

# Washington Bar Exam Information

Washington Board of Law Examiners

Contact the **WSBA Service Center** from 8am to 5pm Monday through Friday.

## **Washington State Bar Association**

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## Bar Exam Format

The Washington State Bar Examination consists of 24 essay questions, spread over **two-and-one-half days**. Each of the first two days includes three examination sessions of **two hours and fifteen minutes**. Each of those examination sessions includes three essay questions. The third day of the bar examination consists of a single **two-hour-and-fifteen-minute** session comprised of six short essay questions on the Washington Rules of Professional Conduct.

There is no multi-state bar examination (MBE or MPRE) given or accepted in the state of Washington.

## Subjects Tested

Administrative Law

Agency/Partnership

Civil Procedure

Commercial Paper (Article 3)

Community Property

Constitutional Law (State & Federal)

Contracts

Corporations

Criminal Law

Criminal Procedure

Evidence

Family Law

Indian Law

Limited Liability Companies

Real & Personal Property

Rules of Professional Conduct

Sales (Article 2)

Secured Transactions (Article 9)

Torts

Wills & Trusts

Zoning

Bar Exam Locations & Dates

**Summer 2011 Exam**

Meydenbauer Center

Bellevue, Washington

Spokane Convention Center

Spokane, Washington

Summer exam generally administered the last week of July.

Exam dates: July 26-28, 2011

**Winter 2011 Exam**

Meydenbauer Center

Bellevue, Washington

Winter exam generally administered the last week of February.

Exam dates: February 22-25, 2011

Filing Fees and Deadlines

All Winter 2011 applications must be received by October 25<sup>th</sup> (Applicants who have taken, but do not pass, the July 2010 exam will be given an extended application period with no late filing fee. Their filing deadline will be stated in their results letter mailed on October 15, 2010. All Summer 2011 applications

must be received by March 28<sup>th</sup>. Applicants who register any time after the appropriate filing deadline must pay an additional late filing fee penalty. Late filing applications need to be received by November 28<sup>th</sup> and April 27<sup>th</sup> respectively along with the late filing fee.

Exam fee: **\$585**

Attorney applicants: **\$920**

Late filing fee: additional **\$300**

## Grading and Results

### **Passing Grade**

To pass the Washington State Bar Examination, an examinee must pass both the substantive examination (the first two days) and the professional responsibility examination (the last day). Each portion of the examination is graded separately. If an examinee passes one portion of the examination, but fails the other, he or she may retake the failed portion of the examination at the next regularly scheduled Washington State Bar Examination. Both portions must be passed within a 25 month period or the passing score will be lost.

### **Results**

Examination results are generally not known until approximately two months after the bar examination. Generally, results for the Summer examination are released in the beginning of October, and for the Winter examination, in the beginning of May. A letter advising you of the results of the examination will be mailed to you at the last address that you have provided to the WSBA. Forty-eight (48) hours after the letters are mailed, the pass list will be released to the press, posted in the Bar Office, and posted on the general bar examination page of the WSBA website.

## Reciprocity

### **Admission on Motion**

It is possible for Washington lawyers to become admitted to practice in some other jurisdictions without being required to take the full bar exam under Rule 18 admission. The jurisdictions include AL, AK, AZ, AR, CO, CT, DC, GA, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, MA, ME, MN, MS, MO, NE, NH, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, PA, SD, TN, TX, VT, VA, WV, WI, WY. The rule provides that lawyers from other states or territories or in the District of Columbia may be admitted in Washington on the same conditions that a Washington lawyer may be admitted in the other jurisdiction. Most jurisdictions require a number of years of practice for admission on motion. Some include the following: Idaho – 3 of the past 5 years; Oregon – 5 of the past 7 years; Utah - 3 of the past 4 years.