



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

Massachusetts 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/) to help prepare for Massachusetts exams.

Bar Admission Agency

Massachusetts Board of Bar Examiners

John Adams Courthouse One Pemberton Square, Suite 5-140

Boston, MA 2108 Phone: (617) 482-4466 Fax: (617) 542-5943 Email: info@bbe.state.ma.us

Visit Website (https://www.mass.gov/bbe)

Character & Fitness Investigations

NCBE conducts investigations only for those seeking admission on motion in Massachusetts.

MPRE Requirements

MPRE Required Yes

MPRE Minimum Passing Score 85

MPRE Score Time Parameters

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

Minimum passing MPRE score 85

Are there any time parameters within which an MPRE score must be earned or achieved? Yes

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 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

Additional requirements —

Foreign Law Graduate Eligibility Yes

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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, 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 2025: First filing deadline At least 75 days

July 2025: Late filing deadline -

February 2026: First filing deadline At least 75 days

February 2026: Late filing deadline -

Bar exam fee for first-time takers (non-attorneys) \$815

Bar exam fee for attorneys \$815
Bar exam fee for repeaters \$815
Fee for laptops, if permitted \$175

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Score Portability

Accepts Legacy UBE Score Yes

Minimum Legacy UBE Score 270

Accepts NextGen UBE Score Yes

Minimum NextGen UBE Score TBA

Date First Acceptance NextGen UBE Score TBA

Maximum Score Age 36 months

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

Date of first UBE administration July 2018

Minimum passing UBE score 270

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) 36 months

Is concurrent application for admission by transferred UBE score allowed? Yes

Application fee for admission by transferred UBE score \$815

Notes

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

Bar Exam

Legacy UBE Yes

Date Final Administration February 2028

Minimum Passing Score 270

Legacy UBE Jurisdiction-Specific Requirement Yes

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

Date of first UBE administration July 2018

Is completing a jurisdiction-specific component required before admission? Yes

Minimum passing UBE score 270

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) 36 months

Is concurrent application for admission by transferred UBE score allowed? Yes

Application fee for admission by transferred UBE score \$815

Notes

NextGen UBE Yes

Date First Administration July 2028

Minimum Passing Score TBA

NextGen UBE Jurisdiction-Specific Requirement Yes

NextGen Bar Exam Jurisdictions—Date of First Administration, Acceptance of Transferred Scores, and Jurisdiction-Specific Components

Date of first NextGen bar exam administration July 2028

Date accepting transferred NextGen scores TBA

Is there a jurisdiction-specific admission prerequisite? Yes

Jurisdiction-Drafted Exam No

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

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? 5 of past 7

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 \$1,015 (plus C&F fee)

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? No

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 5 of past 7

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Admission on Motion—Years of Practice and Definition of Practice

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What is the number of years of practice required for admission on motion? 5 of past 7

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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 \$1,015 (plus C&F fee)

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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