

Illinois has announced that it intends to administer the NextGen bar exam in February 2028. Visit [https://www.ncbex.org/exams/nextgen \(/exams/nextgen\)](https://www.ncbex.org/exams/nextgen (/exams/nextgen)) to learn more about the new exam.

Illinois requires the following NCBE exams: MBE, MEE, MPT, and MPRE. Visit the NCBE Study Aids Store (<https://store.ncbex.org/>) to purchase the Bar Exam Everything Value Pack (<https://store.ncbex.org/the-everything-value-pack/>) which includes MBE, MEE, and MPT study aids; and [MPRE study aids \(https://store.ncbex.org/mpre/\)](https://store.ncbex.org/mpre/) to help prepare for Illinois exams.

## Bar Admission Agency

### Illinois Board of Admissions to the Bar

625 S. College St.  
Springfield, IL 62704-2521  
Phone: [\(217\) 522-5917](tel:(217)522-5917)  
Fax: [\(217\) 522-3728](tel:(217)522-3728)

[Visit Website \(https://www.ilbaradmissions.org\)](https://www.ilbaradmissions.org)

## Character & Fitness Investigations

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

## MPRE Requirements

MPRE Required **Yes**

MPRE Minimum Passing Score **80**

MPRE Score Time Parameters

### Uniform Bar Examination Jurisdictions—MPRE Requirements, MBE Score Transfers, Courtesy Seating, and Attorneys' Exams

Minimum passing MPRE score **80**

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 courtesy seating allowed? **No**

Is an Attorneys' Exam offered? **No**

To qualify for the Attorneys' Exam, must an applicant be a graduate of an ABA-approved law school? **—**

Attorneys' Exam fee **—**

## Bar Exam Eligibility, Deadlines, and Fees

ABA-Approved Law School J.D. Required **Yes**

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?

**Practice of law in foreign jurisdiction, determination of educational equivalency**

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?

**No**

### Bar Exam Application Filing Deadlines

#### Uniform Bar Examination Jurisdictions—Bar Examination Application Deadlines and Fees

July 2026: First filing deadline **Feb. 15**

July 2026: Late filing deadline **April 30**

February 2027: First filing deadline **Sept. 15**

February 2027: Late filing deadline **Nov. 30**  
 Bar exam fee for first-time takers (non-attorneys) **\$1,200–\$1,875**  
 Bar exam fee for attorneys **\$1,200–\$1,875**  
 Bar exam fee for repeaters **\$650 – \$1,125**  
 Fee for laptops, if permitted **\$135**

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### Score Portability

Accepts Legacy UBE Score **Yes**  
 Minimum Legacy UBE Score **266**  
 Accepts NextGen UBE Score **Yes**  
 Minimum NextGen UBE Score **TBA**  
 Date First Acceptance NextGen UBE Score **July 2026**  
 Maximum Score Age **4 years**

#### Uniform Bar Examination Jurisdictions—Admission by Examination or by Transferred UBE Score

Date of first UBE administration **July 2019**  
 Is completing a jurisdiction-specific component required before admission? **No**  
 Minimum passing UBE score **266**  
 Is there a limit on the number of attempts to earn a passing UBE score? **no limit**  
 Time limit for accepting a transferred UBE score (i.e., maximum age of the UBE score) **4 years**  
 Is concurrent application for admission by transferred UBE score allowed? **No**  
 Application fee for admission by transferred UBE score **\$1,500**  
 Notes

Jurisdiction-Specific Requirement **No**  
 Accepts Transferred MBE Scores **No**

### Bar Exam

NextGen UBE **Yes**  
 Date First Administration **February 2028**  
 Minimum Passing Score **TBA**  
 NextGen UBE Jurisdiction-Specific Requirement **No**  
 Legacy UBE **Yes**  
 Date Final Administration **July 2027**  
 Minimum Passing Score **266**  
 Legacy UBE Jurisdiction-Specific Requirement **No**  
 Jurisdiction-Drafted Exam **No**

### Admission on Motion

Rules Provide for Admission on Motion **Yes**

#### Admission on Motion—Years of Practice and Definition of Practice

Do the rules provide for admission on motion? **Yes**

What is the number of years of practice required for admission on motion? **3 of past 5**

What does the definition of practice for purposes of admission on motion include?

**Law teaching, gov't agency, military, in-house corporate, judicial court of record**

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

Admission on motion fee **\$1,500**

Legal Education and Reciprocity Requirements

#### Admission on Motion—Legal Education and Reciprocity Requirements

Must an applicant for admission on motion be a graduate of an ABA-approved law school? **Yes**

Is admission on motion based on reciprocity (that is, is it limited to candidates from some or all jurisdictions offering admission on motion)? **No**

Is an attorney initially admitted by diploma privilege eligible for admission on motion? **Yes**

Number of Years of Practice Required **3 of past 5**

## Disclaimer

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