



The State Bar of California

Dear Applicant,

Welcome to the second installment of the State Bar's **Bar Exam Countdown Email** series!

Last week, we kicked off the series with an overview of what to expect on the July 2025 California Bar Exam, including information about in-person testing, the exam-day schedule, and details about pending applications and requests. As always, you can find copies of all past weekly emails online at the [Bar Exam Emails webpage](#).

Now, let's turn to the most important updates for this week.

UPCOMING ADMITTANCE TICKET AND BULLETIN

Starting July 1, the State Bar will notify applicants approved for the July 2025 bar exam that their Admittance Ticket is available in the [Applicant Portal](#). Applicants must print and bring their Admittance Ticket to each exam session as it is required to access the test site.

If you do not receive the email on July 1, it may be because one or more items are still pending: your eligibility status is pending, your request for testing accommodations is pending, or you have not completed the demographic section in the Applicant Portal (you are required to complete this section, but you may select "Decline to Answer" for any question). Your Admittance Ticket will be available once these items are resolved.

Applicants are advised to carefully review the accompanying Admittance Ticket Bulletin which contains important information about exam-day policies and procedures. The bulletin will be linked in the email and also posted on the State Bar's [July 2025 California Bar Exam webpage](#).

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR ADMITTANCE TICKET

- You must bring your Admittance Ticket to access the test site on each day of the exam.
- Your ticket must be printed and kept with you at all times during the exam.
- Your ticket includes your Applicant Number and NCBE Number, which must be written on exam materials.

- Your ticket lists your assigned test center; you must report to the location indicated on your ticket. You will not be allowed to test at a different site.
- If your request to change test centers is approved after July 1, you must print and bring the updated ticket.
- If you notice any errors on your ticket—such as a misspelled name or incorrect address—notify the State Bar immediately through the [Applicant Portal](#) so a corrected ticket can be issued.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE ADMITTANCE TICKET BULLETIN

- The Bulletin provides the exam start time and daily schedule.
- It lists permitted and prohibited items—review this information carefully and pay special attention to differences in what items can be brought during the written sessions as opposed to the MBE sessions.
- It includes important details about using a laptop for the written sessions.
- It outlines exam day policies and instructions, including ID verification procedures.
- It offers tips to prepare for the test center environment, such as temperature and noise considerations.
- It explains rules for exam conduct, including behaviors that may result in a conduct violation and sanctions. (These notices are sometimes referred to as “Chapter 6 notices,” referring to the section of the [rules](#) that governs exam conduct.)

USING A LAPTOP FOR THE EXAM

Last week’s [email](#) covered the overall structure of the exam, including both the written and MBE sessions. This week, we’re focusing on what you need to know about using a laptop for the written portion of the exam.

Applicants will type their written responses using ExamSoft’s Examplify software on their own laptop—laptops are not provided by the State Bar. Be sure to bring your laptop to the written sessions only, along with a power cord to keep it charged throughout the exam.

IF YOU’RE TESTING WITH A LAPTOP, HERE’S WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:

Note: *Note This section includes corrections. A previous version of this email incorrectly stated that the bar exam files would download after the mock exam is uploaded as was the case in previous years. However, all required exam files will download automatically after you install and launch Examplify and register using the ID and credentials provided in the email sent to you directly by ExamSoft. Detailed*

instructions were provided in that email, and a summary is also available in the [July 11 Bar Exam Countdown email](#).

- **Ensure your laptop meets the system requirements:** Your laptop must not exceed 17.3 inches. Your laptop must meet or exceed ExamSoft's [minimum system requirements](#).
- **Install Examplify:** Starting July 7, ExamSoft will email instructions directly to you if your eligibility to sit for the exam has been approved. You must install Examplify on the same laptop you'll use on exam day—only one device is permitted. If you have previously used Examplify, you must completely uninstall any prior version before downloading and installing the version of Examplify used for the July 2025 bar exam.
- **Download the bar exam files:** After you launch the installed software and register using the institution ID and credentials provided at the bottom of your ExamSoft email, your exam files (including the mock exam file and two bar exam files) will download automatically. If not, click "Refresh Exam List" and "Download". View the list of required [exam files](#). If you experience technical issues with your laptop that may prevent you from testing after you complete the mock exam, you can request a re-download of the exam files. Visit ExamSoft's website for details on how to complete the [re-download process](#).
- **Complete the mandatory mock exam:** The mock exam opens on July 7. You must complete the mock exam and upload your mock exam answer file by July 25. If you don't, you will not be able to take the exam on your laptop. The mock exam enables you to test your computer to ensure it meets the minimum system requirements. The mock exam is not a practice bar exam; the mock exam content is designed for applicants to become familiar with Examplify functionality. You may only take the mock exam once.
- **Watch for a confirmation email:** You'll receive a confirmation email after uploading your mock exam answer file. If you do not complete all steps and receive the corresponding confirmation email, you will not be registered to use your laptop for the exam and will be required to take the exam by handwriting.
- **Be prepared on exam day:** Arrive before 8:20 a.m. with your laptop, power cord, and a fully charged battery. If your laptop isn't working at the start of the session—or stops working during the exam—you'll need to handwrite your answers. Backup laptops are not allowed unless approved as a testing accommodation. No extra time will be provided if you are addressing a technical issue with your laptop or switching to handwriting.

- **Upload your bar exam answer files after the exam:** You must upload your Essay and Performance Test (PT) answer files by 12:00 p.m. PT on July 31. Applicants with extended time must upload their files by noon the day after their exam concludes. Late uploads may result in a point deduction or a score of zero.

Learn more about using a laptop by visiting the [Laptops for the July 2025 Bar Exam webpage](#).

UPCOMING DATES AND DEADLINES

- **July 1 – Admittance Ticket and Bulletin:** Admittance Tickets will begin to be available in the [Applicant Portal](#) and the Admittance Ticket Bulletin will be published at the [July 2025 California Bar Exam webpage](#). Applicants will receive an email when their ticket is available.
- **July 1 – Deadline to appeal the outcome of a testing accommodations request:** If you wish to appeal a denied or modified request for testing accommodations, submit your appeal in the Applicant Portal.
- **July 7 – Deadline to request a test center change:** You may request a change through the Applicant Portal. We'll try to accommodate your preference but cannot guarantee availability. Please allow at least 48 hours for processing.
- **July 7 – ExamSoft registration opens:** ExamSoft will email you with instructions for downloading Examplify. You can begin your mandatory mock exam on the same day.

Please note that the State Bar offices will be closed for the July 4 holiday. Contact Center staff will not be available to answer questions that day and email responses may be delayed. Our offices will reopen on July 7.

For more Key Dates and Deadlines, visit the [July 2025 California Bar Exam webpage](#).

SUPPORT FOR BAR EXAM RETAKERS

We know that retaking the bar exam can add its own extra challenges and bring up additional emotions. The State Bar of California Lawyer Assistance Program invites all bar exam retakers to participate in the Reset: Bar Examination Retaker Support Program, designed to help candidates approach the bar exam with renewed confidence in their next attempt at the exam.

Two live sessions are upcoming, and recordings of previous sessions are available.

- Resilience Reset (recorded)
- Essays (recorded)

- Performance Test (recorded)
- Multistate Bar Examination (MBE) (June 30, 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.)
- End Game Study Strategies & Self-Care for the Final Push (July 7, 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.)

OTHER RECENT UPDATES

On June 20, the Committee of Bar Examiners recommended a change that, if approved by the Board of Trustees, would allow applicants who were unsuccessful or withdrew from the February 2025 bar exam to withdraw from the July 2025 any time before the first day of the exam and retain their bar exam fee waiver for one future exam through 2026. The Board will consider this change on July 3. If approved, we'll let you know in an upcoming email so you can plan accordingly.

NEXT WEEK'S EMAIL

In next week's email, we'll take a closer look at exam-day policies and instructions outlined in the Admittance Ticket Bulletin, including a detailed breakdown of the permitted and prohibited items for each session of the exam. We'll also add new important dates and deadlines coming up in mid-July.

Sincerely,

Office of Admissions
The State Bar of California

The email address noreply@calbar.ca.gov is used solely for sending communications and is not monitored. If you need assistance or wish to get in touch, please contact us using the [Applicant Portal](#).



State Bar of California, 180 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94105, 415-538-2000

[Manage Email Subscription Preferences](#)