

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR NEW REGISTRANTS

You are now officially registered with the Committee of Bar Examiners (Committee) of the State Bar of California. Enclosed are the following:

1. **REGISTRATION CARD:** This card normally provides a permanent registration number (your social security number). Please keep this card among your personal records and include the number in **all correspondence with the Committee.**
2. **CHANGE OF ADDRESS:** This blue card must be used to notify the Committee of any change of address.

It is each registrant's responsibility to be familiar with the *Rules Regulating Admission to Practice Law in California (Rules)* and to fulfill all requirements. The *Rules* are available on line at www.calbar.org. To request a copy, contact the Office of Admissions.

Receipt by the Committee of a Registration as a Law Student form does not constitute a determination by the Committee of qualification for admission under the governing statute, Section 6060 of the California Business and Professions Code, and the *Rules*. The following information outlines the basic requirements for admission with respect to legal education, examinations, and moral character; for the specific requirements, refer to the *Rules* and Section 6060 of the California Business and Professions Code.

LEGAL EDUCATION QUALIFICATION

The legal education requirements for every general applicant are found in Rule VII of the *Rules* and Section 6060 of the Business and Professions Code. Law study that is not completed in accordance with Rule VII of the *Rules* will not satisfy the legal education requirements. The requirements include either (a) graduation with a Juris Doctorate from a law school approved by the American Bar Association or accredited by the Committee, or (b) the study of law diligently and in good faith for at least four years. Law study completed by any method other than at a law school approved by the American Bar Association or accredited by the Committee must be completed in strict compliance with Rule VII, Sections 2, 3, or 4 of the *Rules*.

Every applicant must take and pass the First-Year Law Students' Examination (FYLSX) or establish exemption from that examination.

In accordance with Rule VIII, Section 1(a) of the *Rules*, to be entitled to exemption from the FYLSX, a student must: (1) have completed at least two years of study in a college approved by the Committee prior to commencing the study of law, which college work shall be not less than 60 semester, or 90 quarter units of credit with an average grade at least equal to that required for graduation, and (2) have satisfactorily completed the first year course of instruction in a law school approved by the American Bar Association or accredited by the Committee and been advanced to the second year at that same law school. Persons who have passed the bar examination of a sister state or of another common law jurisdiction are also exempt from the FYLSX.

An applicant who is required to take the FYLSX and who became eligible to take it prior to January 1, 1997, will not receive credit for his or her first year of law study nor receive credit for any law study subsequent to the first year until he or she has passed that examination. Upon passing, such applicant will receive credit for one year of law study.

Effective January 1, 1997, an applicant who is required to take the FYLSX and became or becomes eligible to take the examination after January 1, 1997 shall receive credit for law study completed up to the time he or she passes the examination **if he or she passes it within three consecutive administrations of first becoming eligible to take it.** If an applicant does not pass the examination within the first three administrations of first becoming eligible to take it, but subsequently passes, he or she will receive credit for only one year of law study.

Rule VIII, Section 1(e) of the *Rules* permits applicants who are otherwise exempt to take the FYLSX if they meet requirements set forth in Rule VII, Section 2 of the *Rules*. An exempt general applicant who is unsuccessful on the First-Year Law Students' Examination is not subject to any of the sanctions, requirements or law study credit limitations that are otherwise imposed on unsuccessful applicants who are required to take the FYLSX.

FIRST-YEAR LAW STUDENTS' EXAMINATION

The FYLSX is administered in June and October of each year in test centers located in Northern and Southern California. The FYLSX is administered in one day, examines in three subjects: Contracts, Criminal Law, and Torts, and consists of both essays and multiple-choice questions. Essay questions and select answers from past examinations and a multiple-choice test used in the past are available for a fee from the State Bar's Office of Admissions.

THE CALIFORNIA BAR EXAMINATION

The California Bar Examination, which consists of the General and Attorneys' Examinations, is administered in February and July each year in test centers located in Northern and Southern California. The General Bar Examination, which is administered to general applicants, consists of essay questions, the Multistate Bar Examination, and performance tests. General applicants must have completed the legal education requirements prior to taking the General Bar Examination. The Attorneys' Examination is administered to attorneys from other United States jurisdictions who have qualified to take that examination and consists of the essay questions and performance tests from the General Bar Examination. See Rule IV, Section 2 of the *Rules* for qualifications to take the Attorneys' Examination.

A separate application is required to apply to take the California Bar Examination and applications are usually available in March for the July administration and in September for the February administration and may be obtained from the Office of Admissions, from California law school registrars' offices or on-line at www.calbar.org.

Study aids in the form of past examination questions and selected answers may be obtained for a fee from the Office of Admissions.

MULTISTATE PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY EXAMINATION

All applicants seeking admission to practice law in California must also take the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE) and receive a scale score of 79 or higher on the examination. The MPRE is administered by the National Conference of Bar Examiners and may be taken after the completion of one year of law study. Applications for the examination are available through the Office of Admissions, the law school registrars or on-line at www.ncbex.org or www.act.org/mpre.

MORAL CHARACTER DETERMINATION

All applicants seeking admission to practice law in California must receive a positive moral character determination to qualify for admission. A separate application is required to initiate this process. An application may be filed at any time after initial registration and should be filed no later than the beginning of a student's last year of law study to ensure timely admission at the time an applicant passes the bar examination and meets all other requirements.

PETITIONS FOR TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS

After registering, an applicant may file a petition requesting testing accommodations for an examination that he/she intends to take in the future. Please write the Office of Admissions for more information regarding the petition process and the required forms.

FURTHER COMMUNICATION

Questions concerning the admission process and requests for application forms should be in writing and may be sent to either Office of Admissions:

Office of Admissions
The State Bar of California
1149 South Hill Street
Los Angeles, CA 90015-2299

or
Office of Admissions
The State Bar of California
180 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-1639

If your inquiry relates to a genuine emergency or requires immediate attention, the following telephone numbers are provided:

	<u>Los Angeles</u>	<u>San Francisco</u>
Recorded General Information	(213) 765-1550	(415) 538-2300
Applications/Forms/Study Aids Requests	(213) 765-1520	(415) 538-2303
Information Services	(213) 765-1515	(415) 538-2303
Law Student	(213) 765-1500	
Attorney Registration	(213) 765-1510	
Petitions	(213) 765-1500	
Legal Education	(213) 765-1519	