AX
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Ysgol y Gyfraith a Gwleidyddiaeth
Prifysgol Caerdydd
Adeilad y Gyfraith
Rhodfa'r Amgueddfa
Caerdydd
CF10 3AX
Phone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]BarStandardsBoard.org.uk>
Sent: Thursday, October 23, 2025 9:46 AM
To: [REDACTED]cardiff.ac.uk>; [REDACTED]cardiff.ac.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]BarStandardsBoard.org.uk>; authorisations
<authorisations@BarStandardsBoard.org.uk>
Subject: "5-Year Rule"

External email to Cardiff University - Take care when replying/opening attachments or links. Nid ebost mewnol o Brifysgol Caerdydd y w hwn - Cymerwch ofal wrth ateb/agor atodiadau neu ddolenni.

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing to updating you on our work relating to the "5-Year Rule". As you may know, our Head of Professional Standards, who was leading on this work, left the organisation in early October. Following [REDACTED] departure, we are continuing to review the position and will be in contact with you in due course pertaining to any next steps.

In the interim [REDACTED] are your 'points of contact' relating to queries on the "5-Year Rule". We are happy to be contacted directly our e-mail addresses (please also copy in authorisations@barstandardsboard.org.uk).

We recognise that some students may already have reached, or be close to reaching, this time limit and be anxious about next steps. Our advice remains that any students who can undertake assessment or re-sits should do so at their next available opportunity and follow their provider's internal guidance and policies where relevant (e.g. on mitigating or extenuating circumstances).

Thank you for your continued patience and cooperation, and please do let me know if you have any queries.

Kind regards,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
The Bar Standards Board
289-293 High Holborn
London
WC1V 7HZ
T: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]barstandardsboard.org.uk

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