Wisconsin Bar Exam Information

Wisconsin Board of Law Examiners

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Bar Exam Format

The Wisconsin Bar Exam is a 2-day exam.

**Day 1:** Typically, a combination of one 90 minute multistate performance test (mpt) problem and six essay questions. This can change at the discretion of the Board of Bar Examiners.

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

Subjects Tested

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

**Wisconsin Essay Subjects:** Business Organizations (corporations, partnerships, associations, sole proprietorships), Civil Procedure (pleadings and practice, jurisdiction of courts), Commercial Law (sales and secured transactions and negotiable instruments), Constitutional Law (federal), Contracts, Criminal Law and Procedure, Evidence, Professional Responsibility, Real Property, Torts, Taxation (federal), Trusts & Estates, Family Law (Domestic Relations).

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

Bar Exam Dates

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

**2010 Winter:** February 23 - 24
**2010 Summer:** July 27 - 28
Filing Fees and Deadlines

Applications must be filed by December 1st for the February exam, and by June 1st for the July exam. Late applications are accepted for one month after deadline with $150 additional fee.

**Application packet fee:** $10  
**Exam fee:** $450  
**Admission on motion:** $850

Grading and Results

A combined scaled score of 258 is required to pass. The scaled score may be achieved through any combination of scores on either portion of the exam (e.g., 120 scaled essay score + 138 scaled MBE score = 258). Results are generally released five (5) weeks after the exam is given.

Reciprocity

**Admission on Motion:** An applicant may be admitted on motion without exam from states that admit Wisconsin practicing attorneys without exam. Applicant must also satisfy originating jurisdiction's requirements for admission on motion.

**Acceptance of MBE Score:** Applicant may transfer MBE scaled score of 135 or higher achieved on an exam taken within 37 months of the present exam and part of a successful exam. Applicant will only be required to sit for the written portions of the exam.

**MPRE:** Currently, the MPRE is not required in Wisconsin.

**Miscellaneous:** Applicant may take exam prior to graduation if degree is received within 60 days after exam.