

The Florida Board of Bar Examiners congratulates you on your achievements that bring you to this point in your career. The Florida Bar Examination is a high-stakes, professional examination that requires a great deal of preparation and study. We recognize that it involves considerable investment of your time and resources, and that your future endeavors hinge on your success in passing this important test.

It is our hope that this presentation will answer some of your questions and help you better prepare for examination day.



It is <u>critically important</u> that you provide a valid email address that will remain valid as you continue the admissions process. If your email address should change, it is <u>critically important</u> that you update your profile in your Florida Board of Bar Examiners applicant portal to reflect the new email address.

Make it a regular habit to check your applicant portal for new correspondence regarding the bar examination, such as your ticket of admission, acknowledgment of received items, and notification of any important messages regarding the administration of the bar examination. The board's emails regarding the examination will always have a subject line beginning with **JULY 2025 FL BAR EXAM**, so you can search for that term and find them if needed.

The board will email you instructions on how to register with the exam software vendor and how to install the vendor's software. If you change your email address and do not notify the board, you will not receive these instructions and will not be able to utilize your laptop on the essay portion of the examination. These emails will be sent from Examsoft (noreply@examsoft.com).

We recommend you add this email address to your list of contacts and your computer's "whitelist" to make sure exam-related emails do not end up in your spam folder.



Be resourceful and stay informed by visiting the board's website and making use of the other resources you see here. Many of your questions can be answered by using the resources you see above. Remember that your applicant portal is likely THE most important resource.

Visit your applicant portal on a weekly basis to check for correspondence from the board. Visit the board's website where you will find Test Specifications that inform you on the subjects with sub-topics to be tested and Study Guides that are regularly updated with essay questions from the last examination and sample Florida multiple-choice questions. In March 2023, the board posted updated test specifications. The board also announced that subjects Trusts and UCC Articles 3 and 9 will be primarily tested by multiple-choice items beginning in July 2023.

Finally, the board and staff of the Florida Board of Bar Examiners place great importance on being respectful and helpful to all applicants as you navigate bar admission. We are here to help and encourage you to use your portal to contact the staff with any questions you may have.



The bar examination will be held on the last consecutive Tuesday and Wednesday in the months of February and July at the Tampa Convention Center in downtown Tampa.

Hotel information is available on the board's website under the FAQs for the bar examination. You are responsible for your own transportation, parking, hotel accommodations, and meals. Your early attention to these necessary details is encouraged, particularly with regard to hotel reservations.

Because downtown traffic and parking can be unpredictable, be sure when considering area hotels to inquire about the hotel's proximity to the Tampa Convention Center, such as whether it is within walking distance.

For the July 2025 examination, all of the Convention Center space is being used for testing needs. There will not be space in the Convention Center during the lunch break to sit, nor will there be any food vendors within the Convention Center. All applicants will be required to leave the Convention Center during lunch, so your selection of hotel may also be affected by that. It is anticipated that food will be available for purchase outside the Convention Center at The Landing (outside the Mezzanine Level).



You may find it helpful to familiarize yourself with the layout of the Tampa Convention Center prior to your arrival.

This diagram of the test site depicts the Lower Level, or 1st floor, of the Tampa Convention Center, where the Applicant Storage Rooms are located. On Monday afternoon, badge distribution takes place on this Lower Level as well, at staggered times depending on your last name. On Tuesday evening, badge distribution (Part B only) takes places in the Rotunda.



This slide illustrates the 2nd floor and Mezzanine of the Convention Center, which is where the main examination room is located. You will enter from the back of the room.

While restroom facilities are available to applicants throughout the Convention Center, it is imperative that you understand that once you have entered the examination room, you must not leave until you have completed that testing session. You should use the restrooms <u>inside</u> the examination room. If you leave the examination room for any reason, you will <u>not</u> be permitted re-entry until the next testing session.

KEY LOCATIONS (WITHIN TAMPA CONVENTION CENTER)			
Applicant Storage AreaRooms 101-103, Lower Level			
Lactation SpaceRoom 104, Lower Level			
Photo Badge Pick-UpMonday Afternoon in Ballrooms B and C, Lower Level			
FOR EXAMINEES TAKING ONLY PART B: Tuesday at 5:00 pm in Rotunda, Lower Level			
Help DeskTuesday and Wednesday morning: Outside Meeting Room 1 Tuesday and Wednesday at lunch: Mezzanine Level			
Lost BadgesTuesday and Wednesday after lunch: Mezzanine Level			
Metal DetectorsFoot of stairs, Mezzanine Level			
Public RestroomsUpper Level, outside main exam room entrances			
Main Examination RoomUpper Level, East/West Hall, Main Floor			
Restrooms (5 inside Main Exam Room)3 in front of room near podium 1 on right side of room near front 1 on right side of room near back			

Some key locations within the test site are noted here for your reference. Please take special note that there are restrooms located <u>inside</u> the examination room.



It will be very helpful to you to review what items are and are not allowed at the examination site. Ideally, you will not need to go to the added expense, time, and trouble to store any personal belongings. Listed on this slide are the items you <u>should</u> bring to the examination.

Please note that pencils and pens will be provided for you. Extra blank pages are provided in the essay test booklets for you to use as scratch paper. You are also free to write in your multiple-choice test booklets; however, your answers must be marked on the answer sheets provided.

For purposes of identification, <u>if at all possible</u>, please bring your driver's license or state identification card, rather than a passport. Instead of just comparing the card to your face and information, passports must be thoroughly inspected, greatly slowing the movement of the security line and entry to the exam room.



All items you bring to the exam are subject to inspection. Please place all permitted items in a clear, plastic, sealable, quart-sized bag for ease of inspection.

Make sure your pockets are empty when you proceed to the metal detectors.

Once you enter the examination room, the bags containing your permitted items must be placed on the floor under your desk, including your water bottle if you bring one.



It is critical that you understand what items are <u>not</u> permitted in the examination room. The slide shows samples of prohibited items and is not intended to be all inclusive. Instead, you should limit your items to those listed on the previous slide regarding permitted items.

If you need to store any prohibited items, this <u>must</u> be done before you proceed to the metal detector lines.

Materials will be confiscated in the examination room from anyone found in violation of this rule, and the incident will be reported to the board's investigative staff and reviewed. That investigative process may delay admission.

No head gear may be worn, with the exception of religious apparel provided it does not contain a brim or otherwise obscure the view of the applicant's facial features.

Be aware, too, that the Tampa Convention Center prohibits bringing outside food and beverages into the facility (with the exception of a medical necessity that has been pre-authorized through the Florida Board of Bar Examiners).



During the bar application process, everything is connected to your file number and we generally encourage you to keep the number handy when communicating with the board. The bar examination is likely the <u>only</u> time you will NOT need your file number.

Your examination ID number will be on your FBBE photo badge and posted at your assigned seat. We will provide your NCBE number to you at your testing seat. The password for laptop participants to launch the software will be provided on your exam booklet.

You will not need to know any of these numbers as they will be provided to you at the exam. Do not bring board correspondence, e-mails, or any other notes regarding these numbers or passwords.



Please remember that wristwatches and other similar devices such as Fitbits, Apple Watches, etc., are not permitted in the examination room. There are numerous clocks located in the examination room to help you keep track of time remaining.



Please DO NOT bring your cell phone, smart watch, Fitbit, Oura or other activity monitoring ring, or other prohibited electronic device to the examination room. Having any such device in the room will result in you being removed from the examination room and your examination will not be graded.



The Florida Bar Examination consists of two parts. Part A, the Florida portion, is administered on Tuesday, and is composed of three essay questions during the morning session and 100 multiplechoice questions during the afternoon session. Part B, the Multistate Bar Examination, is administered on Wednesday, and is composed of 100 multiple-choice questions during the morning session and 100 multiple-choice questions during the afternoon session. Both days are administered on this testing schedule.

Applicants with test accommodations should arrive at the time provided to them in individual correspondence from the board, and report to their assigned location at that time. All other applicants will enter the examination room at staggered times. <u>Applicants with badge numbers ending in an odd number should arrive at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and proceed to the Mezzanine level to the security lines and metal detectors. <u>Applicants with badge numbers ending in an even number should arrive at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and wednesday mornings and proceed to the Mezzanine level to the security lines and metal detectors.</u></u>

Once you have entered the main examination room for each testing session, you are required to move directly to your seat. You must remain seated unless you are going to use the restroom inside the main exam room or need technical support on Tuesday morning.

The same pattern will repeat after the lunch break (during which you must leave the Convention Center). <u>Applicants with badge numbers ending in an **odd** number should arrive at **1:30 p.m.** and proceed to the security lines and metal detectors. <u>Applicants with badge numbers ending in an</u> **even** number should arrive at **1:45 p.m.** and proceed to the security lines and metal detectors.</u>

NO EXTRA TIME IS GIVEN TO LATE ARRIVALS – you should be in your seat by the time instructions are scheduled to begin (allow time to park, find site, etc.) Instructions will begin as scheduled, even if you are not in your seat. <u>Those who arrive late in the main exam room or the accommodated exam rooms will not be given extra time. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**</u>



Examination badge pick-up will be on Monday afternoon between 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., at varying times depending on your last name (detailed on next page).

When you arrive, present your <u>signed</u> ticket with your government-issued identification at the registration stations set-up on the Lower Level. At each registration station, the tables will display large signs dividing applicants' names alphabetically. The lines can get long, so be sure you are at right table alphabetically to pick up your badge.

Make a point to sign your exam ticket before you reach the table, as this will help speed the process. Your signature on the ticket is your pledge that you will comply with security restrictions in place at the testing site.

BADGE DISTRIBUTION BALLROOMS B AND C		
Look for the sign above the tables with the range of tables are tables a	Last Name Starts With	Time Frame for Badge Pick-up
Ballroom B Ballroom C	A-C	1:30-2:00
	D-G	2:00-2:30
la color color	H-L	2:30-3:00
	M-Q	3:00-3:30
	R-S	3:30-4:00
	T-Z	4:00-4:30

Badge pick-up for most applicants will be on Monday afternoon, July 28, 2025, from 1:30-4:30 p.m., in Ballrooms B and C with the time of arrival determined by your last name, as shown in the chart above. The times are staggered to reduce the number of people in line at one time, for the sake of efficiency.

Badge pick-up for applicants taking Part B (MBE) only, will be on Tuesday, July 29, 2025, from 5:00-6:00 p.m. in the Rotunda on the first floor, Lower Level, of the Convention Center.



Before entering the Convention Center on Tuesday morning, clip your badge to your shirt pocket or collar so that it is prominently displayed, then proceed up the escalators to the Mezzanine Level for security clearance through the metal detectors. You must have a photo badge for security clearance and to enter the examination room.

Take your photo badge with you at the lunch break and at the end of the testing day <u>IF</u> you will be returning for another day of testing. If it is your last day of testing, leave your photo badge on your desk at the end of the day.



You will have a number of tasks to accomplish on the morning of the examination prior to the start of the test. Many other applicants will be focused on these same tasks. In order to limit crowds, badge pick-up will be on Monday afternoon, with arrival times staggered by last name. You will also be assigned a reporting time on both Tuesday and Wednesday mornings to facilitate efficient entry into the examination room with shorter wait times. It is your responsibility to report at your assigned time. If you do not, you may be asked to report after the last reporting window has closed. It is to your advantage to arrive by the designated time, and to know where to go and what to do, to ensure you are settled prior to the start of test instructions.

When you arrive at the Tampa Convention Center on examination day, you should:

- Go first to the Lower Level to store any personal belongings.
- After storing any items <u>not</u> permitted in the exam room, proceed to the metal detectors.
- Enter exam room and locate your seat.

Please note: You are encouraged to not bring any prohibited items that require storage, but if unavoidable, a storage area will be available.

<u>Applicants with badge numbers ending in an **odd** number should arrive by **8:00 a.m.** on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and proceed to the Mezzanine level to the security lines and metal detectors.</u>

Applicants with badge numbers ending in an **even** number should arrive by **8:30 a.m.** on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings and proceed to the Mezzanine level to the security lines and metal detectors.



You are encouraged <u>not</u> to bring any personal items to the bar examination. If you must bring personal items, you must store them in the storage area on the Lower Level that is provided for applicants by the Tampa Convention Center <u>before</u> you proceed to the security lines on the Mezzanine Level.

The storage area is unsecure. Neither the Florida Board of Bar Examiners nor the Tampa Convention Center is responsible for items left in the storage area.

The storage room will be accessible prior to the start of the morning testing session, at lunch time, and again at the end of the day.



Present your photo badge at the metal detectors and follow the instructions of the personnel operating that checkpoint. You must place all items on the tables provided. <u>Be sure</u> your pockets are empty.

Applicants using laptops are restricted to the items listed on this slide. Carrying cases must be stored in the storage area provided on the Lower Level prior to entering the Metal Detector lines.

If you have any prohibited items at this point, <u>you will be required</u> to either discard the item or leave the line if you wish to store the prohibited item, after which you must go through the security line again for entry into the examination room. There is <u>no</u> storage beyond the metal detectors.

Once you have been cleared, proceed up the steps to the Upper Level where the Main Examination Room is located. You may enter the examination room when the doors are opened. Once you are inside the examination room, you will need to locate your seat. <u>Your badge number</u> is your seat number.

Once you have taken your seat, you must remain seated at that table unless you need to use the restroom or require assistance from a proctor, board member, or staff member.



The examination room is quite large, so it will be very helpful to you in finding your seat to understand the signs. There will also be monitors circulating to assist you in finding your seat, if necessary. Applicants will be seated with one other applicant at an eight-foot table. Your assigned table will remain your table throughout the examination.

You will enter the examination room through the doors at the back of the room, then locate the row with your badge number.



Remember – your badge number is your seat number. Once inside the examination room, there are row signs posted that list the range of seat numbers for each row. This will help you determine the row in which your seat number falls. The arrow is your indication of whether the numbers run up or down that particular row.



When you have located the table bearing your badge number, you will find a desk position card with your name and badge number printed on it. Leave it with your name and badge number facing up on the outside edge of your desk at all times. **Removal of your desk position card will result in your not receiving a test booklet for the next session.**

Display your photo badge face up prominently on the outside edge of your desk. Read the instruction sheet provided at your desk position, but do <u>not</u> open the test booklet until the announcement from the podium to begin the examination.

Once you have taken your seat, you must remain seated at that table unless you need to use the restroom or require assistance from a proctor, board member, or staff member. If you need technical assistance with your computer **PRIOR** to the start of the examination, you should proceed to the designated areas for technical support in the examination room.

If you need technical assistance with your computer **AFTER** the start of the examination, you must remain seated and raise your hand.



If you registered and qualified your laptop, electric power will be available at your seat. Applicants using laptops should begin setting up their computers as soon as they have located their assigned seats, and then read and follow the instructions at their desk position.

The following conduct is expressly prohibited:

- Studying in the exam room.
- Using laptop computer for any non-exam purpose.
- Removing laptop computer from exam room during the lunch break.

ExamSoft engineers will be stationed in the examination room to assist with technical issues, and can be signaled during the examination by raising two fingers as depicted here. If you experience computer problems, be prepared to begin hand writing your answers immediately. Again, do <u>not</u> open any test booklets until the announcement from the podium to begin the examination.

When you have completed the morning essay session, refer to the Laptop Instructions sheet to the section titled "Exiting Exampify" for directions on finalizing and closing your exam.

You are required to leave your laptop at your desk during the lunch break and afternoon session.



One of the board's security protocols involves matching the fingerprint of the person who applied for the examination with the fingerprint of the person who actually appears at the examination. Before the examination begins, fingerprints will be collected from all applicants to ensure the identity of all individuals taking the examination.

Specific instructions will be provided prior to the start of each session to collect these fingerprints. Do not complete them until instructed to do so.



Remember that you will not be permitted to re-enter the examination room if you exit for any reason. Be sure to use restrooms inside the examination room, if you plan to go back to continue with your examination. For applicants finishing the test session early, test papers should be turned in <u>outside</u> the examination room door marked EXIT.

Please be aware that the last 15 minutes of each testing session is restricted in that no one is allowed to leave their seat for any reason. If you finish your examination during the last 15 minutes, you must remain seated until time is called and all papers are collected.



Restrooms are located inside the examination room at the front and at the right side of the room as indicated on this slide.

If you go to the restroom during the testing session, remember to use those located <u>inside</u> the examination room. You will take your photo badge and test materials with you to the proctor table at the restroom entrance; then, retrieve your photo badge and test materials when you exit the restroom and return to your seat. Please confirm you pick up only your materials before returning to your seat. Proctors are assigned to these locations to ensure that test materials are properly handled, and that no talking takes place by anyone using the facilities.

Water fountains in the room will be available; however, you may bring a clear, unlabeled, plastic water bottle (with a lid) with you into the examination room.

If you must leave your seat, please use the main aisles rather than walking behind desks of other applicants to minimize distractions to others.



There are multiple large countdown clocks easily visible throughout the examination room. As the test session draws to a close, the time remaining will be announced from the podium at 15 minutes, 5 minutes, and 1 minute remaining.

When you hear the announcement to STOP, you **must immediately** put your pen or pencil down. Do not continue to write, type, or make any marks or erasures. Monitors, proctors, and administrators will be circulating throughout the room to strictly enforce this rule. Writing, typing, bubbling, erasing, or otherwise working on the exam after time is called is an exam violation and may result in invalidation of examination results.

Applicants using their laptop for the essay portion will follow the verbal and written instructions to exit the Examsoft software if they finish the session early or when instructed at the end of the session. The Exiting Examplify instructions will be on the ExamSoft February 2025 Laptop Instructions at your desk position.



Take a moment to refresh yourself with these examination rules of conduct. Violation of examination rules is a very serious matter that can result in impoundment and ultimately invalidation of examination results.

At the conclusion of your examination, whether that is the end of the day on Tuesday, if you're taking Part A only, or the end of the day on Wednesday, you will be required to execute a pledge in which you attest to the following:

On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid, directly or indirectly, on the General Bar Examination nor violated any examination rule of conduct. I have not observed anyone else give or receive unauthorized aid or otherwise violate any examination rule of conduct on this examination that was not reported in writing by me to a Proctor no later than the conclusion of the session in which I observed the violation.

It is essential that you complete the pledge at the end of the last day that you will be taking the examination in order for the pledge to be valid. Completing it at any time prior to the conclusion of the examination renders the pledge invalid and you will be asked to re-execute the pledge at the appropriate time.



Make note of the scheduled date for grades release posted on our website and in correspondence to you. On that date, pass/fail results will be posted on the Florida Supreme Court's webpage by file number, and individual scores will be posted to your portal account. Examination results are not available over the phone from either the board's office or the Supreme Court.

It is important that you have your portal log-in information handy to access your exam scores and results. Alternatively, you will need your file number to access your pass/fail results on the Supreme Court's website the day of grades release. Your file number is referenced on all board correspondence to you.



While rules and procedures may seem overly restrictive, please understand that the policies and systems in place have been painstakingly developed over many years of experience administering the Florida Bar Examination. Administrators and staff at the testing site work very hard – both in the examination room and behind the scenes – to ensure that systems and procedures flow as seamlessly as possible. We want everything to go smoothly for you on exam day and we work extremely hard to plan for as many contingencies as possible. Your diligent preparation and planning for the administration of the examination will go a long way to making it a smooth testing experience.

We are very proud to have an experienced staff that attend the bar examination regularly. It is our goal to administer the examination in a secure environment (both in terms of safety and test integrity), and in a manner that is fair to all applicants as well as efficient in process. We are committed to conducting the examination as safely as possible; however, this is highly dependent on your compliance with instructions onsite.

The board and staff assert our commitment to our applicants in providing a secure, fair, and efficient bar examination. It is our hope that the information presented in this virtual tour will be helpful to you in preparing for this important milestone in your career.