The State Bar of California

JUNE 2024 FIRST-YEAR LAW STUDENTS' EXAM FAQS

These FAQs are a living document. They are subject to revision and will be supplemented and updated as needed. Please also refer to the [key dates and deadlines](#) leading up to exam day. **Deadlines will not be extended, and it is the applicant's responsibility to comply with all deadlines.**

Please note: The June 2024 First-Year Law Students' Exam (FYLSX) will be administered in person at Prometric test centers across California. Applicants who are unable to test at a Prometric test center should request to test remotely in the extenuating circumstances portion of the exam application or submit a general request through the [Applicant Portal](#). Applicants will be required to schedule their exam and are encouraged to schedule a practice exam to familiarize themselves with the software.

1. I received an email about scheduling a practice exam with Prometric. The last time I took this exam it was through ExamSoft. What is the difference?
   - Prometric is a test vendor with a different proctoring model than ExamSoft. While ExamSoft records a test taker's experience though the webcam and reviews the videos post exam, Prometric performs proctoring in real time through a live streaming connection.
   - ExamSoft takes a baseline photo during the mock exam process and then the software matches that photo before the test taker enters each exam session. Prometric's remote proctoring system utilizes live proctors and can verify identity via a test taker's ID. Prometric will also connect you with a readiness agent prior to entering the exam, and that agent will conduct a 360-degree security check. That check will be of your exam area–including your desk area, under your desk, the corners of your room, and a check of your pockets and any jewelry. For this exam, applicants will be taking this exam at Prometric test sites.

2. Are there still passwords to get into the exam?
   - No. The Prometric test sites grant applicants entry into the exam and monitor when applicants exit the exam. Applicants testing remotely will be granted access by the live proctor.

3. Why do I have to schedule time for the practice time and the actual exam?
   - For applicants testing remotely, Prometric's system will require a readiness agent for the security check and then live exam proctors. These steps require that you schedule a testing window on Prometric's [landing page](#).

4. I submitted a request for extenuating circumstances when I first applied and want to test remotely; is that still allowed?
   - Yes, the Office of Admissions has those requests and will be following up on a case-by-case basis.

5. Can anyone test in person if they want to?
   - The June 2024 exam will be administered in person at Prometric test centers across California. Applicants who wish to test remotely, should send the Office of Admissions a request explaining the extenuating circumstance that prohibits them from testing in-person. If you have a question about testing in-person, please email admissions@calbar.ca.gov.

6. Does the Prometric software offer the same features as the ExamSoft software?
   - Similar to ExamSoft, with the Prometric software, test takers will be able to:
     - Highlight in the question stem and copy and paste from the question stem into a written response.
     - Cut and paste from one part of a written response to another.
     - Copy and paste or cut and paste using the keyboard shortcuts (Ctrl+C for copy, Ctrl+X for cut, and Ctrl+V for paste) within the exam, whether you are taking the exam remote or in a test center. Use great care when using the cut and paste functions that may significantly change a document. No extra time or other administrative relief will be granted to applicants if an exam file is erroneously deleted or otherwise altered, or if you experience any other word processing problems.
     - During the multiple-choice sessions, you can flag questions and go back to check your answers within that section (1–50 and then 51–100).
   - One of the major differences between the two platforms is that ExamSoft had a spell check feature enabled and Prometric does not. You will not have spell check to use in your written answers.
   - The quality of handwriting or the accuracy of spelling and grammar are not considered when assigning a grade to an applicant's answer.
   - There will also be a timer visible with a countdown clock for your time remaining in each session, and a pop-up warning at five minutes remaining. You will have a lunch break after Essay 4 (45 minutes) and 20-minute breaks between each essay question and multiple-choice session. For more information, visit Prometric's landing page.

7. Since the proctoring is happening live, does this mean that I can bring food or drink to the exam session, or will I be allowed to use the restroom?
   - The same exam rules, which include prohibited items, still apply. You cannot bring food or drink into the exam session, with the exception of water. Applicants can bring a water bottle. It must be a clear, plastic container with a lid no larger than 32 ounces. It must have no labels or writing. To reduce the chance of accidental spillage, store water bottles on the floor away you're the desk area.
   - You cannot leave the view of the camera while the test session is active.
   - For the list of prohibited items and activity, please review the admittance ticket bulletin.

8. When can I register for the practice exam or my exam?
   - Starting on May 28, 2024, applicants who have been approved to sit for the June 2024 FYLSX can start scheduling their practice and actual exams. Notices will be sent instructing applicants to schedule. The last day that applicants will be able to schedule an exam is June 15, at the end of the day.