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Bar Admission Agency

State Bar of California Office of Admissions

180 Howard Street

San Francisco, CA 94105

Phone: [\(415\) 538-2300](tel:(415)538-2300)

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[Visit Website \(https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Admissions\)](https://www.calbar.ca.gov/Admissions)

Character & Fitness Investigations

This jurisdiction does not use NCBE's character and fitness services; please contact California for filing instructions.

MPRE Requirements

MPRE Required **Yes**

MPRE Minimum Passing Score **86**

MPRE Score Time Parameters

Non-Uniform Bar Examination Jurisdictions—MPRE Requirements, MBE Score Transfers, and Attorneys' Exams

Minimum passing MPRE score **86**

Are there any time parameters within which an MPRE score must be earned or achieved? **No**

Are MBE scores accepted for transfer from other jurisdictions? **No**

Is an Attorneys' Exam offered? **Yes**

To qualify for the Attorneys' Exam, must an applicant be a graduate of an ABA-approved law school? **No**

Attorneys' Exam fee **\$1,650**

Bar Exam Eligibility, Deadlines, and Fees

ABA-Approved Law School J.D. Required **No**

Domestic Legal Education

Is eligibility to take the bar exam limited to JD or LLB graduates of ABA-approved law schools? **No**

If eligibility to take the bar exam is not limited to JD or LLB graduates of ABA-approved law schools, what other means of domestic legal study are permitted for bar exam applicants?

Non-ABA-approved in-state law school, non-ABA-approved out-of-state law school, law office study, correspondence law school, online law school

Additional requirements —

Foreign Law Graduate Eligibility **Yes**

Foreign Legal Education

Are graduates of foreign law schools eligible for admission by examination? **Yes**

If graduates of foreign law schools are eligible for admission by examination, what additional requirements pertain?

Additional education at an ABA-approved law school, practice of law in foreign jurisdiction, determination of educational equivalency, admission in another US jurisdiction

If a foreign law school graduate obtains an LLM or other graduate law degree from an ABA-approved law school, is the graduate then eligible to take the bar exam on this basis alone?

Yes

Bar Exam Application Filing Deadlines

Non-Uniform Bar Examination Jurisdictions—Bar Examination Application Deadlines and Fees

July 2026: First filing deadline **April 1**

July 2026: Late filing deadline **June 1**
 February 2027: First filing deadline **Nov. 1**
 February 2027: Late filing deadline **Jan. 1**
 Bar exam fee for first-time takers (non-attorneys) **\$878**
 Bar exam fee for attorneys **\$1,650**
 Bar exam fee for repeaters **\$878 (non-attorney repeaters) / \$1,650 (attorney repeaters)**
 Fee for laptops, if permitted **\$153**

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Score Portability

Accepts Legacy UBE Score **No**
 Accepts NextGen UBE Score **No**
 Jurisdiction-Specific Requirement **No**
 Accepts Transferred MBE Scores **No**

Bar Exam

NextGen UBE **No**
 Legacy UBE **No**
 Jurisdiction-Drafted Exam **Yes**

Non-Uniform Bar Examination Jurisdictions—Admission by Examination

Multistate Bar Examination (MBE) **Yes (see suppl. remarks)**
 Multistate Essay Examination (MEE) **No**
 Multistate Performance Test (MPT) **No**
 Jurisdiction-drafted exam (essay, multiple-choice, or performance test) **Yes**
 How many times may an applicant take the exam without special permission? **no limit**

Minimum Passing Score **1390**

Non-Uniform Bar Examination Jurisdictions—Grading and Scoring

Average grading/reporting period (February/July exams) **in May/in Nov**

Are both the MBE and a written component administered? **Yes**

Is the written component scaled to the MBE? **Yes**

Are the MBE and written component scores combined? **Yes**

% MBE weight (of combined score) **50**

% MEE and/or local essay weight (of combined score) **(see suppl. remarks)**

% MPT and/or local PT weight (of combined score) **(see suppl. remarks)**

% Local component weight (of combined score) **—**

Minimum passing standard for total bar exam score based on reported score scale **1,390**

Minimum passing standard for total bar exam score based on 200-point scale **139**

MPRE minimum passing standard (on scale of 50 to 150) **86**

Admission on Motion

Rules Provide for Admission on Motion **No**

Disclaimer

Since jurisdiction rules and policies change, NCBE strongly advises consulting the jurisdiction's bar admission agency directly for the most current information.