South Dakota Bar Exam Information

South Dakota Board of Bar Examiners
South Dakota Bar Exam
Board of Bar Examiners
State Capitol
500 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-5070
(605) 773-4898
http://www.uds.sd.gov/Board_of_Bar_Examiners/

http://www.barbri.com/states/south-dakota/bar-exam/
http://barreciprocity.com/south-dakota-bar-exam/

The South Dakota bar exam is a two-day exam.

Day 1: Two 90-minute Multistate Performance Test (MPT) questions, five Multistate Essay Exam (MEE) questions, and one Indian Law question.

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

SUBJECTS TESTED


MEE Essay Subjects:
Agency, Conflict of Laws, Corporations, Family Law, Federal Civil Procedure, Partnerships, Sales, Secured Transactions, Trusts and Future Interests, Wills and Estates, plus all MBE subjects

Indian Law:
Basic principles of federal Indian Law, including but not limited to Civil and Criminal Jurisdiction, the Indian Civil Rights Act, the Indian Child Welfare Act, and the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. Tribal laws or customary laws are not tested.

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 85 on the MPRE is required for admission. Accepts previous MPRE score if within 25 months.

Bar Exam Dates
2016 Winter: February 23 – 24
2016 Summer: July 26 – 27

FILING DEADLINES AND FEES

Applications must be postmarked by November 1 for February exam and by April 1 for July exam.

Exam fee:
$300. An applicant for admission without examination shall pay a fee of $450. An applicant shall also pay the cost for a National Conference of Bar Examiners character report.

GRADING AND RESULTS

Day 1 and 2 are averaged. Results for the February and July exams are released 8-10 weeks after the exam.

RECIROCITY

Acceptance of MBE Score
Board may in its discretion accept MBE scaled score of 130 or higher if MBE taken within two years prior to next scheduled exam and if applicant passed the other jurisdiction’s exam. The Board may accept an applicant’s MPRE score if taken within 28 months prior to the next scheduled examination and if the score is a scaled score of 85 or above.

Admission on Motion
See SDCL 16-16-12.1, 12.2