Iowa Bar Exam Information

Iowa Board of Law Examiners
Board of Law Examiners
Supreme Court of Iowa
Judicial Branch Building
1111 E. Court Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50319
(515) 725-8029
www.iowacourts.gov/professional_regulation/

http://www.barbri.com/states/iowa/bar-exam/

BAR EXAM FORMAT

The Iowa bar exam is a two-day exam.

**Day 1:** Two 90-minute Multistate Performance Test (MPT) questions in the morning and six Multistate Essay Exam (MEE) questions in the afternoon.

**Day 2:** Two Multistate Bar Exam (MBE) sessions.

SUBJECTS TESTED

**MBE Subjects:** Constitutional Law, Contracts/Sales, Criminal Law/Procedure, Evidence, Federal Civil Procedure, Real Property, Torts.

**ME Essay Subjects:** Business Associations (Agency and Partnership, Corporations and Limited Liability Companies), Civil Procedure, Conflict of Laws, Constitutional Law, Contracts (including Article 2 and Revised Article 1 of the UCC), Criminal Law and Procedure, Evidence, Family Law, Real Property, Torts, Trusts and Estates (Decedents' Estates, Trusts and Future Interests) and Uniform Commercial Code (Secured Transactions).

**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 80 on the MPRE must be on file with the examiners no later than April 1 preceding the July exam or November 1 preceding the February exam. Late scores may be allowed upon petition. MPRE scores are good for three years.
BAR EXAM DATES

The Iowa Bar Exam is administered on the last Tuesday and Wednesday in February and July.

**Winter 2016**: February 22 - 24  
**Summer 2016**: July 25 - 27

FILING DEADLINES AND FEES

Applicant must file both a law student registration, unless fully admitted in another jurisdiction, and a bar exam application. Law student registration fee is $40 by November 1 of the year in which the study of law commences (late registration fee $75 or $150 depending on the filing date, see web site for details). These fees are not refundable. Bar exam application must be filed by November 1 for the February exam and April 1 for the July Exam ($425). The bar exam application deadlines cannot be waived and the fee is not refundable. Application and registration forms may be downloaded from the Board of Bar Examiners’ web site.

**Admission on motion**: $700  
**House counsel**: $200

GRADING AND RESULTS

A passing score on the Iowa bar exam is a scaled 266 out of 400. The MPT weighs 20%, the MEE weighs 30% and the MBE weighs 50%.

RECIPROCITY

Acceptance of MBE Score Iowa accepts an MBE scaled score from another jurisdiction or from a previous Iowa exam from one of the last four administrations of the MBE.

Admission on Motion May be admitted without exam. Must be licensed in another state or the District of Columbia, have practiced five of seven of the years immediately preceding application, be of good moral character and complete the requisite filings. Iowa no longer requires “intent to practice law in Iowa” for admission on motion.

MISCELLANEOUS

May take bar exam prior to graduation if degree was received within 45 days from the first day of the exam.