



The State Bar of California

With less than six weeks to go before the July 30–31 Bar Exam, here's what you need to know to make sure you're ready for exam day. We'll be sending you these countdown emails weekly until the exam.

Key Dates and Deadlines

July 1: Final day to request a test center change

July 1: Final day to appeal the outcome of a testing accommodations request

July 2: First day that admittance tickets are available

July 2: First day that laptop users may download and take the **mandatory** mock exam

July 26: Deadline for laptop users to complete the mandatory mock exam and download exam files

August 1 (12:00 p.m. Pacific Time): Deadline for laptop users to upload answer files

[More Bar Exam Dates and Deadlines](#)

New for the July Exam: Changes in Testing Centers and Water Bottle Policy

Important update: The State Bar is using new testing centers throughout the state. As a result, applicants may be testing at an unfamiliar or larger location. We recommend familiarizing yourself with your exam test location and arriving early to ensure you are seated on time.

Applicants granted testing accommodations must check in with State Bar staff at your test center on Monday, July 29, to receive your room assignment, have your equipment inspected (if applicable), and confirm all accommodations granted have been provided, within any limitations that may be imposed as a result of test center logistics or availability. If your last name begins with the letters A-M, arrive at the test center between 2:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. on Monday. If your last name begins with the letters N-Z, arrive at the test center between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Monday.

Applicants assigned to standard test centers who wish to familiarize themselves with their testing site before exam day may do so from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Monday, July 29. State Bar staff will be on-site to answer questions. Please note that the exam rooms themselves will not be open for inspection before exam day.

For more information about the new testing centers, [read the FAQ](#).

Repeat test-takers may also notice these small logistical changes on exam day:

- Test takers can now bring one water bottle into the testing center, subject to inspection. It must be a clear plastic container with a lid, no larger than 32 ounces, without labels or writing.
- The State Bar no longer uses book covers for the essays and performance test for applicants testing on a laptop. Applicants with testing accommodations using special software, handwriters, and those needing to switch to handwriting due to a laptop malfunction will continue to use book covers.

Test Center Change Requests Due July 1

July 1 is the deadline to request a test center change via the Applicant Portal. We will do our best to accommodate your request, but we cannot guarantee you will receive your preferred location. We are processing outstanding requests in the order received. Thanks for your patience. Visit the [Testing Locations](#) webpage for more information about the location choices.

Get Your Laptop Ready

Beginning July 2, once the State Bar has verified your eligibility to sit for the exam, your **admittance ticket** will be available in the Applicant Portal. If your admittance ticket is not yet available, it could be because of a pending Testing Accommodation [request](#). Shortly after, approved applicants using laptops will receive an email from ExamSoft with instructions for downloading the exam software and taking the **mandatory** mock exam by July 26.

- Ensure your laptop meets the [minimum system requirements](#) outlined by exam software provider ExamSoft.
- Learn more about [using laptops](#) for the July 2024 bar exam so you will be ready when the software becomes available for download after July 2.
- Review [instructional videos and guides](#) on taking the mock exam to clearly understand the format and effectively prepare yourself for exam day.

Lawyer Assistance Program Offers Free Resources

Remember, you are not alone in this journey. The State Bar's [Lawyer Assistance Program \(LAP\)](#) is here to provide you with free, confidential services to help you navigate any challenges you may face. The LAP can assist you with stress, relationship challenges, grief, burnout, anxiety, substance use problems, and other mental health issues. Some of the services available are:

- Two individual counseling sessions; and
- Two individual counseling sessions with a local therapist who specializes in working with legal professionals.

For more information on the services, please complete the [request form](#). The LAP will also schedule free presentations for your law school, student association, or other law-related groups. To schedule a presentation, complete the [speaker request form](#).

How to Appeal Your Testing Accommodations Decision

Applicants who were denied testing accommodations or did not receive the accommodations they requested have until July 1 to file an appeal. Appeals may be made in the [Applicant Portal](#). The appeal must specify, under penalty of perjury, the reasons you disagree with the determination and include any supporting documentation or evidence. Applicants with a newly acquired injury or disability have until July 19 to file an emergency petition with supporting medical documentation.

June 21, 2024

Need Help?

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[Bar Exam Schedule](#)

[Laptops for the Bar Exam](#)

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