



The State Bar of California

Dear Applicant,

It's time for another **Bar Exam Countdown Email!**

Last week, we highlighted key information for applicants using a laptop for the exam, reminded you about the support program for bar exam retakers, and previewed details about the Admittance Ticket and Admittance Ticket Bulletin. If you missed that email, find it on the [Bar Exam Emails webpage](#).

This week, with Admittance Tickets starting to be released to applicants with final approval to sit for the July 2025 exam and the Admittance Ticket Bulletin published online for all test takers, we're taking a deeper dive into the essential exam-day procedures, rules, and policies detailed in the bulletin.

A QUICK LOOK AT THE ADMITTANCE TICKET BULLETIN

The Admittance Ticket Bulletin is a critical resource for preparing for exam day. It includes a list of exam rules and policies as well as helpful tips (more than can be included in this email). Below is just some of the important information from the bulletin, please read the entire [Admittance Ticket Bulletin](#).

ATTENDANCE

Applicants must arrive on time for each exam session. If you arrive at the test center one hour or more after the scheduled start time, you will not be allowed to sit for the exam. Instructions will not be repeated for late arrivals. Applicants who miss any session will not be allowed to sit for the remaining sessions, and their answers will not be graded. They will be considered as not having taken the exam.

Attorney applicants who have been approved to take the Attorneys' Exam will find the words "1-Day Exam" printed on their Admittance Ticket indicating that they will only sit for the written sessions of the exam. If those words are not included on your Admittance Ticket, you are scheduled to participate in the two-day General Bar Exam that includes the written sessions and the [Multistate Bar Examination](#) (MBE) sessions.

To enter the test center at the start of every session, you must have the following items with you:

- Your printed Admittance Ticket (with no extra writing on it),
- A valid government-issued photo ID (driver's license, California Identification Card, or passport)
 - The name on your ID must exactly match the name on file with the State Bar. If it doesn't, please contact the State Bar immediately through the [Applicant Portal](#).
 - Your ID must be current and not expired before the exam date.

You'll also be issued a badge which you will find once seated. You must wear this badge visibly during each session and leave it on your desk during lunch breaks and at the conclusion of testing each day.

CONDUCT

Any conduct that breaches exam security or disrupts the exam—such as bringing prohibited items, writing or typing after time is called, looking at another applicant's materials, speaking during the exam, or acting

unprofessionally toward staff, proctors, or other test takers—will trigger a conduct violation, referred to as a Chapter 6 Notice ([under Title 4, Division 1, Chapter 6 of the Rules of the State Bar](#)).

Applicants who receive a Chapter 6 Notice may be subject to [sanctions](#) including dismissal from the test center, referral to the Moral Character Determination unit, or a score of zero for the affected session.

PERMITTED AND PROHIBITED ITEMS

The Admittance Ticket Bulletin provides a full list of what is and is not allowed during each session. Please review it carefully, especially noting the differences between what is allowed for the written and MBE sessions. Bringing prohibited items may result in a Chapter 6 Notice and sanctions.

Applicants may bring permitted personal items into the exam room in a small, clear plastic bag. Items that are prohibited must be left outside the exam area at your own risk.

Examples of permitted items:

- **Personal items:** Cash, keys, and a small clear bag (check the Admittance Ticket Bulletin for size restrictions)
- **Health and wellness:** Cough drops, eyedrops, menstrual products, diabetes supplies, foam earplugs, and a water bottle (bottle must be clear, unlabeled, with a lid, and no larger than 40 oz)
- **Timekeeping:** Analog clocks and timers (must be 4"x 4" or smaller) and silent analog watches
- **Medical equipment and comfort aids:** Back support, orthopedic cushions, footrests, and hearing aids
- **Computer accessories:** Because laptops are only needed for the written sessions and the MBE sessions will use Scantron sheets and #2 pencils, there are important distinctions between the list of permitted and prohibited items between the sessions. Please, review the Admittance Ticket Bulletin for more details.

Examples of prohibited items:

- Bags, laptop sleeves, backpacks, briefcases, or purses
- Earplugs made of silicone, wax, or with electronic components
- Mechanical pencils
- Food, gum, and beverages other than water
- Phones, smartwatches, earbuds, fitness trackers, and electronic timers
- Weapons of any kind

For the full list of permitted and prohibited items, see the [Admittance Ticket Bulletin](#).

TESTING ENVIRONMENT

The State Bar is committed to doing everything reasonably possible to provide a quiet, comfortable testing environment. However, test centers are large venues that may host other events at the same time, and certain conditions or disruptions may arise that are beyond the State Bar's control. While we take steps to minimize the impact of external events on the testing environment, we encourage applicants to plan ahead and take steps to support their own comfort and focus. Please note that on exam day, State Bar

staff generally cannot move applicants or have limited options to address individual environmental concerns.

Because test center conditions may vary, we recommend:

- Dressing in layers to accommodate room temperature changes.
- Using foam earplugs to reduce noise (only foam earplugs are permitted; silicon, wax, electronic, and noise-canceling earmuffs are not allowed).

UPCOMING DATES AND DEADLINES

Please, review the following dates and deadlines. In this week's email, we've added important dates later in the month.

- **July 7 – Deadline to request a test center change:** You may request a change through the [Applicant Portal](#). Please allow at least 48 hours for processing. Currently, space is very limited at all test sites and availability is not guaranteed.
- **July 7 – ExamSoft registration opens:** If you have received final approval to sit for the exam, ExamSoft will email you with instructions for downloading Examplify. You can begin your mandatory mock exam on the same day.
- **July 15 – Deadline to submit proof of eligibility:** This is the final deadline for law schools to certify an applicant's eligibility, for applicants who are required to submit a transcript to do so, and for attorney applicants to submit a Certificate of Good Standing. Until this is complete, your application will remain in pending status.
- **July 15 – Deadline to withdraw from the exam:** This is the last day to withdraw from the exam, but no refund will be given. (If you were unsuccessful on or withdrew from the February 2025 exam, your withdrawal deadline has been extended to July 28 and you will retain your fee waiver.)
- **July 18 – Final deadline to request emergency testing accommodations:** Applicants with a newly acquired injury or disability have until July 18 to file an emergency petition with supporting medical documentation.
- **July 25 – Deadline to complete ExamSoft registration and mandatory mock exam:** It is recommended, however, that you complete the process as soon as possible after you receive the instructions from ExamSoft so that ExamSoft can assist you in resolving any problems you may encounter prior to the exam. For more information, visit the Laptops for the July 2025 Bar Exam webpage.
- **July 28 – Deadline to withdraw for February 2025 applicants:** If you were unsuccessful on or withdrew from the February 2025 exam, this is the last day to withdraw from the July 2025 exam and keep your fee waiver for an exam in 2026.

Please note: The State Bar offices will be closed on July 4. Contact Center staff will not be available that day and email responses may be delayed. 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 recognize that retaking the bar exam presents unique challenges. The State Bar of California Lawyer Assistance Program invites all repeat takers to participate in the Reset: Bar Examination Retaker Support Program, designed to help you approach the exam with confidence.

One live session is upcoming, and recordings of previous sessions are available.

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

NEXT WEEK'S EMAIL

Next week, we'll explore the mandatory mock exam and what you need to complete by the July 25 deadline. We'll also take a closer look at each test center and share helpful tips to make navigating your test center easier.

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](#).



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