



Bar Exam Checklist

Massachusetts Bar Admission

The bar admissions process is lengthy. You should start well in advance, gathering information such as past jobs and addresses, in preparation for completing the state bar exam application when it becomes available. There are several steps involved and as the date of the bar exam nears, filing fees increase incrementally.

Take the MPRE | Multistate Professional Responsibility Exam

Exam date: Registration deadline

It's a good idea to take the MPRE any time during 2L year or as early in your 3L year as possible. The performance information provided for the MPRE is a scaled score which ranges from 50 (low) to 150 (high). Your MPRE score report indicating a passing scaled score is a filing requirement for admission.

The MPRE is a two-hour, 60-question multiple-choice exam developed by the NCBE and administered in the spring, summer, and fall. When registering for the MPRE, students can select one of two dates offered at a time (see chart below) on a first come, first served basis.

| Registration for all 2021 MPRE dates opens Monday, December 14, 2020. | | |
|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Upcoming test date | Registration deadline (fee: \$135) | Scan for more information |
| March 29 or 30, 2021 | January 28, 2021 | |
| August 11 or 12, 2021 | June 10, 2021 | |
| November 4 or 5, 2021 | September 17, 2021 | |

You can register for the free BARBRI MPRE Review Course here: barbri.com/mpre

Secure your bar review | made just for you

Don't wait to take advantage of the best price being offered on BARBRI Bar Review. The earlier you commit during law school, the greater the discount. Lock in your BARBRI Bar Review savings at: barbri.com/bar-review-course

If you are billing a firm, congratulations. BARBRI has trusted direct billing relationships with over 450 law firms. Just select the firm you'd like us to invoice during enrollment and we'll work directly with your firm for billing.

If you'll be paying for your bar review course (not billing an employer), you can finance the cost or set up a monthly payment plan to better meet your budget.

If you're going into Public Interest, you may qualify for a BARBRI Bar Review Public Interest Scholarship. Plus you're welcome to apply before putting any money down for your BARBRI bar prep course. Submit your application at: barbri.com/bar-review-course/public-interest-scholarship.

For more information about these options, contact your BARBRI Director of Legal Education or email service@barbri.com.

Also, due to the level of uncertainty presented by COVID-19, the Massachusetts bar exam will be administered remotely. Rest assured that BARBRI has you covered. Throughout your BARBRI Bar Review course, you will receive online bar exam test taking tips and strategies. You will also have ample opportunities to practice all components of your bar exam in an online format.

Create an NCBE account | before petition

My NCBE Number

All law students are required to create an NCBE Account that comes with a unique NCBE Number for identification purposes. You will need this number to be able to take the MBE (Multistate Bar Exam), which is developed by the NCBE (National Conference of Bar Examiners). The MBE is administered on Day 2 of the Massachusetts Bar Exam.

Most students create an NCBE account when registering for the MPRE.

Here's where to register with the NCBE: www.ncbex.org/exams/mbe/registration

Petition for the bar exam by the fall/spring deadlines

Bar exam petition deadline/fee:

Your Petition for Admission to the Massachusetts bar by Examination must be filed with the Supreme Judicial Court for The County of Suffolk at least 85 days prior to the exam. Completed Petitions, including all filing requirements, will be referred to the Massachusetts Board of Bar Examiners (BBE) to determine whether you have the qualifications and acquirements for admission.

You can find instructions for applicants for "Application for Admission by Examination" at: mass.gov/guides/guide-to-filing-a-petition-for-admission-by-examination-first-time

Here's where to go for all the forms and information you'll need: mass.gov/seeking-admission-to-the-bar-in-massachusetts/need-to-know

For additional information and exam details, download the free BARBRI Bar Exam Digest at: barbri.com/bar-exam-digest/

Pay attention to the filing fees | deadlines vary

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It's important to be aware of the bar exam fees and BBE fee schedules – both how you plan to pay and to meet the deadline. Remember, your Petition for Admission to the Massachusetts bar by Examination must be filed at least 85 days prior to the bar exam. The deadline for each exam administration is set by the Supreme Judicial Court Clerk's Office for Suffolk County.

For specific fee information and deadlines, download the free BARBRI Bar Exam Digest at: barbri.com/bar-exam-digest/

Answer character and fitness questions

In Massachusetts, your Petition for Admission by Examination will incorporate character and fitness questions – this is not a separate application. The BBE will then conduct an internal investigation based on your responses.

You will be asked to disclose details about your academic and work history, as well as any criminal record and civil proceedings. Candor is



key. You will also need to include letters of recommendation and law school certificate.

Register your laptop | no deadline extensions

Registration period

You can use a laptop for the essay portion of the Massachusetts Bar Exam. Be sure to sign the Bar Exam Laptop Computer Testing Program form and include it, with fee payment, as part of your filed petition. You'll then receive an email from ExamSoft about how to register your laptop, download the software and certify your computer for the bar exam.

Full details regarding the Laptop Computer Testing Program: [mass.gov/service-details/using-your-laptop-at-the-bar-exam](https://www.mass.gov/service-details/using-your-laptop-at-the-bar-exam)

Complete MLC | Massachusetts Law Component

Petitioners seeking admission in Massachusetts are required to complete the Massachusetts Law Component (MLC). This untimed, online, open-book, multiple-choice test covers the essential highlights and key distinctions of Massachusetts law and procedure. You must certify your successful completion of the MLC to the BBE.

Here are additional MLC details, including how to start and study outlines: [mass.gov/how-to/the-massachusetts-law-component-mlc](https://www.mass.gov/how-to/the-massachusetts-law-component-mlc)

Massachusetts State Bar

All information derived from the [Massachusetts BBE](#) website

If you have any questions, please contact BARBRI Director of Legal Education at
barbri.com/law-school-contact/