



**THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION
OCTOBER 2025 LEGAL SPECIALIST EXAMINATION APPLICATION**

The Legal Specialist Examination, scheduled to be administered October 30, 2025, will be administered primarily through remote, online administration and proctoring. Applicants with certain approved testing accommodations, those who are approved to handwrite their responses, and applicants who do not have access to or the ability to obtain a quiet testing space or a reliable Internet connection may request to test in-person at a Prometric test center.

All State Bar rules, including Title 3, Division 2, Chapter 2 of the Rules of the State Bar of California (Legal Specialization Rules) and the [Standards](#) set forth in Articles I–XI of Legal Specialization Rules (Standards), Legal Specialist Examination policies approved by the California Board of Legal Specialization (CBLS) or otherwise communicated by the State Bar on its [webpage](#), and procedures regarding exam administration, as described herein, or communicated by the State Bar, or provided in exam instructions, will apply to this exam.

OCTOBER 2025 LEGAL SPECIALIST EXAMINATION APPLICATION

PERSONAL INFORMATION

State Bar Number: _____

Applicant's Full Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: _____

It is your responsibility to inform the Office of Admissions' Legal Specialization Unit of any address changes. All correspondence will be sent to the current contact information on file in the Admissions Applicant Portal. To change your address, email and/or telephone number, you must go log into the [Applicant Portal](#) to update your profile.

NOTE: The Admissions Applicant Portal is separate from your My State Bar Profile, and requires different login credentials. You should not create or register a new account. Please email the Legal Specialization Unit at legal.specialization@calbar.ca.gov for assistance logging into your account.

Email Address: _____

If you have an email spam blocker, please add legal.specialization@calbar.ca.gov and admissions@calbar.ca.gov to your contact or safe list. After you submit your application, an email confirmation will be sent to your email address from legal.specialization@calbar.ca.gov. You may receive important email notifications from the State Bar of California's Office of Admissions regarding the status of your application and/or admittance ticket status at the email address you provide on your application. More information about unblocking email addresses is available [here](#).

SPECIALTY AREA

I plan to take the Legal Specialist Examination in the following specialty area:

(Choose only one.)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Admiralty & Maritime Law | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Law |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appellate-Civil Law | <input type="checkbox"/> Franchise & Distribution Law |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appellate-Criminal Law | <input type="checkbox"/> Immigration & Nationality Law |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bankruptcy Law | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Malpractice Law |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal-Federal Law | <input type="checkbox"/> Taxation Law |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal-State Law | <input type="checkbox"/> Workers' Compensation Law |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law | |

ELIGIBILITY AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Have you been practicing in the desired specialty area since January of 2024?

*(If your response is **NO**, DO NOT apply, you are not eligible to sit for this examination.)*

- ☐ YES ☐ NO

How did you learn about the legal specialization program and examination?

(Check all that apply.)

- ☐ A Colleague
☐ CLA Mailing/Email
☐ Information at Conference: _____
☐ State Bar Website/Mailing/Email
☐ Social Media
☐ Other: _____

EXAMINATION METHOD AND TEST METHOD

Test Center Code: **O501**

Test Center Name: **Online-Remote Examination**

NOTE: All applicants will be asked to initially register via the online remote, laptop method. If you require in-person testing due to testing accommodations or because you do not have access to or the ability to obtain a quiet testing space or a reliable Internet connection, you will be asked to provide that information and rationale below.

Until you receive formal confirmation by email from the State Bar stating otherwise, you will be registered as a remote, laptop applicant.

TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS

Testing accommodations are provided to ensure that an applicant who has a disability can access the exam and is afforded an equal opportunity to obtain the same result, gain the same benefit, or reach the same level of achievement as that provided to others.

A request for testing accommodations is separate from the application you file to take the exam. To apply for testing accommodations, you must submit a request in the Applicant Portal by the filing deadline. Applicants with disabilities are encouraged to file their request for testing accommodations well in advance of an examination they intend to take. Applicants who wait to file their requests near the final filing deadline are generally not able to exhaust all administrative remedies before the exam, such as requesting a review of a denial of some or all of the requested testing accommodations.

APPEALING A TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS DECISION

If a testing accommodations application is denied in whole or in part, applicants may request review of the decision. You should be aware, however, that if you submit your initial application less than 60 days before the filing deadline, there may not be enough time after receiving a decision to request review.

Requests for review must be submitted through the Applicant Portal no later than the first business day of the month in which that exam is scheduled to be administered. The deadline will not be extended. The applicant should notify the Office of Admissions through the Applicant Portal within 10 days of the date of the testing accommodations decision letter that they wish to request review by the committee. Your request for review must include a statement of the reason you do not agree with the initial determination. You may also submit any new supporting documentation for the committee's consideration.

The Legal Specialist Examination follows an appeal review process that differs from the one outlined in Rule 4.90 as it relates to the bar exam and the First-Year Law Students' Exam. Requests for review and supporting documents are evaluated by the Director of Admissions or their designee, who may withdraw the original decision and approve the requested accommodations. If the request is denied after this review, two members of the California Board of Legal Specialization will consider appeals and review the request by no later than two weeks before the exam date.

For more information, visit the Testing Accommodations [webpage](#). If you have additional questions, please contact us through the [Applicant Portal](#).

NOTE: You may not be able to submit the application if you have not selected a response to the first two questions below. Please review and select the appropriate responses before moving forward.

Are you an applicant with a disability who has petitioned, or intends to petition, for testing accommodations?

☐ YES ☐ NO

Have you been granted testing accommodations for a permanent disability on a previous examination administered by the State Bar of California and are you requesting exactly the same testing accommodations for this exam?

☐ YES ☐ NO

If you have submitted, or are planning to submit, a petition for testing accommodations, please indicate your preferred first choice for a Testing Accommodations test center, should you be granted accommodations that require reassignment. Please note that space is limited and not all accommodated test takers will be assigned to their first choice location.

☐ YES ☐ NO

CAUTION: All first-time petitions, requests for expanded accommodations, and petitions filed by applicants with temporary disabilities must be filed separately from the application for the exam. The petition and required documentation and verification must be completed online in the applicant portal no later than the final filing deadline. Upon request, the petition may be submitted in hard copy.

REQUEST FOR IN-PERSON TESTING

You only need to complete this section if you are requesting to test in person at a Prometric test center. If you are testing remotely online, you can skip this section.

In-person testing is only available for those with approved testing accommodations, those who select to handwrite their exam, and those who do not have access to or the ability to obtain a quiet testing space or a reliable Internet connection. There is limited space at the following test center locations only. We cannot guarantee access to a specific test center.

- Alameda
- Anaheim
- Bakersfield
- Camarillo
- Culver City
- Diamond Bar
- Fresno
- Mission Viejo
- Rancho Cucamonga
- San Diego
- San Francisco
- San Jose
- Santa Rosa
- Stockton

If you would like to request in-person testing at a Prometric test center, please indicate your request below and provide additional details to aid staff in reviewing your request. If your request to handwrite is approved, you will be notified after submitting your application, and the laptop fee will be refunded.

For more information about remote and in-person testing, visit the Exam Information [webpage](#).

Testing Method:

- ☐ I request to take the exam in person on a computer because I do not have access to or the ability to obtain a quiet testing space or a reliable internet connection.
- ☐ I request to take the exam in person because I prefer to handwrite my exam responses on paper.

Please provide your rationale for your choice:

Attach a separate sheet if necessary

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that I have read and understand that I must comply with all requirements of the Legal Specialization Rules and Standards. I agree to the CBLS's application policies, including the refund of fees/withdrawal policy, instructions for application to take the Legal Specialist Examination, and the exam administration instructions available on the [State Bar's webpage](#).

DECLARATION

The person named as the applicant in the foregoing application and questionnaire declares:

- I am an active licensee of the State Bar of California.
- I have carefully read the instructions for application to take the October 2025 Legal Specialist Examination and have answered the questions in this application to take the October 2025 Legal Specialist Examination truthfully, fully and completely, without mental reservations of any kind.
- I hereby certify that I understand that I must comply with all of the requirements of the Legal Specialization Rules and that passing the exam is the first step in the certification process. If I am successful on this exam, I will be required to file an application for initial certification with the appropriate fee demonstrating compliance with all other certification requirements of the Legal Specialization program, including education, tasks and experience, and reference recommendations, within eighteen months of the date on which I took the exam. Only after completing these requirements by the deadline will my application be considered. I understand that I may request an extension of up to eighteen months for completion of all requirements and that requests are granted for good cause shown.
- I am aware that the requirements for becoming a certified specialist are set forth in the Legal Specialization Rules and Standards, and that the CBLS recommends that I review these prior to applying to be sure that I can meet the certification requirements within eighteen months of the date on which I took the exam. After that date, the exam results will no longer be valid, and I will need to take the exam again to continue with the certification process.

- I understand that the Legal Specialization program is self-funded, and, if certified, I will be required to pay an annual fee and to recertify every five years, though I will not need to take the exam again.
- I agree to comply with the CBLS's and the State Bar's application, exam, and grading rules and policies, including the refund and fee/withdrawal policy, the exam administration instructions and policies and reconsideration of grades policy found [on the State Bar's webpage](#).
- I understand that I must make a good faith attempt to complete each session of the exam for which I am present and that if I make any attempt to circumvent exam security procedures, my attendance at a session may be voided and I may be prohibited from attending any remaining exam sessions. I understand that such conduct may also result in the issuance and/or affirmation of a Notice of Exam Violation and imposition of appropriate sanctions (including, but not limited to, a grade of zero for the session in which the conduct violation occurred).
- I understand that the use of artificial intelligence tools, other forms of technology, or any prohibited aids to access, record, or share exam content is strictly prohibited.
- I understand that the CBLS is the sole judge of the validity of the exam and, at its discretion, may determine that the result of any test or any part of any test or any individual's score is not valid. Should the CBLS invalidate any part of the test, or if any individual's test is declared invalid or cannot be graded, the CBLS may, at its discretion, decide to make a pass/fail decision on the basis of the valid portion of the applicant's test product available to the CBLS. Should the CBLS at any time determine that an insufficient test product is available upon which to base a valid pass/fail decision, the CBLS may require the applicant to present themselves for retesting at a place and time designated by the CBLS.
- I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that my answers to the foregoing questionnaire and all statements made by me herein are true and correct.

Note: This application is an application to take the Legal Specialist Examination and not an application for initial certification.

WAIVER OF LIABILITY

The State Bar of California is not responsible or in any way liable for any computer hardware or software malfunction that may affect the application or exam process. You assume all responsibility and risk for the use of this online application form and the internet generally. The State Bar of California expressly disclaims any warranty that use of this system, or the internet generally will be uninterrupted or error-free or that any information, software, or other material accessible from the system is free of viruses or other harmful components. The State Bar of California shall not be liable for any direct, indirect, punitive, incidental, special, or consequential damages arising out of or in any way connected with the use of this system or with the delay or inability to use it (or any linked sites), or for any information obtained through this system, or otherwise arising out of the use of this system, the internet generally or on any other basis.

A valid form of payment (major credit card, ACH payment, or check) is required for submission of this application. If your credit card transaction is denied, you will not be able to submit your application until you enter another valid credit card number and resubmit your application. If the credit card transaction is declined, your application will not be processed until another form of payment is successfully submitted and approved. If full payment is not received within 14 days following notice that the payment was declined, the application will be deemed abandoned. After an application is deemed abandoned, if the final filing deadline for submitting the application has not passed, an applicant may submit a new application. The application must be accompanied by the appropriate payment, including any applicable late fees in effect at that time.

Please be aware when you submit your credit card or ACH (electronic transfer of funds) payment, your personal information and identifying information will be sent to CyberSource for the purpose of processing your application submission. The State Bar of California is not responsible for the privacy practices or content of such site. For your protection, you should read and understand the privacy policy at any website you visit prior to providing personal information on that website.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND ACCEPTANCE OF TESTING CONDITIONS

The Legal Specialist Examination, scheduled to be administered on October 30, 2025, will be a remote, online administration. In-person exam administration will be available to those with approved testing accommodations that cannot be reasonably provided and/or securely administered in a remote environment. In-person exam administration will also be available for those who request to handwrite their responses and those who do not have access to or the ability to obtain a quiet testing space or a reliable Internet connection.

Exam Format (Remote)

An applicant must schedule their remote exam with Prometric by the deadline specified by the State Bar. Applicants who do not schedule their exam by the deadline will not be allowed to sit for the exam.

Prior to the exam, the following process will be enacted:

- Applicants must personally install and certify the required exam software on their laptops.
- Applicants must ensure their device passes the Prometric [readiness check](#), including having a functional internal webcam and microphone.
- Applicants must schedule and complete a practice exam by the deadline specified by the State Bar. Applicants who do not complete the practice exam by the deadline will not be allowed to sit for the exam.
- At the start of the exam session, Prometric's ProProctor software will perform a final system check to confirm that no changes to the device could affect the exam experience. Applicants will be asked to take a photo of themselves using on-screen guides.

During the check-in and security scan process prior to the exam, the following process will be enacted:

- Applicants must take a photo of their valid, government-issued photo ID as directed on-screen.
- A Prometric staff member, via video chat, will guide applicants through the security process.
- Applicants will need to lift and move their internal webcam or laptop to provide a 360-degree view of the testing space, including the desk or table, chair, floors, bookshelves, wall hangings, and any electronic devices.
- The testing space must be indoors (walled), well-lit, and free from background noise.
- Applicants must comply with any additional security checks as requested, including showing their sleeves, pockets (by turning pockets inside out), glasses, and behind their ears.
- If an applicant's internet connection disconnects or malfunctions during the check-in process, Prometric will provide instructions on how to reconnect and resume the exam. Refunds will not be issued for applicants unable to complete check-in or enter the exam due to a security or technical issue.

During the exam, the following process will be enacted:

- Applicants must use a computer with a functional, always-on internal webcam and microphone that remains unobstructed during the exam.
- Applicants must sit at a desk or table (use of a bed, couch, or recliner is prohibited).
- Applicants must remain in camera view at all times unless they have notified and been acknowledged by a proctor. A security scan will be required before resuming the exam after any approved break.
- Applicants are prohibited from accessing any personal items, electronic devices, or unauthorized materials during breaks or at any point during the exam.
- No physical scratch paper is permitted unless approved. Applicants must only use the virtual scratch paper provided in the Prometric software.
- The workspace must be clean and uncluttered.
- No other persons or pets can be present in the room at any time.
- Refunds will not be issued for applicants who experience connectivity issues due to internet problems. Refunds will also not be issued for applicants who are removed from the remote exam due to violation of any of the exam requirements.
- Applicants taking the remote exam in the following four specialty fields have the option to use the code book corresponding to the specialty they are testing in listed below if they wish to do so (annotated or unannotated version). Only the publications listed below will be allowed. Applicants cannot use digital versions or home-printed copies of these publications. Publications must be bound, commercial volumes, and completely free from markings, writing, highlighting, underlining, or tabs of any kind. Code books may be subject to inspection prior to and during the exam.
 - a. Bankruptcy Law: Bankruptcy Code and Rules

- b. Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law: California Probate Code
- c. Immigration & Nationality Law: Immigration & Nationality Act only (NOT regulations)
- d. Taxation Law: Internal Revenue Code only (NOT regulations)

Exam Format (In-Person)

An applicant must schedule their in-person exam with Prometric by the deadline specified by the State Bar. Applicants who do not schedule their exam by the deadline will not be allowed to sit for the exam. Applicants cannot bring prohibited items into the test center.

During the check-in process, Prometric test center employees will:

- Visually check the applicant's photo ID and glasses (if any). Only valid government-issued photo IDs will be accepted.
- Applicants wearing masks will need to be lower or remove the mask momentarily for this process, specifically so that the reverse side of their mask can be inspected, by clasping the sides or strap of the mask to remove briefly and then reaffixing in same manner.
- Applicants may be asked to temporarily remove religious headwear for inspection.
- Require applicants to sign in on a roster sheet with a Prometric-supplied pen.
- Provide applicants an assigned locker number and key to place their belongings, if needed. Applicants will retain the key, and the locker area will remain under video surveillance while the center is open.

Prior to entering the proctoring room, the following processes will be followed:

- As a part of Prometric's security protocols, applicants will be asked to show their arms and ankles, as well as empty their pockets. Applicants will be scanned with a handheld metal detection device prior to entering the testing room (exceptions will be made for applicants who have a medical condition, medical device, or other reasonable limitation that prevents them from being scanned).
- A photograph of the applicant's face will be taken at check in as part of verifying their identity. Any applicants wearing masks will need to lower or remove the mask momentarily for this process by clasping the sides or strap of the mask to remove briefly, and then reaffixing in same manner.
- Applicants will not be allowed any physical scratch paper during the exam unless they have an approved testing accommodation or have selected to handwrite their responses. Only Prometric provided note-taking materials will be permitted into the testing room, and these will be collected at the conclusion of testing.
- Applicants taking the in-person exam in the following four specialty fields have the option to bring into the exam room one of the following code books if they wish to do so (annotated or unannotated version). Only the publications listed below will be allowed. Applicants cannot use digital versions or home-printed copies of these publications. Publications must be bound, commercial volumes, and completely

free from markings, writing, highlighting, underlining, or tabs of any kind. Code books may be subject to inspection prior to and during the exam.

- a. Bankruptcy Law: Bankruptcy Code and Rules
- b. Estate Planning, Trust & Probate Law: California Probate Code
- c. Immigration & Nationality Law: Immigration & Nationality Act only (NOT regulations)
- d. Taxation Law: Internal Revenue Code only (NOT regulations)

During the exam, the following process will be enacted:

- Monitoring of the test room will be done exclusively using DVR monitoring. Physical walkthroughs by test center staff will also be conducted at least every 10 minutes.
- If an applicant has a question, applicants should raise their hands and wait for a test center employee to acknowledge them. For locker access during breaks, the same process applied during check-in will be followed. Applicants will be instructed to only access lockers for food, drink, medication, and any items permitted under the exam rules and policies.
- Test center staff will record the time applicants enter and exit the test room. Applicants do not need to sign the roster when they leave the test room and return from breaks.

Once the exam is complete, the following processes will be followed:

- Applicants will be asked to return to the reception/administration area to complete their sign out process.
- Test center employees will then:
 - a. Have the test taker sign out with the Prometric-provided pen.
 - b. Collect all note-taking materials.
 - c. Allow applicants to go to their locker to collect personal items.
 - d. Allow applicants to sign out/return the locker key.

Please note that these procedures will be subject to change as necessary.

EXAM CONDUCT AND SANCTIONS

It is expected that all applicants will demonstrate integrity, honor, and ethical behavior during this exam, and all exams administered by the State Bar of California. This remote-proctored exam will be monitored continuously by human proctors, and any and all anomalies or suspicious behavior will be flagged. Proctors will be watching in real time and will stop an exam in progress if a violation is noted. In addition, flagged video files will be reviewed by the State Bar to determine if there are any conduct violations. Conduct violations will result in strict sanctions. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, a zero for the exam session in which the prohibited conduct occurred. Further, an applicant that violates exam conduct may be referred to the Office of Chief Trial Counsel for possible disciplinary action.

By participating in the Legal Specialist Examination, applicants agree to comply with the exam conduct requirements set forth in [Title 4, Division 1, Chapter 6 of the Rules of the State Bar of California](#) (Chapter 6 Rules), as well as the accompanying [Guidelines Governing the Interpretation and Application of Chapter 6 of the Admissions Rules](#) (Chapter 6 Guidelines), including the Conduct Violation Decisional Matrix, which establishes sanctions for certain violations.

For the purposes of the October 2025 Legal Specialist Examination, any reference within the Chapter 6 Rules or Chapter 6 Guidelines to the “Committee of Bar Examiners” or “committee” as it relates to the issuance and consideration of a Notice of Exam Violation shall be interpreted to mean the California Board of Legal Specialization (CBLS), meaning CBLS will issue Notices of Exam Violation and conduct the notice appeals process for any conduct violation that occurs during the Legal Specialist Examination.

Applicants who violate any conduct Rules or Guidelines may receive a Notice of Exam Violation. Less serious violations may be addressed informally by staff without issuance of a formal notice.

Rules 4.72 through 4.74 and the corresponding Guidelines 4.72 through 4.74, which govern administrative hearings for exam conduct violations, do not apply to the Legal Specialist Examination. Instead, applicants agree to be subject to the following alternative procedures upon issuance of a Notice of Exam Violation:

- After an applicant receives a Notice of Exam Violation, the applicant will have ten days to respond to that notice, either through the Applicant Portal, or by emailing a response to legal.specialization@calbar.ca.gov.
- The notice itself is not a finding of a violation, nor a sanction. The Notice of Exam Violation and any response from the applicant will be reviewed by State Bar staff and will either be affirmed with a sanction or not affirmed.
- The State Bar will notify the applicant within 30 days of their response, or within 40 days of the issuance of the Notice if the applicant does not respond, whether the Notice is affirmed or not. If the Notice is affirmed, the applicant will be notified of the proposed sanction.
- If the Notice of Exam Violation is affirmed, an applicant may submit a request for an appeal to the California Board of Legal Specialization (CBLS). The applicant must make such a request within 20 days following the notification of affirmation, either through the Applicant Portal or by emailing a response to legal.specialization@calbar.ca.gov to request an appeal.
- If an applicant’s overall results are affected by any proposed sanctions, their results will be held in abeyance until the Notice of Exam Violation appeal process has concluded.
- Appeals will be reviewed by the CBLS in closed session at one of their scheduled meetings. Proceedings are considered confidential. Members of the public are not permitted to attend.
- Applicants who request an appeal will be notified of the time and date of the CBLS meeting where their appeal will be heard at least 30 days in advance of the CBLS meeting. Applicants will be provided with all evidence relied upon in reaching the

decision to affirm the Notice of Exam Violation. This will include all relevant portions of any video evidence obtained during a remote-proctored exam.

- Applicants may appear at the CBLS meeting where their appeal is being heard, may make a written or oral statement, and may present documentary evidence. Applicants may bring counsel, but counsel is limited to observation and may not participate.
- The State Bar has the burden of establishing, by clear and convincing evidence, that a violation occurred.
- The CBLS will be the final arbiter of whether the violation will be upheld, and what sanctions will be applied, if any.

The following are examples of conduct that is prohibited for remote exams, this is not an exhaustive list:

- Leaving the view of the webcam outside of scheduled breaks.
- Any attempt to bypass or avoid the remote proctoring mechanisms and protocols, or to obtain or receive assistance on the exam.
- Individuals (other than the applicant) coming into the exam room.
- Having cell phones or other electronic devices in the exam room, including a tablet or additional computers or monitors or connected remotely to any other devices or equipment.
- Having notes, study aids, or other papers or exam resources in the exam room, including scratch paper, except for the specific code book resources permitted for certain Legal Specialist Examinations.
- Having digital timers, watches, or clocks in the exam room (the exam software has a built-in timer).
- Having books of any kind (except for those in the four exams noted above) in the exam room within view or reach of the applicant.
- Having food or beverages in the exam room, including but not limited to coffee and water, unless you have been granted a testing accommodation that allows for these items. Smoking and/or vaping during the exam is not allowed.
- Having any item in the exam room other than the allowed items provided by the State Bar unless you have been granted a testing accommodation that allows for these items. A list of permitted and prohibited items will be published at a later date at the [State Bar's webpage](#).
- Having any radios, stereos, or other devices/equipment in the exam room that can make audible sounds. Any such items must be always turned off during the exam and scheduled breaks.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY

I, _____, acknowledge that I have received this Release of Liability and that I understand the information about the October 2025 Legal Specialist Examination set forth herein and agree to its terms. I understand and acknowledge that applicants who participate in the October 2025 Legal Specialist Examination will use a personal laptop computer, on which a vendor's software will need to be downloaded and installed prior to the

exam, except for applicants who are testing at a Prometric test center due to an approved testing accommodation or the applicant choosing to handwrite their responses.

I understand and acknowledge that the State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization is allowing applicants to use personal laptop computers if they choose to test remotely with pre-installed ProProctor software from Prometric (Software) to take remote administered exams. I will accept the use of the software under the provisions of the Prometric privacy policy that will be sent by Prometric prior to the practice exam and the actual exam and agree to be bound by its terms and conditions.

I understand that the State Bar does not warrant or guarantee the vendor Software that must be downloaded and installed prior the exam. I agree to bear sole responsibility for the use of said software and I hereby release the State Bar (and its Board of Trustees, officers, agents, representatives, and employees, as the same may be constituted now and from time to time hereafter), including the California Board of Legal Specialization, from all liability, claims, damages, or demands for personal injury, property damage, or any other type of damage, arising from or related in any manner to my use of a personal laptop computer, or the Software during the exam. I further acknowledge that the State Bar does not warrant or guarantee the Software, nor does it accept any liability in the event there is a technical or mechanical failure or malfunction of the personal laptop computer or internet service, any associated equipment, equipment provided by a test center, Software and/or associated materials during administration of an exam, the uploading of my exam answers, or in the printing of my exam answers.

I understand that there is a possibility of malfunction or issue with my personal computer, the Software, electrical system, internet access, or such other items or incidents associated with the administration of the exam, and I will not hold the State Bar (or its Board of Trustees, officers, agents, representatives, subentities, and employees, as the same may be constituted now and from time to time hereafter), or the California Board of Legal Specialization, either collectively or individually, liable in the event of any such malfunction or issue, whether environmental or software related.

I further understand and agree that I will not receive a refund of the fees I paid to use my laptop computer, any fees or credit card processing fees paid to register for the exam, or any other fees or costs I incurred in connection with the exam in the event of Software or computer malfunction.

I understand that I cannot dispute my exam grades or scores based on testing conditions, including environmental factors or Software-related issues.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that my answers to the October 2025 Legal Specialist Examination application and all statements by me herein are true, correct, and complete, without mental reservations of any kind.

DECLARATION

I declare under penalty of perjury, under all applicable laws, that the foregoing is true and correct.

☐ Legal Specialist Examination

Date of Examination Administration: October 30, 2025

Applicant Name (please print): _____

State Bar Number: _____

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

(The application will not be considered filed unless the proper fee is enclosed.)

FEES

☐ Application Fee (*applications received 8/1/2025–9/1/2025*) \$ 359

☐ Laptop Computer Fee* \$ 154

☐ First Late Filing Fee (*applications received 9/2/2025–9/15/2025*) \$ 257

☐ Final Late Filing Fee (*applications received 9/16/2025–10/1/2025*) \$ 359

☐ Late Laptop Computer Fee** \$ 77

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE \$

**The Laptop Computer Fee is required with all applications. The fee may be refunded if you requested to handwrite the exam, and it is subsequently approved. Until you receive formal confirmation from the State Bar stating otherwise, you will be registered as a remote, laptop applicant.*

***Request received subsequent to filing application.*

Before mailing your application, please check the following:

- ☐ Is the correct fee included, OR
- ☐ Is the Payment Authorization Form completed and signed?
- ☐ Is each question answered fully and completely?

- ☐ If you plan to use a laptop, did you sign the Release of Liability Laptop and Acknowledgement and Acceptance of Testing Conditions form?
- ☐ Is the application signed?

An application that is not brought to a complete and filed status by the final application filing deadline of October 1, 2025, will be abandoned. No refund of fees will be paid in the event an application is abandoned. You may request a refund by emailing the Legal Specialization Unit at legal.specialization@calbar.ca.gov.

Payment is required for submission and acceptance of this application. To pay by personal, cashier's check or money order, you must mail the check to the San Francisco Office of Admissions. Make personal, cashier's check or money order payable to the State Bar of California or complete the Payment Authorization Form below. For credit/debit card payments, a processing fee of 2.5 percent will be added to all charges. There is no processing fee associated with personal/cashier's check or ACH payments.

Your application will not be considered complete until payment is received. If the personal/cashier's check payment is returned for insufficient funds, your payment will not be considered valid. If your credit/debit card or bank account transaction is denied, you will not be able to submit your application until you provide a valid payment. Late charges may be applied and/or the application deadline will be enforced if the payment is not received within the published deadlines.

Please send: (1) COMPLETED APPLICATION, AND (2) PAYMENT/PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION FORM TO:

Legal Specialization Unit, Office of Admissions
The State Bar of California
180 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

**OCTOBER 2025 LEGAL SPECIALIST EXAMINATION
PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION FORM**

State Bar Number: _____

Applicant's Full Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

DESCRIPTION	FEE
<input type="checkbox"/> Application Fee (<i>applications received 8/1/2025–9/1/2025</i>)	\$359
<input type="checkbox"/> Laptop Computer Fee	\$154
<input type="checkbox"/> First Late Filing Fee (<i>applications received 9/2/2025–9/15/2025</i>)	\$257
<input type="checkbox"/> Final Late Filing Fee (<i>applications received 9/16/2025–10/1/2025</i>)	\$359
<input type="checkbox"/> Late Laptop Computer Fee	\$77

TOTAL* _____

**For credit card payments, a processing fee of 2.5 percent will be added to all charges. There is no processing fee associated with payments by check.*

This form may not be used to pay dues or other licensee fees; it may only be used to pay fees associated to the Legal Specialist Examination. **Please print legibly.**

☐ **Personal/Cashier's Check or Money Order**
(*Make checks payable to **The State Bar of California***)

☐ **Credit Card**

Credit Card Number: _____

Credit Card Security Code: _____ Expiration Date (Month/Year): _____

Credit Card Type: ☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa

Name on Card: _____

Signature of Card Holder: _____ Date: _____

By my signature on this document, I/we authorize the State Bar of California to charge my/our credit card account for the amount listed in the 'Total' box above.