

Tennessee Bar Exam Information

Tennessee Board of Law Examiners

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Nashville, TN 37243-0740

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Bar Exam Format

The Tennessee Bar Exam is a 2 day exam.

Day 1: Multistate Bar Exam (MBE), a 200-question, multiple-choice exam.

Day 2: 12 essay questions

Subjects Tested

MBE Subjects

Constitutional Law, Contracts/Sales, Criminal Law/Procedure, Evidence, Real Property, Torts

Tennessee Essay Subjects

Agency, Civil Procedure (State & Federal), Commercial Paper & 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, plus all MBE subjects

Bar Exam Dates

The Tennessee Bar Exam is administered on the last Wednesday and Thursday in February and July.

2011 Winter: February 23 - 24

2011 Summer: July 27 - 28

Filing Fees and Deadlines

Notice of intent to take the exam must be filed by October 1st for the February exam and by March 1st for the July exam. Application for the exam must be filed by November 15th for the February exam and by April 15th for the July exam. No application will be accepted unless notice of intent has been duly filed.

Application fee: \$80

Exam fee: \$300 plus current fees charged by the National Conference of Bar Examiners for character and fitness application.

Re-take: \$200

Grading and Results

With MBE score of 125, applicant must pass 9 of 12 essays; with MBE score of 130 must pass 8 of 12 essays; with MBE score of 135 must pass 7 of 12 essays. Results are generally released in mid-April for February exam and mid-October for July exam.

Reciprocity

Admission on Motion: May be admitted from other states after having actively practiced in the jurisdiction in which previously licensed for five years. Must have a present intent to actively practice law in Tennessee and be a graduate of an ABA accredited law school.

Acceptance of MBE Score: Tennessee will accept an MBE score from an exam taken in another jurisdiction, for concurrent exam only.

Miscellaneous

A request for permission to sit concurrently for the MBE in another state and the essay exam in Tennessee must be made in writing to the Board.