

Are You Eligible to Sit a U.S. State Bar Exam + Qualify as a U.S. Attorney?

New York and California operate a relatively open policy in permitting international law graduates or lawyers to sit their bar examinations and do not impose restrictions to admission on grounds of nationality or residence. Below is a guide to help you understand if you are most likely eligible to sit the New York or the California Bar Exam with your current credentials.

We encourage candidates to speak to a BARBRI team member prior to enrollment so that we can ensure you understand the steps required to establish your eligibility and that you are available to study for and sit the bar examination. Always confirm eligibility with the applicable board of law examiners before enrolling in a U.S. bar exam preparation course.

New York Bar Exam Eligibility

Do you have a common law-based law degree of at least three years duration, full-time, earned on campus with a minimum of 166 ECTS credits in common law subjects?

Yes

Most likely eligible

No

Do you have the GDL/LPC, part-time degree, distance learning degree or civil law degree?

Yes

Do you have an LL.M. degree from an American Bar Association accredited law school that meets the criteria at www.nybarexam.org/Foreign/ForeignLegalEducation.htm

No

Yes

No

Not currently eligible, but can become eligible by undertaking an LL.M. program in the U.S. at an American Bar Association approved law school per the requirements at www.nybarexam.org

Enroll in BARBRI Extended U.S. Bar Preparation course over 6- or 10-months to prepare for the New York Bar Exam

California Bar Exam Eligibility

Are you a qualified lawyer (incl. solicitor, barrister, CiLEX lawyer) in good standing in any jurisdiction (U.S., civil, common law, etc.)?

Yes

No

Do you have an LL.M. degree from an American Bar Association approved law school or California state university?

Most likely eligible

Yes

Most likely eligible as long as LL.M. meets criteria at <http://www.calbar.ca.gov/>

No

Not currently eligible, but can become eligible by:

1. Undertaking an approved LL.M. program in the U.S.; or
2. Qualifying as a lawyer elsewhere (e.g. NY; UK; etc.)

Enroll in BARBRI Extended U.S. Bar Preparation course over 6- or 10-months to prepare for the California Bar Exam

Learn More

Visit: barbri.com | Book a call: barbri.com/sqe/request-a-call-back-ebar/