

State Bar Essay Subjects

STATE-SPECIFIC BAR EXAMINATION INFORMATION

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State Bar Exam Subjects

Uniform Bar Exam (UBE) States

The following 21 jurisdictions (and the number continues to grow) currently administer the UBE exam and test on a select set of topics for the essay day:

Alabama	Kansas	New York
Alaska	Minnesota	North Dakota
Arizona	Missouri	South Carolina
Colorado	Montana	Utah
DC	Nebraska	Vermont
Idaho	New Hampshire	Washington
Iowa	New Mexico	Wyoming

If you plan on sitting for the Bar in any of the above-listed states, an outline of the contents potentially tested at the exam can be found on the [NCBE](#) site.

Non-UBE States

Arkansas Bar Exam Format

Essay Subjects

The following subjects are tested on the essay portion of the exam:

Business Organizations	Constitutional Law (state and federal)	Guardianship
Commercial Transactions	Torts	Evidence
Criminal Law and Procedure	Property	Equity and Domestic Relations Contracts

Additional information is available at [Arkansas Judiciary](#).

California Bar Exam Format

The California bar exam is a three-day exam.

The following subjects are tested on the essay portion of the exam.

Business Associations	Civil Procedure	Community Property	Contracts/Sales
Constitutional Law	Criminal Law/Procedure	Evidence	Professional Responsibility
Real Property	Remedies	Torts	Wills and Trusts

Additional information is available at [The State Bar of California](#).

Connecticut Bar Exam Format

Essay Subjects

Administrative Law	Federal Constitutional Law	Property
Business Entities	Civil Procedure	Torts
Conflict of Laws	Evidence	Uniform Commercial Code
Contracts	Family Law	Trusts/Wills/Estates
Criminal Law/Procedure	Professional Responsibility	

Additional information is available at [The State of Connecticut Judicial Branch](#).

Delaware Bar Exam Format

The Delaware bar examination consists of the Multistate Bar Examination (MBE), two Multistate Performance Tests (MPT) and eight essay questions as listed in Board Rule 12. In addition, the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE) is required. Tested subjects for essay:

Agency	Constitutional	Law	Contracts	Corporations	Criminal Law
Evidence	Partnerships	Procedure	Property	Torts	Trusts
Wills	Equity	Uniform Commercial Code			

Additional information is available at [Delaware Courts Board of Bar Examiners](#).

Florida Bar Exam Format

Essay Exam Subjects

Civil Procedure	Criminal Procedure	Florida Rules of Judicial Administration	Florida Constitutional Law	Federal Constitutional Law
Trusts	Business Entities	Evidence	Torts	Wills & Administration of Estates
Criminal Law	Constitutional Criminal Procedure	Juvenile Delinquency	Contracts	UCC articles 3 and 9
Family Law and Dependency	Chapters 4 & 5 of the Rules Regulating The Florida Bar	Professionalism		

Additional information is available at [Florida Board of Bar Examiners](#).

Georgia Bar Exam Format

Essay Subjects

Business Organizations	Constitutional Law	Contract and Sales (UCC2)	Criminal Law
Criminal Procedure	Evidence	Family Law	Federal and GA Practice and Procedure
Non-Monetary Remedies	Professional Ethics	Property	Torts
Trust, Wills and Estates	UCC 3 – Commercial Paper	UCC 9 – Secured Transaction	

Additional information is available at [Supreme Court of Georgia Office of Bar Admissions](#).

Hawaii Bar Exam Format

The Hawaii bar exam consists of five components:

Essay and multiple-choice exams that are administered by the Board of Examiners are as follows:

1. Multistate Bar Examination (MBE)
2. Multistate Essay Examination (MEE)
3. Multistate Performance Test (MPT)

4. Hawaii Legal Ethics Exam

Multiple-choice exam administered by the Law School Admission Council on behalf of the National Conference of Bar Examiners is as follows:

5. Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE)

Additional information is available at [Hawaii State Judiciary](#).

**Illinois
Bar Exam Format**

Essay Subjects

Business Associations	Contracts	Real Property
Civil Procedure	Criminal Law and Procedure	Torts
Conflict of Laws	Evidence	Trusts and Estates
Constitutional Law	Family Law	Uniform Commercial Code

Additional information is available at [Illinois Board of Admissions to the Bar](#).

**Indiana
Bar Exam Format**

Essay Examinations Subjects

Administrative Law	Agency	Commercial Paper
Indiana Constitutional Law	Corporations	Family Law
Partnerships	Personal Property	Pleading and Practice
Taxation	Trusts & Estates	Wills

Additional information is available at [BarExam.info](#).

**Kentucky
Bar Exam Format**

The following are Essay Subjects and such other subjects as the board may select from among questions from the National Conference of Bar Examiners:

Administrative Law and Procedure	Criminal Law and Procedure	Property (real and/or personal)
Conflict of Laws	Uniform Commercial Code (sales, secured transactions and/or negotiable instruments)	Federal Taxation
Contracts	Evidence	Torts
Constitutional Law	Civil Procedure	Estates (wills and/or trusts)
Business Entities (corporation, partnerships and/or others)	Domestic Relations	

Additional information is available at [Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions](#) and [Kentucky Office of Bar Admissions Bar Exam Components](#).

**Louisiana
Bar Exam Format**

The Committee on Bar Admissions administers a written examination, which consists of two parts: a nine-part written examination (Part I) and the Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (Part II).

The multi-part written examination consists of nine separate examinations. Examinations 1 - 5 are "Code" examinations; examinations 6 - 9 are "Non-Code" examinations. Nine subjects are tested on the examination. Each subject is worth 100 raw points. Code subjects carry twice the weight of Non-Code subjects. The five Code subjects are Code I, Code II, Code III, La. Code of Civil Procedure and Torts. The four Non-Code subjects are Business Entities and Negotiable Instruments, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law and Procedure, and Federal Jurisdiction and Procedure. Applicants who earn a total weighted score of 650 out of a possible 900 will pass the examination. The formula for calculating an applicant's score will be: Total Score = (1.20 x sum of 5 Code scores) + (0.75 x sum of 4 Non-Code scores).

Additional information is available at [The Louisiana Supreme Court Committee on Bar Admissions](#).

Maine**Bar Exam Format**

Multistate Performance Test & Multistate Essay Examination (MEE)

Essay Examinations Subjects

Civil Procedure	Criminal Procedure	Appellate Procedure
Rules of Evidence	Rules of Professional Conduct	Business Associations
Conflict of Laws	Constitutional Law	Contracts
Creditors' Rights	Criminal Law	Equity
Wills and Trusts	Estates	Evidence
Family Law	Agency	Partnerships
Real Property	Statute of Frauds	Statutes of Limitations
Federal Income Taxation	Torts	Uniform Commercial Code

Additional information is available at [Maine Board of Bar Examiners](#).**Maryland****Bar Exam Format**

Essay Examination and MPT

Business Associations	Commercial Transactions (UCC 3, 6, and 9)	Constitutional Law
Contracts	Criminal Law and Procedure	Evidence
Family Law	Maryland Civil Procedure	Professional Responsibility
Property	Torts	

Additional information is available at [Maryland Courts](#).**Massachusetts****Bar Exam Format**

Essay Examination

Agency	Civil Procedure (Federal & Mass.)	Business Organizations
Constitutional Law	Professional Responsibility	Contracts

Real Property (including mortgages)	Criminal Law	Torts
Descent, Distribution of Estates, Trusts & Wills	Domestic Relations	Unfair/Deceptive Practices
Evidence (federal & Mass.),	UCC Articles 1-9	Federal Procedure

Additional information is available at [Massachusetts Court System](#).

Michigan Bar Exam Format

Essay Subjects

Agency	Commercial Paper	Conflict of Laws
Corporations	Creditors' Rights	Equity
Michigan Rules of Professional Conduct	Domestic Relations	Insurance (no-fault)
Partnerships	Personal Property	Practice and Procedure (State and Federal)
Sales	Secured Transactions	Wills & Trusts
Workers' Compensation	Plus all MBE subjects	

Additional information is available at [BarExam.info](#).

Mississippi Bar Exam Format

Essay Subjects

Evidence	Contracts
Constitution of the United States and State of Mississippi	Criminal Law & Procedure

Additional information is available at [State of Mississippi Judiciary](#).

Nevada Bar Exam Format

The State Bar of Nevada exam consists of seven essay questions prepared by the Board of Bar Examiners of the State Bar of Nevada, as well as two MPT examination questions.

Legal Ethics	Agency and Partnership	Community Property
Conflict of Laws	Constitutional Law	Contracts
Corporations	Criminal Law and Procedure	Evidence
Persons and Domestic Relations	Real Property	Remedies
Torts	Uniform Commercial Code (Articles 2, 3, and 9)	Wills, Estates and Trusts
Pleadings and Practices (Nevada and Federal Rules of Civil Procedure)	Fundamental Legal Principles and Nevada law	

Additional information is available at [State Bar of Nevada](#).

New Jersey Bar Exam Format

The New Jersey bar examination consists of the Multistate Bar Examination (MBE) and seven essay questions on the New Jersey local day.

New Jersey's essay exam consists of four NJ essay questions in the morning session and three NJ essay questions in the afternoon session.

Essay Subjects

Federal Jurisdiction and Procedure	All MBE Distinctions	New Jersey Civil Procedure
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Additional information is available at [New Jersey Board of Bar Examiners](#).

North Carolina Bar Exam Format

The North Carolina Bar Exam is a two-day exam. Day 1: 12 Essay Questions, three-hour morning session and three-hour afternoon session (six 30-minute questions per session). Day 2: Multistate Bar Exam (MBE), a 200-question, multiple-choice exam. Three-hour morning session and three-hour afternoon session. North Carolina subjects tested:

Business Association,(including Agency, Corporations, and Partnership)	Civil Procedure	Constitutional Law
Contracts/Sales	Criminal Law/Procedure	Evidence

Family Law	Legal Ethics	Real Property
Secured Transactions including the Uniform Commercial Code	Taxation	Torts
Trusts	Wills	Equity

Additional information is available at [Board of Law Examiners of the State of North Carolina](#).

Ohio Bar Exam Format

The Ohio Bar essay examination consists of 12 essay questions. Candidates are given two questions at a time and have one hour to complete them both. There is one question each from the 11 general subject areas, plus one question on any topic.

Essay Subjects:

Business Associations	Civil Procedure	Commercial Transactions
Constitutional Law	Contracts	Criminal Law
Evidence	Legal Ethics	Property
Torts	Wills	

Additional information is available at [Cleveland-Marshall College of Law](#) and at the [Supreme Court of Ohio](#).

Oklahoma Bar Exam Format

Essay Subjects:

Administrative Law	Agency	Commercial Law (including Bankruptcy, Consumer Law, Contracts, Creditors' Rights and Uniform Commercial Code)
Conflict of Laws	Corporations and Limited Liability Companies	Family Law
Federal Estate and Gift Taxation	Partnerships	Pleading and Practice (Federal and Oklahoma)
Professional Responsibility	Remedies	Trusts

Wills and Estates	All MBE subjects.	
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Additional information is available at [Oklahoma Board of Bar Examiners](#).

Oregon Bar Exam Format

Essay Subjects

Administrative Law (Oregon and Federal Law)	Criminal Law	Property
Agency	Criminal Procedure	Sales (UCC Article 2)
Civil Procedure (Oregon and Federal Law)	Evidence (Oregon and Federal Law)	Secured Transactions (UCC Articles 1 and 9)
Constitutional Law	Federal Income Taxation	Torts
Contracts	Legal Ethics (Oregon rules only)	Trusts and Estates
Corporations	Partnerships	Wills

Types of Questions

The essay portion of the examination is made up of six essay questions consisting of a combination of MEE's and locally drafted questions. This is a three-hour examination consisting of six essay questions in combination of MEE's and locally drafted essays. This gives an applicant an average of 30 minutes for each essay question. The questions are based on common law principles. In addition, the following areas test statutes, rules and regulations:

The Uniform Commercial Code	Evidence	Legal ethics
Federal income taxation	Administrative law and procedure	
Civil procedure	Business organizations and corporations	

Additional information is available at [Oregon State Bar](#).

Pennsylvania Bar Exam Format

Essay examination subjects:

Business Organizations (including corporations, partnerships, limited liability companies and professional corporations)	Civil Procedure (including Pennsylvania Civil Procedure and Federal Jurisdiction and Procedure)	Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure (including related federal and Pennsylvania constitutional issues and Pennsylvania D.U.I. law)
Conflict of Laws	Contracts and U.C.C. Article II (Sales)	Employment Discrimination (Title VII, ADA and ADEA)
Family Law	Federal Constitutional Law	Federal Income Taxes (personal only and limited to taxable and non-taxable income, deductions, proprietorships and capital transactions)
Professional Responsibility	Real Property	Torts
Wills, Trusts and Decedents' Estates (including related fiduciary responsibilities)		

Additional information is available at [Pennsylvania Board of Law Examiners](#).

Rhode Island Bar Exam Format

Essay Examination Subjects:

Business Associations	Contracts	Real Property
Agency and Partnership	Criminal Law and Procedure	Torts
Federal Civil Procedure	Evidence	Trusts and Estates
Conflicts of Law	Family Law	Uniform Commercial Code

These questions are to be answered based upon general legal principles.

Essay questions composed by members of the Board are to be answered using controlling Rhode Island law. The subjects covered by the MBE are Civil Procedure, Constitutional Law, Contracts, Criminal Law and Procedure, Evidence, Real Property, and Torts.

Sample essay questions are available at [Rhode Island Judiciary- Admission to the Rhode Island Bar](#).

Additional information is available at [Rhode Island Judiciary](#)

**South Dakota
Bar Exam Format**

All applicants, except those applying pursuant to SDCL 16-16-7.6, SDCL 16-16-12.1, or SDCL 16-16-12.3 are required to take the bar examination which consists of the following:

- Multistate Essay Examination (MEE), an essay question on Indian Law,
- the Multistate Performance Test (MPT),
- the Multistate Bar Examination (MBE), and
- The Multistate Professional Responsibility Examination (MPRE). Subject matter outlines for the MEE, MPT, MBE, and MPRE are available at the [National Conference of Bar Examiners' website](#).

Business Associations	Contracts	Real Property
Civil Procedure	Criminal Law and Procedure	Torts
Conflict of Laws	Evidence	Trusts and Estates
Constitutional Law	Family Law	Uniform Commercial Code

Additional information is available at [South Dakota Unified Judicial System](#).

**Tennessee
Bar Exam Format**

Essay Examination Subjects

Agency	Civil Procedure (State & Federal)	Commercial Paper and Bulk Transfers
Conflict of Laws	Corporations	Domestic Relations or Personal Status
Partnerships	Personal Property	Professional Responsibility
Restitution & Remedies	Sales	Secured Transactions
State Constitutional Law	Wills & Estates	All MBE subjects

Additional information is available at [Tennessee Board of Law Examiners](#).

**Texas
Bar Examination Format**

Essay Subjects

Business associations (agency, corporations, partnerships, limited liability companies, and professional associations)	Trusts, Guardianships, Wills and Administration	Family Law
Uniform Commercial Code	Consumer Rights, DTPA and Insurance	Real Property, Oil and Gas & Cross-Over Topics
Income, estate, and gift tax issues, to be included where appropriate as an element of questions in other subjects, such as family law, oil and gas, wills, etc.	Bankruptcy, to be included where appropriate as an element of questions in other subjects, such as family law, wills and estates, real property, etc.	Procedure and Evidence Subjects
Texas Civil Procedure, Evidence, & Jurisdiction	Federal and Texas Criminal Procedure and Evidence	

Additional information is available at [Texas Board of Law Examiners](#).

**Virginia
Bar Exam Format**

Essay Subjects

Agency	Conflict of Laws	Constitutional Law
Contracts	Corporations	Creditor's Rights
Criminal Law	Criminal Procedure	Domestic Relations
Equity	Evidence	Fed Practice and Procedure
Local Government Law	Partnerships	Personal Property
Professional Responsibility	Real Property	Sales
Suretyship	Taxation	Torts
Trusts, Wills and Estate Administration	Uniform Commercial Code	VA Pleading, Practice and Procedure in Law and equity (including appellate practice)

Additional information is available at [Virginia Board of Bar Examiners](#).

**West Virginia
Bar Exam Format**

Essay Examination Subjects

Business Associations	Contracts	Real Property
Civil Procedure	Criminal Law and Procedure	Torts
Conflict of Laws	Evidence	Trusts and Estates
Constitutional Law	Family Law	Uniform Commercial Code

Additional information is available at [West Virginia Judiciary](#).

**Wisconsin
Bar Exam Format**

Essay Subjects

Agency and Partnership	Constitutional Law (Federal)	Property (includes Real Estate)
Business Organizations (Corporations, Partnerships, Associations and Sole Proprietorships)	Criminal Law & Procedure	Taxation (Federal)
Civil Procedure (Pleading and Practice, and Jurisdiction of Courts)	Evidence	Torts
Commercial Law (including Sales, Secured Transactions, and Negotiable Instruments)	Family Law (Domestic Relations)	Trusts & Estates
Conflicts of Laws	Limited Liability Companies	
Contracts	Professional Responsibility (Ethics and Legal Responsibilities of the Profession)	

Additional information is available at [Wisconsin Court System](#).

Additional Multistate Bar Exam Resources

Review Of Bar Exam Subjects

- Print Resources
- Audio Resources
- General Resources

Please visit the [Bar Exam Support page](#).