

## 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 <u>key dates and deadlines</u> 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 <a href="Applicant Portal">Applicant Portal</a>. 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 <u>admissions@calbar.ca.gov</u>.
- 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 flag questions and go back to check their answers within that section (1–50 and then 51–100).
  - 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.
     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, and 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 from 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 <u>admittance</u> 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 begin scheduling their practice and actual exams. Notices will be sent instructing applicants to schedule. The last day applicants will be able to schedule an exam is June 15, at the end of the day.

- 9. Is scratch paper allowed?
  - Applicants will not be allowed any physical scratch paper during the exam.
  - For in-person applicants: Only Prometric provided note-taking materials will be permitted into the testing room, and these will be collected at the conclusion of testing.
  - **For remote applicants**: You can use the "**scratchpad**" in the Toolbar at the top right of the screen as your virtual scratch paper.
- 10. Are there essays on the FYLSX? / What is different about the FYLSX?
  - Beginning with the June 2024 administration, the essay portion of the FYLSX will be eliminated. The format of the exam will be 100 multiple-choice questions (MCQs), to be administered in two 90-minute sessions, with a 20-minute break between each session. The law content tested on the exam will remain the same.
- 11. If the duration of the new exam format is 200 minutes, why are the morning and afternoon sessions for June 25, 2024, four hours long?
  - The total exam time is 200 minutes (two 90-minute sessions and one 20-minute break). There may be up to an additional 40 minutes dedicated to setting up and logging into the exam software.
- 12. How do I register for a morning or afternoon session for the June 25, 2024, FYLSX?
  - Beginning May 28, applicants will receive a scheduling authorization email from the State Bar of California with information on how to schedule an exam appointment with Prometric for remotely proctored or in-person administrations. Please note that schedules and seating will be limited; please schedule your time as soon as they become available. Further information on how to schedule an appointment are under the admittance bulletin section - scheduling an exam appointment.
- 13. Where can I find more information on the revised June 2024 examination?
  - Please visit this link for details on the revised examination's grading and scope.
  - Information on the June 2024 examination schedule, scoring, and allowed items are on the <a href="mailto:exam admittance bulletin">exam admittance bulletin</a>.
  - The law materials tested on the exam will cover the same three law areas:
     <u>Contracts</u>, <u>Criminal Law</u>, and <u>Torts</u>. The content maps outline the law material covered under each subject area and can be found on the State Bar website.

- 14. Have the MCQs for the FYLSX changed in any way? Will the MCQs change with the elimination of the essays?
  - No, the MCQs have not changed in any manner. They cover the same content areas: Contracts, Criminal Law, and Torts. The MCQs continue to be developed by the State Bar, and there are no plans to change that. Starting with the October 2022 administration, the State Bar operationally tested 25 questions in October 2022 and June 2023, as new questions were being introduced and the item bank was refreshed. The State Bar plans to continue operationally testing new MCQs, as noted on our website.
- 15. Who can I contact for questions about the recent changes to the FYLSX?
  - Applicants can call the Office of Admissions 415-538-2300, submit a general request in the Applicant Portal, or email questions to admissions@calbar.ca.gov.

## **UPDATES**

## 3/28/2024

- Exam schedule in the first and fourth bullet points of #6 were updated
- Second and third bullet points of #6 were removed
- Questions 9-15 added
- Headers on pages 2-5 were updated