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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 Fax: (415) 538-2304

Visit Website (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 \$1,500

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 2025: First filing deadline April 1

Nov 27, 2025

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July 2025: Late filing deadline June 2

February 2026: First filing deadline Nov. 1

February 2026: Late filing deadline Jan. 1
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Bar exam fee for first-time takers (non-attorneys) \$850

Bar exam fee for attorneys \$1,500

Bar exam fee for repeaters \$850 (non-attorney repeaters) / \$1,500 (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

Legacy UBE **No**NextGen 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

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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

Visit the NCBE Study Aids Store (https://store.ncbex.org/) for official test prep materials

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.

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