

OUT-OF-STATE US ATTORNEY

Pathway to Admission into the
State Bar of California



Register as an Out-of-State US Attorney applicant by submitting a Registration Application in the [Applicant Portal](#)

- No additional documentation is required.



[Register](#) and pass the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination

- Report an acceptable score (86 or higher) to California.



Apply for and receive a positive [Moral Character \(MC\) determination](#)¹

- Processing takes approximately six to eight months from the date the application is deemed complete.
- The MC can be submitted anytime after registration is approved.
- A positive determination is valid for three years.



Apply, take, and pass the [California Bar Examination](#)

- General exam (two-day): Certificate of Good Standing (CGS) required
- Attorneys' exam (one-day): CGS required, must be active and in good standing in another jurisdiction for at least four years immediately preceding the exam.



Be in compliance with any court order for child or family support



Be certified for Admission, placed on motion, and take the [Attorney's Oath](#) within five years of passing the bar exam



Tips:

- Ensure that a current acceptable [CGS](#) issued within the last six months is on file for all jurisdictions where admitted when submitting the MC application and applying for the one-day attorney bar exam.
- CGS must be received by the final bar exam eligibility deadline, which is two weeks prior to the exam.

**PRACTICE LAW
IN CALIFORNIA**



¹ A positive moral character determination is not required to sit for the bar exam, but it is a required step to be certified for admission.



The State Bar of California

More information at: [Title 4 Admissions and Educational Standards](#)

FOREIGN- ADMITTED ATTORNEY

Pathway to Admission into the
State Bar of California



Register as a Foreign Attorney applicant by submitting a Registration Application in the [Applicant Portal](#)¹

- Need current issued CGS with requirements as listed below.



Ensure that a current [Certificate of Good Standing \(CGS\)](#) is on file for all jurisdictions where admitted

- CGS must be officially translated in English with a complete date of admission, full name, current status, and discipline history.



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- Report an acceptable score (86 or higher) to California.



Apply for and receive a positive [Moral Character \(MC\) determination](#)²

- Processing takes approximately six to eight months from the date the application is deemed complete.
- The MC can be submitted anytime after registration is approved.
- A positive determination is valid for three years.



Apply, take, and pass the [California Bar Examination](#)

- General exam (two-day): Certificate of Good Standing (CGS) required



Be in compliance with any court order for child or family support



Be certified for Admission, placed on motion, and take the [Attorney's Oath](#) within five years of passing the bar exam

**PRACTICE LAW
IN CALIFORNIA**



¹ Neither evaluation of foreign legal education study nor U.S. L.L.M. study is needed.

² A positive moral character determination is not required to sit for the bar exam, but it is a required step to be certified for admission.



The State Bar of California

More information at: [Title 4 Admissions and Educational Standards](#)

FOREIGN- EDUCATED APPLICANT

➤ First Degree in Law

Pathway to Admission into the
State Bar of California



Within the first 90 days of beginning law study, register as a Foreign-Educated general applicant by submitting a Registration Application in the [Applicant Portal](#)¹

- Need a detailed [Credential Evaluation Report](#) from an approved evaluation agency
- A completed [Foreign Evaluation Summary](#) form



Complete the Required U.S. [Legal Education](#)

- After State Bar review of your evaluation report and in accordance with State Bar rules and guidelines, complete an additional year of [law study](#) at an ABA-approved or California-accredited law school.



[Register](#) and pass the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination

- Report an acceptable score (86 or higher) to California.



Apply, take, and pass the [California Bar Examination](#)

- Submit official sealed transcripts of required U.S. L.L.M. legal education by the final eligibility deadline, which is two weeks prior to the exam.



Apply for and receive a positive [Moral Character \(MC\) determination](#)²

- Processing takes approximately six to eight months from the date the application is deemed complete.
- The MC can be submitted anytime after registration is approved.
- A positive determination is valid for three years.



Be in compliance with any court order for child or family support



Be certified for Admission, placed on motion, and take the [Attorney's Oath](#) within five years of passing the bar exam

**PRACTICE LAW
IN CALIFORNIA**



¹ Applicants who are deemed to have a first degree in law and complete the required additional legal education are exempt from the First-Year Law Students' Examination.

² A positive moral character determination is not required to sit for the bar exam, but it is a required step to be certified for admission.



The State Bar of California

More information at: [Title 4 Admissions and Educational Standards](#)

FOREIGN- EDUCATED APPLICANT

➤ No First Degree in Law

Pathway to Admission into the
State Bar of California



Within the first 90 days of beginning law study, register as a US Law Student/Graduate by submitting a Registration Application in the [Applicant Portal](#)¹

- Need a detailed [Credential Evaluation Report](#) from an approved evaluation agency
- A completed [Foreign Evaluation Summary](#) form



Pass the [First-Year Law Students' Examination](#) (FYLTX), unless exempt²

- Credit for law study will be granted based on eligibility to take the FYLTX and the date the exam is passed.



Complete the Required [Legal Education](#)

- Earn a JD degree from an ABA-approved or California-accredited law school or complete four years of legal studies in the U.S. at a State Bar-registered law school or through the Law Office Study Program.



Apply for and receive a positive [Moral Character \(MC\) determination](#)³

- Processing takes approximately six to eight months from the date the application is deemed complete.
- The MC can be submitted anytime after registration is approved.
- A positive determination is valid for three years.



[Register](#) and pass the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination

- Report an acceptable score (86 or higher) to California.



Apply, take, and pass the [California Bar Examination](#)

- Submit official sealed transcripts of required legal education or completion of four years of Law Office Study.
- Documentation must be received by the final eligibility deadline, which is two weeks prior to the exam.



Be in compliance with any court order for child or family support



Be certified for Admission, placed on motion, and take the [Attorney's Oath](#) within five years of passing the bar exam

¹ Register as a US Law Student/Graduate once you have established that your foreign legal education meets the [pre-legal education requirement](#) and you have enrolled in a recognized law study program in the US.

² CLEP students are not exempt from FYLTX.

³ A positive moral character determination is not required to sit for the bar exam, but it is a required step to be certified for admission.



The State Bar of California

More information at: [Title 4 Admissions and Educational Standards](#)

LAW OFFICE STUDY PROGRAM (LOSP) APPLICANT

Study in a Law Office or Judge's Chamber

Pathway to Admission into the State Bar of California



Register as a Law Office Student with a Notice of Intent by submitting these two applications:
Registration and Notice of Intent in the [Applicant Portal](#)

- Official undergraduate transcripts, CLEP scores or foreign credential evaluation, and official sealed law school transcripts (if prior JD law study was completed).



Pass the [First-Year Law Students' Examination \(FYLSX\)](#)

- Credit for law study will be granted based on eligibility to take the FYLSX and the date the exam is passed.



Apply for and receive a positive [Moral Character \(MC\) determination](#)¹

- Processing takes approximately six to eight months from the date the application is deemed complete.
- The MC can be submitted anytime after registration is approved.
- A positive determination is valid for three years.



[Register](#) and pass the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination

- Report an acceptable score (86 or higher) to California.



Complete the Required [Legal Education](#)

- Complete four years of recognized law office study.
- If prior law study credit is granted, complete remaining years of required LOSP study.
- Credit is issued in increments of six months with the submission of semi-annual reports.



Apply, take, and pass the [California Bar Examination](#)

- Complete the required legal education and submit the last session prior to the final eligibility deadline, which is two weeks prior to the exam.



Be in compliance with any court order for child or family support



Be certified for Admission, placed on motion, and take the [Attorney's Oath](#) within five years of passing the bar exam

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The State Bar of California

More information at: [Title 4 Admissions and Educational Standards](#)

ABA-APPROVED OR CALIFORNIA-ACCREDITED LAW SCHOOL APPLICANT

➤ BA/BS Undergraduate Degree

Pathway to Admission into the State Bar of California



Within the first 90 days of beginning law study, register as a US Law Student/Graduate by submitting a Registration Application in the [Applicant Portal](#)

- No additional documentation is required.



Pass the [First-Year Law Students' Examination \(FYLSE\)](#), unless exempt¹

- Credit for law study will be granted based on eligibility to take the FYLSE and the date the exam is passed.



Apply for and receive a positive [Moral Character \(MC\) determination](#)²

- Processing takes approximately six to eight months from the date the application is deemed complete.
- The MC can be submitted anytime after registration is approved.
- A positive determination is valid for three years.



[Register](#) and pass the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination

- Report an acceptable score (86 or higher) to California.



Complete the Required [Legal Education](#)

- Earn a JD degree from an ABA-approved or California-accredited law school or complete four years of recognized law study.



Apply, take, and pass the [California Bar Examination](#)

- Submit official sealed transcripts of required legal education by the final eligibility deadline, which is two weeks prior to the exam.



Be in compliance with any court order for child or family support



Be certified for Admission, placed on motion, and take the [Attorney's Oath](#) within five years of passing the bar exam

¹ Exempt, if first year successfully completed and advanced into second year at the same law school.

² A positive moral character determination is not required to sit for the bar exam, but it is a required step to be certified for admission.



The State Bar of California

More information at: [Title 4 Admissions and Educational Standards](#)

ABA-APPROVED OR CALIFORNIA-ACCREDITED LAW SCHOOL APPLICANT

➤ No BA/BS Undergraduate Degree

Pathway to Admission into the State Bar of California



Within the first 90 days of beginning law study, register as a US Law Student/Graduate by submitting a Registration Application in the [Applicant Portal](#)

- Pre-legal certification form sent to the law school requesting confirmation that pre-legal educational requirements have been met in order to approve the registration application.



Pass the [First-Year Law Students' Examination \(FYLSX\)](#), unless exempt¹

- Credit for law study will be granted based on eligibility to take the FYLSX and the date the exam is passed.



Complete the Required [Legal Education](#)

- Earn a JD degree from an ABA-approved or California-accredited law school or complete four years of recognized law study.



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Apply, take, and pass the [California Bar Examination](#)

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Be in compliance with any court order for child or family support



Be certified for Admission, placed on motion, and take the [Attorney's Oath](#) within five years of passing the bar exam

¹ Applicants that meet the pre-legal educational requirement through CLEP must take the FYLSX regardless if the first year of studies is successfully completed.

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The State Bar of California

More information at: [Title 4 Admissions and Educational Standards](#)

UNACCREDITED LAW SCHOOL APPLICANT

➤ BA/BS Undergraduate Degree

Pathway to Admission into the
State Bar of California



Within the first 90 days of beginning law study, register as a US Law Student/Graduate by submitting a Registration Application in the [Applicant Portal](#)

- No additional documentation is required.



Pass the [First-Year Law Students' Examination](#) (FYLSE): Required

- Credit for law study will be granted based on eligibility to take the FYLSE and the date the exam is passed.



Apply for and receive a positive [Moral Character \(MC\) determination](#)¹

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Complete the Required [Legal Education](#)

- Complete four years of recognized law study.



Apply, take, and pass the [California Bar Examination](#)

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The State Bar of California

More information at: [Title 4 Admissions and Educational Standards](#)

UNACCREDITED LAW SCHOOL APPLICANT

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