



INFORMATION FOR FEBRUARY 2026 BAR EXAM SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

Congratulations on passing the California Bar Examination!

You have now completed a critical requirement for admission to practice law in California. In addition to passing the bar exam, to be eligible to be added to the roll of California licensed attorneys, you must have an active positive moral character determination on file, have a passing Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE) score on file, be in compliance with all court-ordered child or family support obligations, and have cleared any administrative issues with the State Bar, such as owing fees or missing eligibility documentation.

You may check whether you have satisfied these requirements for admission to practice law in California by visiting the [Applicant Portal](#) and clicking “Status” in the top right corner. Please visit the [Admission Requirements webpage](#) for more information about each requirement. If you have additional questions, please submit a general request in the [Applicant Portal](#).

VIRTUAL OATH CARD AND ADMISSION TO THE PRACTICE OF LAW

If you have satisfied all admissions requirements, once an order from the Supreme Court is received you will get an email from DocuSign with a virtual oath card and instructions for completing your State Bar registration and the attorney’s oath. We anticipate that you will receive the email on May 5, 2026. You may not take the attorney’s oath until your name appears on the order from the Supreme Court. You may not practice law until you take the attorney’s oath and submit the oath card to the State Bar.

After you receive the virtual oath card via email, you may take the oath at an in-person or virtual swearing-in ceremony. If you are currently residing outside of California, it is not necessary for you to return to California to take the attorney’s oath; you may take the oath before any official authorized to administer it. For a list of those authorized to administer oaths, please see the [Taking the Attorney Oath webpage](#).

For information on registering as an attorney, enrollment, fees, MCLE requirements, and the New Attorney Training Program, please refer to the [Virtual Oath Packet webpage](#) and the [Guide to Registering with the State Bar of California and Taking the Attorney’s Oath](#).

For information regarding admission to the U.S. District Court in California, please consult the website for each district:

- [Central District](#)
- [Eastern District](#)
- [Northern District](#)
- [Southern District](#)

EXPIRATION OF YOUR PASSING SCORE

Title 4, Division 1, Chapter 2, Rule 4.17 of the Rules of the State Bar of California requires that you take the attorney's oath within five years after the last day of the administration of the bar exam that you passed. If the time period expires, you will have to take and pass the California Bar Examination again and meet all other admission requirements, including having a current positive moral character determination on file, to be admitted. **Your passing bar exam score will expire on February 25, 2031.**

If you have outstanding admission requirements and have not been certified to the Supreme Court as eligible to practice law, you must maintain a positive moral character determination, which may require that you submit an Application for Extension of Determination of Moral Character. If you have an active positive moral character determination, you can view the expiration date in the Applicant Portal under the Status screen.

REMINDERS

Once you have fulfilled all the requirements for admission to practice law and you have been certified to the Supreme Court of California as eligible to practice law, it is not necessary to file any additional applications or reapplications, including moral character, during the period between the last date of the exam you passed and the expiration of five years from that date, before taking the attorney's oath.

However, until you have taken the attorney's oath, you have a continuing duty to notify the Office of Admissions when information provided in your Application for Determination of Moral Character has changed, or there is new information relevant to the application. Notifications must be provided via the [Applicant Portal](#) within 30 days of the change or addition to the information originally submitted

CERTIFICATE OF ADMISSION

A bar number will be assigned to you once you complete your attorney's oath and register as an attorney, as instructed in the email sent via DocuSign. At that time, you will have the option of ordering a wall certificate following the instructions below:

- Log in to the [Applicant Portal](#) using your Office of Admissions account. Do not create a new account, as licensees can only order using their historical Admissions account.
- Under the Apply icon, select View Forms.

- Under Services, select either the Standard or Custom Wall Certificate Request.
- Select Launch Application to proceed to the Wall Certificate Request.

The standard wall certificate is printed on cream cardstock paper with non-raised lettering and a printed border, measures 11 x 15.5 inches, and includes the embossed gold Supreme Court seal. Your name and date of admission are underlined and lithographically impressed to match the certificate text. It is produced by the Supreme Court of California and takes approximately 10 weeks to process. The standard wall certificate is free of charge.

Customized admission certificates are available to those who wish to order them. The custom wall certificate is printed on cream parchment paper with raised lettering, measures 11 x 14 inches, and includes the embossed gold Supreme Court seal. Your name and date of admission are lithographically impressed to match the certificate text. It is produced by a third-party vendor and takes approximately 10 weeks to process. The cost of a custom wall certificate is \$95.00.

TRANSFER OF MBE SCORES TO OTHER JURISDICTIONS

If needed, the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE) will transfer your Multistate Bar Examination (MBE) score to admitting authorities in other jurisdictions upon request and payment of a fee. An MBE Score Transfer Request may be completed and submitted online through the [NCBE website](#). In accordance with rule 4.62(B) of the State Bar Rules, applicants who pass the California Bar Examination are not entitled to receive their answers or to see their scores from the exam. The NCBE will advise applicants whether their scores meet other jurisdictions' minimum requirements and will transfer the score upon request and payment of a fee.

Please note: You will not be enrolled as an attorney until you have taken the oath and submitted your completed registration card to the State Bar of California's Division of Regulation. After you have submitted your completed registration card, please allow at least 30 days for the State Bar to process your new licensee registration and attorney oath forms.