

2025 bar exam | February 25–26 and July 29–30

The California Bar Exam is a two-day exam.

Day one	Three 60-minute essay questions (in the a.m.). Two 60-minute essay questions and one 90-minute Performance Test (in the p.m.).
Day two	A 200-question, multiple-choice exam (100 questions in the a.m., 100 questions in the p.m.).

Subjects tested**Multiple-choice subjects**

Constitutional Law, Contracts/Sales, Criminal Law/Procedure, Evidence, Federal Civil Procedure, Real Property, Torts

Essay subjects

Business Associations (Agency and Partnership, Corporations, and LLC), CA Civil Procedure, CA Community Property, CA Evidence, CA Professional Responsibility, Remedies, Trusts, CA Wills and Succession, plus all multiple-choice subjects

California Performance Test

“Closed universe” practical questions using instructions, factual data, cases, statutes, and other reference material supplied by examiners.

MPRE

A scaled score of 86 on the MPRE is required for admission.

Filing deadlines and fees

The typical timely filing deadline for applications is October 1st for the February exam and March 1st for the July exam. Late filing is typically allowed, with additional fees, until January 1st for the February exam; and June 1st for the July exam.

- **Bar exam application fee:** \$850
- **Attorney exam application fee:** \$1,500
- **First late filing fee:** \$50
- **Final late filing fee:** \$250
- **Application for determination of moral character:** \$725

Scoring

The multiple-choice score is 50% of the total score, while the written portion accounts for the other 50%. A passing score of 1,390 or greater on a 2,000-point scale is required based on the combined scores of the California Performance Test, the essay questions, and the 200-question multiple-choice exam.

Reciprocity**Acceptance of scores from other jurisdictions**

California does not accept scores from an exam taken in another jurisdiction.

Admission on motion

California does not provide for admission on motion. Examination is required of all applicants. Attorneys who have been licensed in another jurisdiction for four years may be eligible to sit for the attorney exam (written exam only).

Additional information

California has signaled that they do not intend to adopt the NextGen bar exam. The State Bar has further indicated that they intend to replace the MBE with their own 200-question multiple-choice exam, perhaps as early as February 2025. Please consult the state’s website for the most up to date information.

The State Bar of California

Los Angeles (213) 765-1500

San Francisco (main office) (415) 538-2300

Web calbar.ca.gov/Admissions