District of Columbia Bar Exam Information

District of Columbia Committee on Admissions

DC Court of Appeals
430 E Street, NW, Room 123
Washington, DC 20001
www.dccourts.gov


Bar Exam Format

The District of Columbia bar exam is a two-day exam.

**Day 1:** Morning session consisting of two 90-minute Multistate Performance Test (MPT) questions and afternoon session consisting of a six-question Multistate Essay Exam (MEE).

**Day 2:** Multistate Bar Exam (MBE), a 200-question, multiple choice exam.

SUBJECTS TESTED

**District of Columbia Essay Subjects (MEE) and MBE Subjects:** The bar examination may cover the following subjects: Administration of Estates, Administrative Law, Agency, Business Associations, Civil and Criminal Procedure, Constitutional Law, Conflicts of Laws, Contracts, Criminal Law, Equity, Evidence, Family Law, Legal Ethics, Real and Personal Property, Tax Law, Torts, Trusts, Uniform Commercial Code and Wills. In its discretion, the Committee may change the subjects.

**Multistate Performance Test:** "Closed universe" practical questions using instructions, factual data, cases, statutes and other reference material supplied by examiners.

**MPRE:** A scaled score of 75 on the MPRE is required for admission.

Bar Exam Dates

The District of Columbia Bar Exam is administered on the last Tuesday and Wednesday in February and July.

**2016 Winter:** February 23 - 24
**2016 Summer:** July 26 - 27
FILING DEADLINES AND FEES

Application must be filed by December 15 for the February exam and by May 3 for the July exam.

Filing Fee: $100

Plus MBE Fee: $60

Plus MEE and MPT Fee: $45

Plus NCBE Character Report: $275 for a recent graduate, $375 for anyone out more than a year.

Late applications may be filed within 15 days from December and May closing dates ($200 late fee).

GRADING AND RESULTS

The MBE is weighted 50% and the MEE and MPT are weighted 25% each. An applicant taking both the essay portion and the MBE portion of the bar examination is required to achieve a combined scaled score of 266 to pass the examination. An applicant, who has achieved a scaled score of 133 or more on a prior D.C. essay or MBE examination and whose score transfer has been accepted by the Committee, is required to achieve a 133 scaled score on the portion of the examination being taken. Results are generally released in mid-May for the February exam and mid-November for the July exam.

RECIROCITY

Acceptance of MBE or D.C. Bar Exam Score. An applicant may be admitted without exam if applicant received a scaled MBE score of 133 or higher on an exam upon which applicant was admitted in another jurisdiction, achieved a scaled score of 75 or better on MPRE, and has a J.D. or LL.B. from an ABA accredited law school. An applicant who received an MBE scaled score of 133 or higher on a prior MBE (taken within 25 months of the present exam) may waive in the MBE score and take only the essay exam. An essay score of 133 will then be required to pass the D.C. exam.

An applicant who received a scaled essay score of 133 or higher on a prior D.C. Bar Exam (taken within 25 months of the present exam) may waive in the essay score and take only the MBE. A scaled MBE score of 133 will then be required to pass the D.C. exam.

ADMISSION ON MOTION

An applicant who has been a member of another bar and in good standing for five years immediately preceding application may be admitted without exam.