Pennsylvania Bar Exam Information

Pennsylvania Board of Law Examiners

Mailing Address
Pennsylvania Board of Law Examiners
Pennsylvania Judicial Center
P.O Box 62535
Harrisburg, PA 17106-2535

Physical Address
(Overnight Deliveries via DHL, FedEx, UPS, etc.)
Pennsylvania Board of Law Examiners
Pennsylvania Judicial Center
601 Commonwealth Ave., Suite 3600
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0901
http://www.pabarexam.org/

Telephone number: (717) 231-3350
Fax number: (717) 231-3351

http://www.barbri.com/states/pennsylvania/bar-exam/
www.pabarexam.org

Bar Exam Format

The Pennsylvania bar exam is a two-day exam.

Day 1: Six essay questions, plus one Performance Test (PT) question.
Day 2: Multistate Bar Exam (MBE), a 200-question, multiple-choice exam.

SUBJECTS TESTED

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

Pennsylvania Essay Subjects:
Performance Test:
“Closed universe” practical question 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

2016 Winter: February 23 – 24
2016 Summer: July 26 – 27

FILING DEADLINES AND FEES

For the February exam, applications should be submitted by October 30, but can be submitted as late as December 15 on paying higher application fees. For the July exam, applications should be submitted by April 15, but can be submitted as late as May 30 on paying higher application fees.

Exam fee:
“Rolling fee” increasing from $575 to $1,425 depending upon date of application – fees are subject to change. Application fees and application deadlines are established for each exam. The most current information is available at pabarexam.org. Applications can be requested either in writing or through the website.

GRADING AND RESULTS

Applicants need a combined minimum scaled score of 272 to pass the exam. The combined essay and PT scaled score count as 55% of the total score and the scaled MBE is 45% of the total. Results are generally released in mid-April for the February exam and mid-October for the July exam.

BRIDGE THE GAP PROGRAM

All applicants must complete the Supreme Court’s "Bridge the Gap" admission to the Pennsylvania bar. CLE credits will be awarded.

RECIPROCITY

Acceptance of MBE Score
Pennsylvania does not accept an MBE score from an exam taken in another jurisdiction.

Admission on Motion
May be admitted without exam from states admitting attorneys from Pennsylvania without exam. After admission in reciprocal state, must have practiced (including teaching in any accredited U.S. law school) for at least five of seven years immediately preceding application. Must also be
a graduate of an ABA accredited law school. Visit pabarexam.org for listing of states and jurisdictions that have reciprocity with Pennsylvania. Applicants must meet the requirements of Rule 204 to qualify.

TAKE TWO BAR EXAMS

Courses are offered in preparation for both the Pennsylvania and New Jersey Bar exams, with a combined course available at all of our locations. Students may register for Pennsylvania only, New Jersey only or for the Pennsylvania/New Jersey combination course.